



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AUGUST 15, 2017

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

UVA Research Park, Town Center Two, 4th Floor
1001 Research Park Blvd, Charlottesville, Virginia

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Executive Committee Members: Brian Cole, (Chair), Tom Click, (Vice Chair); Andy Wade, Jim Cheng, Steve Ray, Miles Friedman, David Pettit

Staff: Helen Cauthen, Shannon Holland, Julia Skare

I. **Welcome**

Tom Click called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 1:31 PM. Brian Cole arrived and took over at 1:40 PM.

II. **Meeting Minutes**

Jim Cheng moved to approve the minutes of August 15, 2017 as provided. The motion was seconded by Miles Friedman and approved by the Executive Committee.

III. **Name for Region 9**

Tom Click led the discussion about potential names for the Region 9 Council. He referred to the attachment provided with the agenda that included all suggestions emailed to Helen. Tom said he felt it is easier to talk about our region if we had a meaningful name other than *Regional Council 9*. Suggestions included the Piedmont Corridor, Piedmont Technology Education Corridor (PTEC), Piedmont Growth and Opportunity Corridor or a reference to the US 29 Corridor. It was generally agreed that the term Piedmont best represented the counties, instead of Central Virginia, and that Growth and Opportunity should be referenced. The name Piedmont Opportunity Corridor was preferred. *Miles Friedman moved to recommend the name Piedmont Opportunity Corridor to the full council. The motion was seconded by David Pettit seconded and approved by the Executive Committee.*

IV. **Staffing**

Helen Cauthen indicated that the original GO Virginia budget was for eight hours per week for her work and 16 hours per week for Julia Skare, in addition to funds for Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission (RRRC) and Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC). The work load is significantly more than expected. Helen proposed the reallocation of \$15,000 from Go Virginia Consulting/Contract Service Type 2 funds to Program Salary, Wages and Benefits. As the result of this change, Shannon Holland would be dedicated to GO Virginia for 2 ½ days a week through February 28, 2018.

Andy Wade indicated the project has evolved, and he is in support of the recommendation. David Pettit asked how staffing needs might change as we go through the first of the year. Helen believes a full time manager is needed, but prefers at this point that there be two part-time people as Julia Skare is not available full time and she has experience with site readiness.

Steve Ray asked about finance staff. Helen indicated that the Partnership's Grant Account, Stephanie Boynton, is handling finances and that if GO Virginia continues to be funded after

June 30, 2018, we would want to budget more staffing for the initiative. Jim Cheng share that based on conversations he has had with legislators, he believes GO Virginia funding will likely go forward. ***Miles Friedman moved to reallocate \$15,000 from Consulting/Contract Services Type 2 to Program Salary, Wages & Benefits. The motion was seconded by Jim Cheng and approved by the Executive Committee.***

V. Financial Accounting

The financials through August 31, 2017 were reviewed. Andy Wade, Treasurer, noted that the large expenses were for the Camoin team's work on the Growth & Diversification plan and salaries. Helen Cauthen explained that DHCD provided \$100,000 in seed money to help each region get started. Although Camoin's work is finished, all of their payments have not yet been processed.

VI. Council Meeting Discussion Items

A. Locality contribution-\$50,000 min or 20%, whichever is greater (exemption if more than 50% of population is participating in the project) per project.

Helen Cauthen pointed out that the \$50,000 minimum may make it more difficult for rural, smaller counties to collaborate. It also benefits the localities with greater population and entities with a service territory that represents more than half of the region's population, like Piedmont Virginia Community College. Miles Friedman suggested that the Council focus its efforts on projects that involve most, if not all, of the region's localities.

We have received one pre-application to date. It is a Culpeper County project and they hope to involve Fauquier and Orange Counties. Helen briefly reviewed the full per capita project application that is required by DHCD. She suggested that Region 9 use this same form to capture all required information.

B. Capturing Project Ideas & Task Forces

Ideas could be forwarded to the appropriate Task Force once staff determines if a project is eligible. Topic was deferred to Council meeting which immediately followed the Executive Committee meeting. To help generate awareness of the funding opportunity, staff will attend the Boards of Supervisors/City Council meeting for each locality.

C. Outreach to State Legislators

Brian Cole spoke at the Virginia Rural Center's Regional Rural Caucus on August 30, which was co-hosted by Senator Emmett Hanger and Delegate Steve Landes. Ray Knott met with Senator Jill Vogel. Staff from the offices of Senator Creigh Deeds, Delegate David Toscano and Senator Bryce Reeves attended the September 13th "unveiling" of the Growth plan.

D. GO Virginia Workshop at Tom Tom Fall Forum

Jim Cheng gave an update on GO Virginia Workshop on Innovation held during the Tom Tom Fall Forum on September 22 and referenced the handout summarizing some key ideas generated. The workshop was attended by Secretary of Commerce Todd Haymore, representatives of 5 other Regional Councils, and over 50 leaders to begin to identify inter-regional projects in innovation and entrepreneurship. Jim Cheng indicated we should continue to coordinate and discuss with the other regions. Helen Cauthen shared that John Provo of Virginia Tech is hosting a similar event at the upcoming UBED meeting.

VII. Adjourn

Brian Cole adjourned the meeting at 2:32 PM.