



Region 6 Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, June 19, 2020

11:00am – 1:00pm

Virtual Meeting

Please Join the Meeting Here: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/501357285>

To Join by Phone: (571) 317-3129 Access Code: 501-357-285

MINUTES

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

STAFF: GWRC – Kate Gibson and Jennifer Morgan | **Community Features** – Neal Barber

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. with a quorum present. It was noted that due to the nature of the Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pursuant to Code § 2.2-3708.2 this meeting was held by electronic communications, via the web platform GoToMeeting. The catastrophic nature of this declared emergency made it impractical and unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and the purpose of this meeting was to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Beale gave the floor to Ms. Morgan to inform the Council of how the electronic meeting was to proceed. Ms. Morgan called roll and stated a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. McClellan motioned to approve the consent agenda containing the minutes from the May 20th Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF GO VIRGINIA STATEWIDE APPLICATION PROCESS

Ms. Morgan reviewed with the Executive Committee the current Region 6 process to review and approve requests to join Statewide Competitive projects.

APPLICATION DISCUSSION AND DETERMINATIONS

Ms. Morgan summarized the proposals and presented the staff concerns for the GENEDGE Statewide Competitive Application, the Small Business Development Center Statewide Competitive Application, the SCIPP Statewide Competitive Application, and the ERR Fast Access King and Queen TeleHealth Program Needs Assessment and Mr. Beale led the resulting discussion.

Mr. Bill Donohue, representing GENEDGE, summarized the project for the Executive Committee. Ms. Hull inquired how this proposal engaged companies in Region 6 and Mr. Beauchamp questioned how the program would target Region 6 industry clusters. Mr. Donohue explained the program would work with workforce representatives in the region to target manufactures who could reposition their businesses to PPE. Mr. Beale asked why this program was not a state budget item and Mr. Donohue explained due to the speed in which the project formed it was not included. Ms. McClellan motioned to



approve Region 6's support of the project at the state level and Ms. Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Jody Keenan, representing the Virginia SBDC, summarized the project for the Executive Committee. Mr. Beale questioned if this project was the best use of Statewide Competitive funds and wanted to know how current funders would not cut the SBDC out of their budgets due to this funding. Mr. Beauchamp moved to approve the involvement in Region 6 staff in continuing to develop this application and Ms. McClellan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ms. Hull abstaining.

Mr. Victor Berlin, representing SCIPP International, summarized the project for the Executive Committee. Mr. Beauchamp commended Mr. Berlin on the tie to veterans' benefits and creating jobs. Mr. Beale questioned the current number of organizations conducting this training and why there was a need for an additional organization and who would be conducting the training. Ms. Hull motioned to approve the involvement in Region 6 staff in continuing to develop this application and Ms. McClellan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tom Swartzwelder, representing King and Queen County, summarized the project for the Executive Committee. Ms. McClellan questioned how this project was categorized as a rapid recovery project if implementation could not happen until 2022. Ms. Hull was concerned that this proposal did not have the right supporting partners. Mr. Beauchamp was concerned about how this project aligned with GO Virginia's priorities. Mr. Swartzwelder clarified that they had not received quotes on the cost of the study and did not know if the project budget of \$150,000 would be necessary. Ms. McClellan motioned to approve the application contingent on the applicant including in their study an examination of a temporary location to host telehealth services to accelerate the timeline and lowering the amount of GO Virginia funding from \$100,000 to \$50,000. Ms. Hull seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION WITH PDCS AND EDOS

Mr. Beale discussed with the members of the Executive Committee and representatives from the regional economic development organizations and planning district commissions how it is the desire of the Region 6 Council to develop a better application process and asked them what the Council and staff needs to do to create this. Mr. Beale stated that he believes more transparency is needed on all ends; in the development of the application and on what the Council is looking for. Mr. Todd Gillingham, representing the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance, stated that he has enjoyed working with the Region 6 Council and would like to continue to work with the Council through the project pipeline development grants. Mr. Gillingham also stated that he would like to work with the Council to better engage DHCD on Site Development. Ms. Lisa Hull, representing the Northern Neck PDC, discussed that GO Virginia as a program is difficult as it changes frequently. Ms. Liz Povar, representing the Middle Peninsula Alliance, stated that building partnerships remains a barrier for projects, as well as continuing to develop interest from private sector businesses in Region 6. Ms. Povar stated that another challenge is making sure there is alignment between organizations that should be partners on projects. Ms. Angela Freeman, representing the City of Fredericksburg Economic Development, stated that there is much bureaucracy within the program and also requested the Region 6 Council issuing a letter to the State Board to raise the ERR Fast Access cap to \$500,000. Mr. Beauchamp requested staff work with him to help bring more Boards of Supervisors into project development.



NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Ms. Hull moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 p.m. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.