

**GO VIRGINIA REGION 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 18, 2026**

REGULAR BUSINESS

Call To Order

Vice Chair Lail called the GO Virginia (GOVA) Region 3 Executive Committee all-virtual meeting to order on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Vice Chair Lail declared a quorum was present.

Region 3 Executive Committee Members

Members	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Robert Bates		X	
Amy Griffin		X	
Randy Lail		X	
Elizabeth Leggett		X	
Lauren Willis			X

Ex Officio Member

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Charley Majors – Region 3 Executive Committee - Advisor		X	

Region 3 Staff

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Bryan David (UVA Weldon Cooper Center) - Program Director – Region 3 Contract Staff		X	
Ann Wright (CTW Consulting) – Southside PDC Contract Staff		X	
Liz Povar (The Riverlink Group) - Southside PDC Contract Staff		X	
Andy Wells - Southside PDC - Support Org. & Fiscal Agent			X

Guests in Attendance

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual
Billy Gammel – DHCD - GO Virginia Senior Program Administrator		X
Alex McCoy – Virginia’s Heartland Alliance – Executive Director		X
Christin Jackson – Commonwealth Regional Council – Executive Director		X

Public Comments

No written or verbal public comments were received.

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest potentially exist for activities benefiting and/or contracts issued to the following organizations and projects listed below:

Name	Organization(s)
Randolph Lail	Mid-Atlantic Broadband; SOVA Innovation Hub
Rhonda Hodges	Patrick Henry Community College
Clark Casteel	Danville Regional Foundation
Lauren Willis	Charlotte County Public Schools
Charley Majors	The Institute for Advanced Knowledge & Research; Mid-Atlantic Broadband; SOVA Innovation Hub

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Lail noted that the minutes of the December 17, 2025 Executive Committee meeting were received via email prior to the meeting and included in the meeting packet. **Elizabeth Leggett made a motion that the minutes from the December 17, 2025 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Robert Bates and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

Financial Reports & Project Update

Bryan David and Ann Wright presented the Financial Reports and Project Updates included in the meeting packet for the period ending February 28, 2026. **Amy Griffin made a motion that the Financial Reports be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Robert Bates and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

OLD BUSINESS

Project Pipeline

Bryan David reviewed the current project pipeline, which was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting. The following projects were discussed:

- CEA Innovation Center Research Building Expansion. This project would involve installing a prefabricated research greenhouse, completing associated building improvements, and preparing the site and utilities to support expanded facilities and services at the Center.
- Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance Business Site Planning Project. This project would assess the regional inventory of business investment sites and buildings, identify the current VEDP tier level of each site, and prioritize opportunities to up tier key properties.
- Farm Park Implementation Playbook. This planning project would build upon the recent feasibility report on the co-location of data centers and controlled environment agriculture greenhouses prepared by the Resource Innovation Institute.
- Southern Virginia Partnership for Health Science Careers (SOVA Partnership). It will establish coordinated training pathways in high demand healthcare fields, including medical technicians, behavioral health technicians, and nursing assistants, through a partnership involving Longwood University, Danville Community College, regional healthcare systems, and other higher education institutions.
- Virginia AI Innovation Hub and Venture Studios. Smart Innovation Corporation, a nonprofit organization, is proposing to develop an industry aligned workforce development program to support individuals pursuing careers in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and applied machine learning, as well as to assist existing businesses with AI adoption in the workplace.
- Metals Workforce Training Center. This project is being developed by the Town of Bedford Economic Development Authority following a successful feasibility and master planning effort funded by GO Virginia Region 2.
- Region 3 Leadership Development Project. This project would be developed in partnership with the University of Virginia Sorenson Institute for Leadership and the Virginia Institute for Government to establish a community leadership development program serving Region 3.

Vice Chair Lail asked members for questions or comments; there being none, there was no discussion regarding the updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Project Application

Bryan David presented Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance Project application for consideration by the Executive Committee. This project would assess the regional inventory of business investment sites and buildings, identify the current VEDP tier level of each site, and prioritize opportunities to up tier key properties. **Elizabeth Leggett made a motion to approve the application for submission to DHCD as presented; the motion was seconded by Amy Griffin and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

Region 3 FY27 Budget

Bryan David presented the Region 3 FY27 Capacity Building (Operations) Budget which was included in the packet. **Amy Griffin made a motion to approve the Budget as presented; the motion was seconded by Robert Bates and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

Staff Transition Plan

Bryan David discussed the status of the Staff Transition Plan. The Region 3 FY27 Budget details compensation for the new Project Coordinator position and the adjusted Program Director position which are supported entirely within existing budget resources.

Weldon Cooper Center Agreement

Bryan David presented the proposed FY27–FY28 Weldon Cooper Center Agreement with Region 3. The Cooper Center’s Acting Director has not yet provided guidance on the Agreement’s form and substance; therefore, it may be subject to future edits. The Executive Committee’s action should be contingent on any edits made by the Acting Director, which will be communicated to the Committee through a special called meeting once received.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee recommended Robert Bates to serve as Chair and Elizabeth Leggett to serve as Vice Chair for the upcoming FY27 (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027). **Amy Griffin made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee recommendations for Chair and Vice Chair; the motion was seconded by Randy Lail and approved unanimously by roll call vote. Robert Bates abstained from the vote to elect him as Chair, and Elizabeth Leggett abstained from the vote to elect her as Vice Chair.**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Bryan David presented the Program Director’s Report as detailed in the meeting packet which included General Assembly actions on GO Virginia funding and the status of GO TEC funding.

ADJOURN

There being no additional business matters to be brought before the GOVA Region 3 Council, Vice Chair Lail adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

These minutes were approved on _____.

Andy Wells, Southside PDC
Executive Director

Randy Lail, GOVA Region 3
Council Vice Chair