



GO Virginia Region 8 Council Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 10:00am to 12:00pm
 Shentel Offices, Room A-2
 500 Shentel Way, Edinburg, VA 22824

FIRST	LAST	AFFILIATION	ATTENDED
Jon	Alger	James Madison University	X
Devon	Anders	InterChange Group	
Stacy	Barrett	Barrett Machine, Inc.	X
Kim	Blosser	Lord Fairfax Community College	X
Kathlynn	Brown	SRI International	
Greg	Campbell	Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport	
Robin	Crowder	Retired K-12 Superintendent	
John	Downey	Blue Ridge Community College	X
Joanie	Eiland	Elk Trucking, Inc.	
Tracy	Fitzsimmons	Shenandoah University	X
Frank	Friedman	CornerStone Bank/City of Lex Mayor	X
Mike	Goertzen	Serco, Inc.	
Conrad	Helsley	NSVRC Board	X
John	King	Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative	
Chris	Kyle	Shentel	X
Connie	Loughhead	Des Champs Technologies	X
Keith	May	Cottonwood Commercial	X
Jill	McGlaughlin	Classic Kitchen & Bath	
Mark	Merrill	Valley Health System	X
Kathy	Moore	Moore Public Relations	X
John	Neff	Retired - Nielsen Builders	
George	Pace	Shenandoah Valley Angel Investors	X
J.J.	Smith	Valley Proteins	X
Jeff	Stapel	Shickel Corporation	
Robin	Sullenberger	Highland County Economic Development Authority	X
Rick	Till	HR Dynamics LLC	X
Judith	Trumbo	Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community	

Support Staff Attending Included: Brandon Davis (NSVRC), Ashley Shickle (NSVRC), Bonnie Riedesel (CSPDC), Elizabeth McCarty (CSPDC), Faith McClintic (Program Director), Jay Langston (SVP) & Jen Weaver (SVP & GOVA Administrative Coordinator)

Call to Order

The April 23, 2019 Council meeting for GO Virginia Region 8 was called to order by Chairman George Pace at 10:00am.

Welcome & Introductions

Chris Kyle, Vice Chair of the Region 8 Council and Vice President Programming, Regulatory, Business Development for Shentel, welcomed everyone to the Shentel headquarters and the great town of Edinburg. He noted that Shentel is currently the sixth largest wireless provider in the US, a fact not many realize. He attributed much of the company's success to its loyal and hardworking employees. Previewing a big announcement to be made later that evening, Mr. Kyle revealed Harrisonburg will become a "Gigabit City", meaning residents will have an offering of Shentel internet, video and phone services as well as ultra-high speed bandwidth. Not only will city residents now have an option other than Comcast, Mr. Kyle said this advancement can be used as a huge economic development tool.

All Council members then introduced themselves.

Approval of January 22, 2019 Minutes

The minutes of the January 22, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Dr. John Downey motioned for the minutes to be approved; seconded by Frank Friedman. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Council Action

Electronic Participation Policy

Faith McClintic, Program Director, introduced the proposed Region 8 "Electronic Participation Policy". The Region 8 policy was mirrored after the GO Virginia State Board policy currently in effect. Ms. McClintic noted remote participation by a Council member due to a personal matter will be limited each calendar year to two meetings. Chairman Pace added that while this policy will allow some flexibility for members, a physical quorum will be required at the meeting location so attendance is still imperative.

Mark Merrill motioned for the Electronic Participation Policy to be approved; seconded by President Jon Alger. The policy was approved unanimously.

FY19-20 Budget Approval

Brandon Davis, Executive Director, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, presented the proposed FY19-20 Capacity Building Funds budget. Mr. Davis noted the budget and line item breakdowns were based on forms and guidelines provided by DHCD. He also said money carried over from the FY18-19 budget must be used first before new funding can be drawn from. He anticipates the carryover from FY18-19 should be significant enough to carry into the second quarter of the fiscal year.

Mark Merrill motioned for the FY19-20 Capacity Building Funds budget to be approved as presented; seconded by Dr. John Downey. The budget was approved unanimously.

Amended Economic Growth & Diversification Plan

Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission, reported an updated Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification (EG&D) plan is required to be submitted to DHCD by August 1, 2019. The current plan was created by Camoin Associates, Inc. and approved by the State Board in August 2017. Growth and Diversification Plans are used by each regional Council to ensure that recommended and approved GO Virginia projects are consistent and align with the targeted industries and frameworks spelled out in their plan. Through earlier discussion by support staff and Chairman Pace, it was decided the updates could be handled "in house", utilizing the JobsEQ database. Timeline is to have the updated plan completed for approval at the July 23rd Region 8 Council meeting.

Basic requirements for the update are:

- Update the data provided in the original EG&D Plan
- Identify any new, non-GO Virginia efforts that complement GO Virginia projects
- Change or revise targeted industries
- Update the previously identified workforce gaps
- Develop a project pipeline and show best practices for incubating project partners and ideas

Discussion then followed on having healthcare remain as a targeted industry in the Region 8 plan. Agreement was reached by the Council that healthcare would remain as a “placeholder” for future considerations.

Prioritization of Project Abstracts

Faith McClintic directed the Council to the project abstract summaries included in their packets. She noted eleven proposals had been submitted for possible funding in FY19-20. Since all details of the proposals are not yet defined, Ms. McClintic noted the Council members needed to focus on the “concepts” when thinking about prioritization. Review and discussion on all eleven proposals followed. Council members were then given a ballot to vote on the abstracts they thought should have highest priority for consideration of funding. Results of the prioritization voting will be tabulated after the meeting and emailed to Council members and applicants. In response to a Council member’s question, Ms. McClintic said any other applications submitted that were not part of the prioritization process would still be considered and brought before the Council for ranking.

Executive Committee Report

Two Year Renewal of Council Member Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) Compliance

Faith McClintic, Program Director, directed Council members to the spreadsheet included in their packets which notes expiration of their current COIA training. COIA training for GO Virginia Council members is required to be renewed every two years to remain in compliance. The link for the training was included at the bottom of the spreadsheet. As well, Jen Weaver, Administrative Coordinator, will send follow up emails to each member with instructions.

Financial Status Report

Chairman Pace reported finances for Region 8 are in good shape with unspent capacity building funds from FY18-19 to be carried forward into the next fiscal year. Extensive financial reports were included in each Council packet and Brandon Davis, Executive Director, Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission, offered to answer any questions.

Meeting Invitations to Local Leaders

Chairman Pace stated that going forward an effort would be made to extend a Council meeting invitation to government leaders in the locality in which the meeting is being held. He said he feels it is important to get these individuals more engaged in the work GO Virginia is doing. As well, Chairman Pace feels the Council has a responsibility to keep local governments updated about GO Virginia projects funded in their area and is looking at ways to implement this process.

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Advisory Committee

Chairman Pace announced he is convening an advisory committee to address items raised in the TEconomy study. The group’s first meeting will be April 24th at 2:00pm at the Ice House in Harrisonburg.

I81 Update

Chairman Pace reported the State had approved funding for a \$2 billion bond package to implement improvements on I81. Funding will come from several different sources including a regional gas tax, increase in truck registrations, and a diesel fuel increase.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Next Council Meeting: July 23, 2019 from 10am to 12:00pm; Waynesboro City Council Chambers, Charles T. Yancey Municipal Building, 503 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, VA.

Vice Chair Chris Kyle will chair the meeting in the absence of Chairman Pace.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Pace adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm.