



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

November 15, 2019
Rappahannock Community College
Warsaw, Virginia

MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING: Chair - William Beale, Kim McClellan, Wally Beauchamp, Lisa Hull

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice-Chair - Carlton Revere

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Liz Povar, Middle Peninsula Alliance; Troy Hartley, Virginia Sea Grant; Jackie Davis, Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board; Paige Pollard, Building Resilient Solutions

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 11:10 am with a quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was received.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Mrs. McClellan moved to approve the September 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes and Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Gibson presented the financial report for April 2017-August 2019. Mr. Beale confirmed that there are approximately \$2.5 million in project allocation currently. Ms. Hull moved to approve the financial report and Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DHCD CAPACITY BUILDING BUDGET UPDATE

Ms. Gibson presented an updated DHCD Capacity Building budget to the Committee. This budget supports administration costs related to GO Virginia for staff. Ms. Gibson noted that money was reallocated and moved between line items but the total budget did not change. Ms. McClellan moved to approve the budget update and Ms. Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF ACT WORK READY PROGRAM

Ms. Davis presented to the Committee on what the ACT Work Ready Program is and how it could benefit the region. Ms. Davis stated that having this certification allows employers to know what skills an employee has when entering their company. She continued by stating that when a



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community is designated “work ready” it allows companies entering the region to know that they will have a workforce ready to support their needs. Ms. Davis stated these certifications and designation are an economic development benefit for the region.

APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GLOUCESTER COUNTY ACT WORK READY PROGRAM

Gloucester County is applying to become an ACT Work Ready community and asked for GO Virginia Region 6’s support in this process. Ms. McClellan moved to approve the letter of support and Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF THE WATER ECONOMY AND FUTURE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Hartley presented to the Council an interim report on his water management economy report supported by a GO Virginia Region 6 planning grant. Mr. Hartley demonstrated to the Council the wide variety of potential jobs and the need for space to research solutions to managing the increase of water in coastal areas.

Ms. Pollard with Building Resilient Solutions, detailed how important this research is for her company on ways to better assist homeowners in flood prone areas protect their homes and/or recover from a disaster. Ms. Pollard says there has been little monitored and evaluated research done in what types of solutions work and she hopes a continued partnership with Mr. Hartley will allow for measured solutions to be implemented in coastal areas.

DISCUSSION OF COLLABORATION WITH REGION 5

Mr. Beale discussed with the Committee how the water management economy presentation overlaps with priorities in Region 5 and therefore both regions should work together on these issues.

GO VIRGINIA REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

With the resignation of Mr. Revere, the Committee discussed who would best be suited to replace Mr. Revere as Vice Chair. At present time, the Committee found no current member of the Council willing to serve as Vice Chair. The position remains open. The Committee discussed expanding the size of the Council to accommodate an increase in membership requests and discussed asking members whose participating has been low to attend more meetings.

DISCUSSION OF AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR REGION 6 GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION PLAN



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The Council and the Executive Committee have made it a priority to utilize Region 6's Growth and Diversification Plan to its fullest. Staff prepared guiding questions on ways to enhance the utilization of the plan throughout the region. The Committee discussed these questions to help guide staff on preparing to discuss with the full Council.

PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. Morgan reported that the project pipeline development contracts and all project grantees are on track to meet their deadlines and milestones.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Beale invited Ms. Allen to speak to the Executive Committee as the member of the public in attendance. No comment was received.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee will meet the 3rd Friday of the month the full Council does not meet. The next meeting will be January 17th at 11 am at the Rappahannock Community College, in Warsaw, VA.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Mr. Beale moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:39pm. Mrs. McClellan seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.