



As approved at October 14, 2020 Council Meeting.

**REGIONAL COUNCIL 9  
JULY 23, 2020  
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM  
Zoom Link or Call-In**

Due to the COVID crisis this meeting was held via electronic means details included.

**MINUTES**

**Attending Council Members:** Ed Scott, EcoSeptix Alliance (Chair); Ed Dalrymple, Cedar Mountain Stone (Vice Chair); Chip Boyles, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (Treasurer); Alicia Pitorri, Bank of America; Andy Wade, Louisa County; Brian Cole, LexisNexis; Christian Goodwin, Louisa County; Felix Sarfo-Kantanka, Dominion Energy; Hon. Jim Crozier, Orange County; Hon. Tony O’Brien, Fluvanna County; Jan Gullickson, Germanna Community College; Jim Cheng, Cav Angels; Kim Blosser, Lord Fairfax Community College; Kurt Krueger, McGuireWoods; Liz Walters, Bingham & Taylor; Mansour Azimipour, A & K Development; Patrick Mauney, Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission; Ray Knott, Atlantic Union Bank; Tom Click, Patriot Industries; Yolunda Harrell, Taste of Home

**Special Guest:** Frank Friedman, Piedmont Virginia Community College as Special Guest of the Council

**Absent Council Members:** Miles Friedman, Fauquier County; Pace Lochte, University of Virginia Economic Development; Paul McCulla, Fauquier County

**Staff:** Shannon Holland, Helen Cauthen, Kristy Dancy

**Guests:** Amy Adams, Institute for Biohealth Innovation at GMU; Deborah Roder Prince Edward County; John Newby, VA Bio; Liz Povar, Region 3/Riverlink; Nikki Hastings, CvilleBioHub

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**Welcome**

Ed Scott opened the meeting at 9:31 am and announced that meeting was being held via zoom because of the state of emergency declared by the Governor. Ed Scott welcomed Alicia Pitorri, Yolunda Harrell and Kim Blosser to the Council as new members and thanked Frank Friedman for attending as Special Guest of the Council.

**Roll Call**

Kristy Dancy completed a roll call of Council Membership to determine attendance and quorum as noted above.

**Public Comment**

Ed Scott asked if any Public Comments had been received for the meeting. Shannon Holland stated that no public comments forms had been received.

**Approve Council Business**

Ed Scott stated that for expediency general business items were grouped together for one roll call vote and asked if there were any discussion or request to do differently. No discussion was offered.

Ed Scott asked for any comments on the Minutes. None were offered. Then, Chip Boyles provided his Treasurer Report, including these highlights:

- Regarding the year-to-date Income Statement for Capacity Building, with 92% of the fiscal year completed, the Council has received \$149,469 of the budgeted \$250,000 or roughly 60% of the annual budgeted revenues.
- Total expenses are where they should be also at 60% of the budgeted \$250,000 annual expenses with lower than expected costs in employee expenses, legal services, rent, meeting expenses and marketing have resulted in the lowered expenses for the year.
- The total projects income statement shows 24% of the \$2,543,037 budget expended. This does not reflect a full year-to-date spending ratio since some projects began after the July 1, 2019 and do not spend funds evenly throughout the project life. All projects are spending accordingly to their own timelines with the Cville BioHub and Site Readiness projects being almost fully spent out.
- The balance sheet reflects a cash balance of \$75.41 with \$68,493 in accounts receivables from DHCD and accrued receivables of \$4,243 for Total Current Assets of \$72,812.
- The offsetting Liabilities and equity of \$72,812 include \$54,698 payable to CVPED, accrued expenses of \$4,243 and total equity of unrestricted assets of \$13,870.

Ed Scott asked if there were any issues on the Council Calendar as presented. None were offered.

Ed Scott then said that staff was requesting approval of the Capacity Building contract and the Project Contract Template in the packet. Staff has advised that the Capacity Building Contract is somewhat routine since it is signed annually and that approving the Project Contract Template would streamline getting awarded projects under contract. Ed Scott stated that staff would then only need to update project specific items and then advance contract for signature.

Ed Scott asked if there were any questions or discussion on any of the items presented. No discussion was offered.

***Kurt Krueger made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes, Financials, Council Calendar, Capacity Building Contract and the Project Contract Template as presented. Jan Gullickson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was performed and the motion carried.***

#### **Strike Force Update, as needed**

Ed Scott reported that the Strike Force had not received any new grant proposals but that the Strike Force did participate with the Growing Existing Business Task Force to review the submitted ERR proposal and other Inter-Regional requests on Monday, July 20. When the Propel CV proposal was withdrawn the group instead pre-reviewed the Inter Regional requests and discussed some general recommendations for the Council to consider.

#### **Project Review and Vote, as needed**

Ed Scott again noted that the proposal that was to be reviewed at this meeting had been withdrawn.

#### **Inter-Regional Project Review and Vote, as needed**

Ed Scott shared that due to the growth of the GO Virginia program the number of statewide competitive projects has accelerated and that the Council had 3 requests for Letters of Support for Inter-Regional projects as well as a request from the GENEDGE "Retooling" project.

- **VA Bio Connect Presentation - Collaborating Region Support**

Ed Scott introduced John Newby, VA Bio, and, Nikki Hastings, CvilleBioHub as the presenters for the applicant team for the statewide VA Bio Connect proposal being led by Region 4 and for which Region 9 was being engaged as a collaborating partner. Ed Scott shared that the Task Force reviewed the project white paper and a previous version of the PowerPoint and recommends that the Council support this project.

***Ray Knott made a motion that the Council endorse the project concept and serve as a***

***collaborative region to advance the proposal to the State Board. Alicia Pitorri seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.***

- **MBC Middle Mile Broadband - Letter of Support Request**

Ed Scott introduced the project by noting that the MBC Middle Miles Broadband project had already been approved by Region 3 as an Enhanced Capacity Building grant with a Letter of Support from Region 4. Ed Scott noted that the applicant is requesting a Letter of Support from Region 9 noting that there was no financial support requested. Ed Scott said that the Task Force review group discussed the project and they discussed it was difficult to know the support of impacted Region 9 localities and whether or not this particular project would be a priority for Region 9 in the time available. Ed Scott added that feedback was subsequently requested from impacted localities and the responses varied greatly from “we don’t oppose it” to “we have technical questions” to full support. Ed Scott added that he understood that this proposal was already submitted to DHCD for administrative approval and that a Region 9 Letter of Support by the end of July should be helpful in procuring the EDA funding for the project.

***Jim Crozier made a motion that the Council provide no Letter of Support at this time but encourage the impacted counties and the Central Virginia Partnership consider writing letters. Felix Sarfo-Kantanka seconded the motion. After a roll call vote the motion carried.***

- **SBDC - Letter of Support Request**

Ed Scott noted that the incoming Region 7 Chair had invited him to attend a meeting about this about this statewide proposal where Region 9 expressed initial concerns that funding the entire SBA match of 1.6m would dis-incentivize localities that could contribute to perhaps not contribute. Others on that call expressed a similar concern. Ed Scott added that we understand the applicant may be “sharpening the pencil” as a result and that the Region 7 staff were helping the applicant develop programmatic changes that would establish quarterly evaluation and a process to vet each regional SBDC’s funds request. Ed Scott added that the Task Force recommended that due to the extraordinary impact of COVID this proposal was appropriate as an ERR grant but would like to see something in the proposal that manages the “dis-incentivizing” of locality funding .

***Ed Dalrymple made a motion that the Council approve a Letter of Support considering the extraordinary circumstances and suggest that measures be in place to prevent “dis-incentivizing” localities from contributing. Ray Knott seconded the motion. Yolunda Harrell abstained. After a roll call vote the motion carried.***

- **GENEDGE “Retooling” Advisory Committee Appointment**

Ed Scott noted that he and the Task Force would like to recommend that Tom Click serve on behalf of Region 9 on the GENEDGE “Retooling” Advisory Committee and asked if there were any other nominations. None were offered.

***Ray Knott made a motion to approve Tom Click to represent Region 9 on the GENEDGE “Retooling” Advisory Committee. Brian Cole seconded the motion. After a roll call vote the motion carried.***

### **Chair Update**

Referring to the Region 9 Dashboard, Ed Scott noted that effective July 1<sup>st</sup> the region has an additional \$1,000,000 available in per capita funding- so total available per capita funds are just over \$1,300,000 and that there is still over \$700,000 in ERR funding available as well. Ed Scott also asked if any members would prefer to serve on a Task Force other than the one assigned to let him know. Ed Scott also asked that Council Members be aware that the developing the next Growth Plan Update would likely begin in Spring 2021 with the final report likely due by Fall 2021.

**Director Update, as needed**

Shannon Holland asked that all those who received a COIA training request to please complete and advise her by September 1 for Council compliance and she added that DHCD was announcing a new compliance workflow soon. Shannon Holland finished by sharing that the VEDP statewide site characterization analysis had been reviewed with localities via meetings set up by the Partnership and that she had emailed Fauquier County to see if they wanted to set up a similar meeting to ensure that all of Region 9 had been included.

**Other Business**

Ed Scott noted that Patrick Mauney had a request for a Letter of Support. Patrick Mauney shared that Planning District 9 and Planning District 10 were combining efforts to apply for Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) application from the US EDA and a Letter of Support would be helpful.

***Tony O'Brien made a motion to offer a Letter of Support for the CEDs plan. Brian Cole seconded the motion. After a roll call vote the motion carried.***

Jan Gullickson raised the request that the Council consider doing some work on broadband because it was very important for regional community colleges.

**Adjourn**

At 11:00 Ed Scott said if there was no other business he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

***Tony O'Brien made a motion to adjourn. Brian Cole seconded the motion.***

Topic: Region 9 Council Meeting

Time: Jul 23, 2020 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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