

GO Virginia - Region 4 Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 p.m.
GROW Capital Jobs Foundation Conference Room
NewMarket Pavilion Conference Room,
330 S. 4th Street, Richmond, Virginia

Members Participating:

Brian Anderson, Chandra Briggman, Dr. Joseph Casey, Will Clements, Elizabeth Creamer, Katie Fessler, Moses Foster, Todd Haymore, Mark Hourigan, Dr. Mark Moore, Dr. Paula Pando, Dr. Ted Raspillar, Martha Shickle, Monica Smith-Callahan, Lorin Sodell and Charles Wilson

Members Unable to Participate:

Bill Goodwin, John Luke, Chuck Pollard and Dr. Michael Rao, Natalie Slate and Paul Tuck

Guest Speakers

Jason El Koubi, President, Virginia Economic Development Partnership. (VEDP)
David Doré, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System. (VCCS)

Others in Attendance:

Ann Isbell and Kim Allman, GROW Capital Jobs Foundation (GROW); Sara Dunnigan and Joseph Dennie, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); Denny Morris, GROW Board Member; Jay Ellington, Executive Director, Crater Planning District; Ellen Cook, Project Manager, Plan RVA; Bill Fiege, President, Brightpoint Community College; and Chuck English, newly appointed Executive Director, Region 4 Talent Pathways Initiative, Brightpoint Community College

Call to Order:

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

Special Presentations

Mr. Jason El Koubi presented an update about the strategic direction VEDP has launched for 2024 with focus on the three core clusters of Knowledge Work, Manufacturing and Logistics.

Dr. David Doré presented on the important role our community college system plays in developing and building an educated workforce to support pipelines for all GO Virginia regions.

Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Will Clements, Chair of the Nominating Committee reported the Committee's recommendations for the election of two new members: Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, Division Superintendent, Prince George County Public Schools to fulfill the GO Virginia certification requirement for representation from K-12; and Mr. Robert Locke, Senior Vice President Electric Distribution, Dominion Energy representing private sector business.

Resolved, upon motion duly made and seconded, Dr. Pennycuff and Mr. Locke were elected to serve on the Region 4 Council.

Foundation Report:

Mr. Flohr provided a brief update on the financial position of the GROW Capital Jobs Foundation and confirmed there is sufficient cash flow and capacity building funds available for operations. He informed the Council that a full financial report would be presented at the Region 4 Council meeting on March 14, 2024.

Mr. Flohr further reported on the GO Virginia JLARC report and discussions with DHCD staff about streamlining our approval process for Enhanced Capacity Building grants (ECB's) for planning and feasibility studies. GROW staff proposed a new approach that aligns with DHCD to encourage more planning grants leading to additional impactful per capita grants.

It was recommended that GROW staff review ECB's with DHCD staff which is standard practice with all grants. Subject Matter Experts (SME's) would be included as needed. GROW staff would then present the complete application to the Region 4 Council's Executive Committee for approval to submit to GO Virginia. The application then undergoes a thorough DHCD and SME evaluation before being approved or denied. DHCD staff then informs the GO Virginia State Board of its decision(s) to approve grants at the next state board meeting. GROW staff will provide a summary of grants approved by the Region 4 Executive Committee and DHCD staff to all members of the Council.

Resolved, upon motion duly made and seconded, the modified approval process for Enhanced Capacity Building grants was approved.

Adjournment:

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

Mark Hourigan, Vice Chair

Ann M. Isbell, Acting Secretary