

GROW CAPITAL JOBS Region 4 Council Meeting

October 25, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Members Participating:

Brian Anderson, Chandra Briggman, Dr. Joseph Casey, Will Clements, Moses Foster, Todd Haymore, Martha Heeter, John Luke, Dr. Mark Moore, Dr. Paula Pando, Dr. Michael Rao, Natalie Slate, Lorin Sodell, Paul Tuck, and John Vithoukas

Members Unable to Participate:

Bill Goodwin, Mark Hourigan, John Lloyd Jr., Jennifer Hunter, Dr. Ted Raspiller, Carter Reid, and Carrie Roth

Guest Speakers:

George Crowell, Harris, Hardy and Johnstone; Wilson H. Flohr, President and CEO, GROW Capital Jobs Foundation (GCJF) ; John Newby, Chief Executive Officer, Virginia Bio; a Dr. Robert “Bob” Holsworth, DecideSmart; and via videoconferencing, Dr. Julie Brown, Vice President, Institute of Advanced Learning and Research (IALR);

Others in Attendance:

GROW Capital Jobs Foundation staff Kim Allman, Serena Barry and Ann Isbell; DHCD staff Sara Dunnigan, Andrea Devening and Annie Weidhaas, Betsey Odell, Director of Development, The Commonwealth Center for Manufacturing (CCAM)

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Region 4 GROW Capital Jobs Council convened with a majority of members participating. Mr. Todd Haymore, Vice-Chairman of GO Virginia Region 4 Council, chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order. Ms. Ann Isbell served as secretary and recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Citizen Comment:

No comments were made by the public; the public comment period was closed.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the September 15, 2022 Council were approved as presented.

Report of GROW Capital Jobs Foundation Audit

George Crowell, Harris, Hardy and Johnston presented an overview of the GROW Capital Jobs audit completed on September 30, 2022. WellsColeman's independent audit opinion reported that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of GROW Capital Jobs Foundation as of December 31, 2021 and the changes in its net assets and cash flows are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. As required, the full audit report has been provided to the Department of Housing and Community Development through their CAMS systems and a complete copy will be emailed to the Council members.

Report on GROW Capital Jobs Foundation Activities:

Mr. Wilson Flohr informed the Council that Kim Allman, Project Manager for GCJF, has updated the dashboard for the Quarter ending September 30, 2022 with the status of all GO Virginia Region 4 projects and their progress against milestones. Mr. Flohr reported that we are pleased that most of our projects are meeting their milestones even with disruptions from Covid. A copy of the dashboard will be emailed to Council members who were encouraged to contact GCJF staff with any questions or comments after reviewing the report.

Mr. Flohr then reported on available funding for a newly established Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) with additional funding of \$250,000 available to each region to be used over the next year. This additional funding can be used to develop a workforce planning strategy to prioritize investments and foster collaboration through business and education to meet the Commonwealth's workforce needs. Mr. Flohr emphasized that Council members participation will be instrumental in determining how this initiative moves forward.

Project Spotlight – Virginia BioConnect

Mr. John Newby presented an update on the Virginia BioConnect project and the three aims of the project: (1) Strengthen Virginia's Life Science Industry Sector; (2) Develop and Attract a Diverse Workforce for the Life Science Industry; and (3) Accelerate Life Science Industry Commercialization. At the end of the last quarter (September 2022) the project had served 85 businesses, created 118 jobs and 50 internships.

Project Approval

Dr. Julie Brown, Vice President, Institute of Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) presented the competitive application Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO TEC) Virginia 2025 via Zoom. This project is the result of a four-year effort seeded by GO Virginia and led by Region 3 and IALR to scale career exposure to create a network of partners committed to driving innovation and technology across the Commonwealth.

This project proposal is a collaboration among GO Virginia regions 1,3,4, and 5 and will support IALR's effort to continue expanding the GO TEC initiative that is currently underway in Region's 1 and 3.

Dr. Brown reported that each participating region had selected an In-Region Coordinating Entity (IRCE) for the project. Following a request for proposals, Region 4 designated The Commonwealth Center of Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) together with Virginia State University College of Engineering and Technology and Brightpoint Community College to serve as the IRCE to drive the expansion of the initiative in Region 4 and support K12 Divisions Career Connection Labs.

Following discussion, upon motion made by Dr. Rao and duly seconded by Dr. Moore, the project was approved for submission to GO Virginia for funding consideration. *[Mr. Sodell abstained from the vote]*

Other Business:

Sara Dunnigan, Deputy Director, GO Virginia provided additional details about using the Talent Pathways Initiative to explore future workforce development projects and indicated that the application would be available within the next two weeks.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Todd Haymore, Vice-Chairman

Ann M. Isbell, Acting Secretary