

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MARY BALL WASHINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL**

October 15, 2018
Rappahannock Community College
Warsaw, Virginia

MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING: **Chair** – William Beale, **Vice-Chair** – Carlton Revere, Val Foulds, Lisa Hull, Mike Jenkins, Ann Lewis, Kim McClellan, Bryan Taliaferro, John Wells, Kimberly Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wally Beauchamp, Lou Belcher, Elizabeth Crowther, Bruce Davis, Steve Goodall, Stephanie Heinatz, Anne Richardson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Charlie Becker, Christy Bonifant, Jerry Davis, Chris Hodge, Mark Luckenbach, John Magruder, Kiana Perez, Jason Perry, Becky Purcell, Morgan Quicke, Scott Randall

STAFF: **GWRC** – Kate Gibson, **Community Futures** – Neal Barber

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 11:00 am with a quorum present.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

No members of the public wished to speak.

AUGUST 13, 2018 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Dr. Wells moved to approve the August 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes, and Mr. Taliaferro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Gibson presented the financial report for April 2017-August 2018. Mr. Jenkins moved to approve the financial report, and Ms. McClellan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PROJECT REPORTS

Jerry Davis provided updates on the Flexible Office Space Due Diligence and Welding Training Program projects. Ms. Gibson provided updates on the PamunkeyNet Business Plan and Virginia Sea Grant Planning Grant projects.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP CHANGES APPROVAL

The Nominating Committee determined the following recommendation at their meeting:

- Accept Morgan Quicke

The Nominating Committee's recommendation was accepted as a motion. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Nominating Committee also requested that Council members identify potential new private sector representatives, to balance the addition of Mr. Quicke from the public sector.

TECONOMY ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM STUDY

Ms. Gibson provided an update on the TEconomy Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Study. The Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) has engaged TEconomy Partners to work with each GO Virginia region to develop strategies around startup ecosystem capacity building. TEconomy will perform both quantitative and qualitative analysis of entrepreneurship within Region 6. They will then host two stakeholder meetings to finalize an action plan.

GROWTH & DIVERSIFICATION PLAN STRATEGIES REVIEW

Mr. Barber gave a brief presentation on the emerging opportunities and potential strategies for the Seafood Processing/Aquaculture/Commercial Fishing and Forestry/Wood Products/Paper clusters outlined in the Region 6 Economic Growth & Diversification Plan.

PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSION

Opportunities in the Forestry/Wood Products/Paper Cluster

Charlie Becker, Utilization and Marketing Manager with Virginia Department of Forestry gave a presentation on forestry-related economic opportunities in GO Virginia Region 6. John Magruder, President of Three Rivers Forestry LLC and Supervisor from Essex County, presented his ideas for potential opportunities for growth within the forestry sector.

Opportunities in the Seafood Processing/Aquaculture/Commercial Fishing Cluster

Mark Luckenbach, Professor of Marine Science and Associate Dean of Research and Advisory Services with Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), presented on opportunities in the aquaculture industry, particularly in the oyster industry.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting of the Regional Council will take place on December 10, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Gibson, Senior Planner
George Washington Regional Commission