

**GO Virginia - Region 4 Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2023– 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
NewMarket Pavilion Conference Room
300 S. 4th Street, Richmond, Virginia**

Members Participating:

Brian Anderson, Dr. Joseph Casey, Katie Fessler, Moses Foster, Todd Haymore, Mark Hourigan, John Luke, Dr. Michael Rao, Martha Shickle, Natalie Slate, Monica Smith-Callahan, Lorin Sodell, and Paul Tuck

Members Unable to Participate:

Chandra Briggman, Will Clements, Bill Goodwin, Dr. Mark Moore, Dr. Paula Pando, and Carter Reid

Guest Speakers:

Lorin Sodell, Director of Business Development and Advanced Manufacturing Education, Commonwealth Center of Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM); David Denny, Executive Director, Virginia's Growth Alliance (VGA)

Others in Attendance:

Wilson Flohr, Serena Barry, Ann Isbell and Kim Allman, GROW Capital Jobs Staff; Andrea Devening, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); Michael Mancini, VP of Entrepreneurship and Ecosystem Development, Activation Capital; Kimberly Sarte and Ellen Miller, Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC)

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Region 4 Council convened with a majority of members participating. Mr. Mark Hourigan, Chairman of the 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.

Consent Agenda:

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the Council meetings of January 18, 2023 were approved as presented and provided to Council members for review prior to the meeting.

George Crowell provided a brief overview of the February 28, 2023 Financial Report and upon motion duly made and seconded, the report was approved as presented. This report had also been provided to Council members for review prior to the meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the financial report of February 28, 2023 was approved as presented.

Foundation Report:

Mr. Flohr reported that the two projects on the agenda were for the Council's approval for the GROW Capital Jobs Foundation and subject matter experts to review and make recommendations back to the Council prior to their final vote at the next meeting on April 19, 2023.

He further reported that under the guidance of DHCD support staff, who attended the last two Region 4 council meetings to review the Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) a task force was formed to discuss strategies and goals. Paul Tuck, who had been appointed Chair was also on the agenda to share recommendations. Relative to this initiative the leaders of some successful Region 4 projects had written letters of support to legislators for Governor Youngkin's proposed budget which includes TPI implementation funding that is important to the GO Virginia initiative.

Relative to the recent Build Back Better federal grant secured by Activation Capital, staff recently met with Joy Polefrone who has replaced Jeff Gallagher as Executive Director for the Alliance for Building Better Medicines.

Mr. Flohr also provided an update on GO Virginia multi-regional grants led by other regions with participation by other regions:

1. One of Region 4's collaborative projects with Region 5, RVA-757 Connects, is beginning to wrap up their Global Internet Hub planning grant, with GROW Capital Jobs Foundation staff closely following their progress. Staff has worked closely with Region 5 on this initiative.
2. The Mid Atlantic Broadband project with Region 3 is awaiting confirmation for federal grant matching funds to move the project forward. Confirmation of those funds could happen as early as this month.
3. The Virginia's Growth Alliance planning grant, also led by Region 3 and David Denny is underway. Mr. Flohr noted that Mr. Denny was in attendance and would be presenting a joint site development project that includes a Greenville County site.

4. The Gupton Initiative, led by Region 3 in collaboration with Regions 1, 2, 4 and 8, is a multi-region planning grant with the Commonwealth Alliance for Rural Colleges and Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Engineering. This project meeting its milestones and expected to be complete by July 2023.

Mr. Flohr then noted that the DHCD team was present to share more about the Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) and that Bob Holsworth would be working with the Council and a Council task force to identify a cluster(s) and a coordinating entity to lead this effort.

Mr. Flohr then turned the meeting over to John Luke, Chair of the Nominating Committee to report on the status of the Region 4 Council certification.

Nominating Committee Report:

Mr. John Luke, Chair of the Region 4 Nominating Committee, informed the Council that the committee is carefully reviewing the required categories of council membership to ensure that it meets the GO Virginia council membership requirements. The current membership meets the GO Virginia mandate for 50% or greater to be private sector business leaders. Mr. Luke also noted that resumes of three potential council members were included in the meeting materials who the nominating committee will put forward for a vote at the April 19, 2023 council meeting. He asked that council members share any other council membership recommendations with the committee.

Project Presentations:

Mr. Lorin Sodell, CCAM, presented the Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO TEC) per capita proposal. GO TEC is a program administered by the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) in Danville, Virginia that builds strategic talent pipelines from K-12 to higher education. Starting in middle school, GO TEC engages in career connection labs using hands-on learning in high-demand, high wage-earning career pathways.

Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED, that the Region 4 Council approves the GO TEC per capita project for review and recommendations by the Foundation Board and subject matter experts. *[Mr. Sodell abstained from the vote].*

Mr. David Denny, presented a site development project led by Region 3 to increase tiers in key sites including a site in Greensville County.

Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED, that the Region 4 Council approves the Virginia's Growth Alliance project for review and recommendations by the Foundation Board and subject matter experts. *[Ms. Slate abstained from the vote].*

Talent Pathways Initiative Task Force Report:

Mr. Paul Tuck, Chair of the Talent Pathways Initiative's (TPI) task force presented the recommendations for the clusters. A list of potential coordinating entities was circulated to council members. The TPI task force also asked council members to forward the names of any additional entities who should receive the Request for Information (RFI) notification.

Following discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was approved.

RESOLVED, that the TPI clusters for GO Virginia Region 4 are Information Technology and Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing.

Adjournment:

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

Mark J. Hourigan, Chairman

Ann M. Isbell, Acting Secretary