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

REGULAR BUSINESS

Call To Order

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

Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Bates declared a quorum was present.

Region 3 Executive Committee Members

Members	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Robert Bates		X	
Amy Griffin		X	
Elizabeth Leggett		X	
Rhonda Hodges		X	
Dale Wagoner		X	

Ex Officio Member

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

Region 3 Staff

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual	Absent
Bryan David – Southside PDC Contract Staff - Region 3 Project Coordinator		X	
Ann Taylor Wright – Southside PDC Contract Staff – Region 3 Program Director		X	
Liz Povar - Southside PDC Contract Staff – Region 3 Senior Regional Advisor		X	
Andy Wells - Southside PDC – Executive Director		X	

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Guests in Attendance

Name – Organization - Role	In Person	Virtual
Billy Gammel – DHCD - GO Virginia Program Administrator		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	The Institute for Advanced Knowledge & Research
Clark Casteel	Danville Regional Foundation
Robert Bates	Charlotte County Public Schools
Charley Majors	The Institute for Advanced Knowledge & Research; Mid-Atlantic Broadband; SOVA Innovation Hub

Approval of Minutes

Chair Bates noted that the minutes from the September 16, 2026 Executive Committee meeting and the October 13, 2026 Special Called Executive Committee meeting were received via email prior to the meeting and included in the meeting packet. **Elizabeth Leggett made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2026 Executive Committee meeting and the October 13, 2026 Special Called Executive Committee meeting as presented; the motion was seconded by Amy Griffin 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 October 31, 2026. **Amy Griffin made a motion that the Financial Reports be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Elizabeth Legget and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

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NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Changes to Council and Executive Committee Meeting Schedules

Ann Wright reviewed proposed meeting schedule changes to align Council project approvals with DHCD's revised application deadlines and provide additional time to finalize applications. The proposed changes would move full Council and Executive Committee meetings to the second Wednesday in their respective meeting months, while retaining January 20, 2027, as the January Council meeting date. **Elizabeth Leggett made a motion to endorse the proposed meeting schedule changes and recommend approval by the full Council, retaining January 20, 2027, as the January Council meeting date. The motion was seconded by Amy Griffin and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

PROJECT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

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.
- Farm Park Implementation Playbook: This two-part 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. Following Executive Committee approval at its October 13th meeting, the applications were submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development for administrative approval on October 16th.
- 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. Since the last update to the Region 3 Council at the October 22nd meeting, Dr. Julie Brown has accepted a new position as Executive Director of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Roanoke. Consequently, she will be leaving her position as Provost at Averett University in early December. Strategies to identify and approach potential Region 3 organizations capable (staffing and financially) of serving as the lead applicant and fiscal agent for the implementation application is underway.
- Fiber Outside the Plant Credentialing Project: This workforce development project will include project partners Patrick & Henry Community College and Southside Virginia Community College. It will focus skills including pole climbing, OSHA training, Commercial Driver Licensing, fiber optic cabling repairs and splicing, handhold repairs, replacement of outside equipment, and other fiber-related tasks.
- Region 3 Leadership Development Project: This project would be developed in partnership with the University of Virginia Sorensen Institute for Leadership and the Virginia Institute of Government to establish a community leadership development program serving Region 3.

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

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ADJOURN

There being no additional business matters to be brought before the GOVA Region 3 Executive Committee, Chair Bates adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

These minutes were approved on _____.

Andy Wells, Southside PDC
Executive Director

Robert Bates, GOVA Region 3
Council Chair

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