

GO Virginia Region 8 Executive Committee Minutes

Friday, July 31, 2020, 9:30am to 10:00am

Virtual Executive Committee Meeting

COVID-19 Crisis/Restrictions on In-Person Gatherings

FIRST	LAST	AFFILIATION	ATTENDED
Joanie	Eiland	Elk Trucking, Inc.	X
Chris	Kyle	Shentel, Region 8 Chair	X
Connie	Loughhead	Des Champs Technologies	X
Keith	May	Cottonwood Commercial	X
Rick	Till	HR Dynamics LLC	X
Brandon	Davis	Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission	X
Bonnie	Riedesel	Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission	X

Faith McClintic, Region 8 Program Director, and Jen Weaver, Administrative Coordinator, also participated in the meeting.

Call to Order

The July 31, 2020 Executive Committee meeting for GO Virginia Region 8 was called to order by Chair Chris Kyle at 9:30a.m.

Quorum Confirmation/Virtual Meeting Guidelines

Chair Kyle noted all Executive Committee members were participating in the virtual meeting. He said the virtual meeting was taking place due to the need for social distancing. He also acknowledged the necessity for GO Virginia Region 8 work to continue in light of the significant economic distress being caused by the pandemic.

Executive Committee Action

Approval of Fast Access Application – Shenandoah Valley Small Business Resiliency Teams (SBRT)

Faith McClintic, Program Director, presented a summary of the SBRT grant proposal which will consist of consulting, training, and contracted technical assistance to help the region’s small businesses mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 in the near term as well as prepare them for positive long-term outcomes. Ms. McClintic said this is the type of project defined as part of the Economic Resilience and Recovery initiative.

Discussion followed with members agreeing that using grant money to pay professionals to provide their expertise is a crucial component the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) cannot normally deliver. Per a question from an Executive Committee member, it was clarified the grant money would pay for professional consulting services as well as SBDC personnel who will serve as navigators.

Brandon Davis and Bonnie Riedesel both recused themselves from the vote as their organizations receive funding from GO Virginia for grant administration. Keith May motioned for the Shenandoah Valley Small Business Resiliency Teams grant proposal to be approved; seconded by Connie Loughhead. The motion was approved unanimously.

Other Business

Chair Kyle said he wanted to spend some time examining the Region 8 project application process and ways to make it more efficient with better outcomes. He said he is concerned with so much time being taken to formulate, write, vet and approve project applications with no guarantee they will be approved at the State level. Discussion followed on ways to improve the process with Chair Kyle requesting a written version from Ms. McClintic within the next week.

Public Comment

No one from the public participated.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Region 8 Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 10:05a.m by Chair Kyle.