



Region 6 Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, August 21, 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, Rob Quartel, Wally Beauchamp, Lisa Hull, Kim McClellan

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 11:00 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. Staff requested that all votes be taken with all yes's said together and then no's and abstentions said with the member's name.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was received.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Beale asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items, including the June 19th meeting minutes, June 26th meeting minutes, and the most recent Financial Report. Mr. Quartel abstained from the vote as he was not present at the previous meetings. Ms. McClellan motion for approval and Mr. Beauchamp second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PROJECT PIPELINE CONTRACTS

Ms. Morgan summarized the project pipeline request for proposals process in each of the three sub regions within Region 6 and the proposals for project pipeline development received by the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance and the Northern Neck Planning District Commission. Mr. Quartel questioned why an entity from the Middle Peninsula did not submit a proposal. Mr. Quartel motioned to approve the proposal submitted by the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance and Ms. McClellan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. McClellan motion to approve the proposal submitted by the Northern Neck Planning District Commission and Mr. Quartel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Ms. Hull abstaining from the vote.

DISCUSSION OF REMAINING \$25,000 ALLOCATED FOR PROJECT PIPELINE

The Executive Committee discussed whether or not to reallocate the \$25,000 allocated for an entity to lead project pipeline development within the Middle Peninsula. The members of the Executive



Committee agreed to continue to work with their connections and directed staff to potentially reissue the request for proposals within the Middle Peninsula.

DISCUSSION OF LETTER TO STATE BOARD REGARDING CURRENT BOARD POLICIES

Ms. Morgan explained that staff attends a bi-weekly Support Organization calls with DHCD. On the call, dated August 20th, 2020, staff learned that on the agenda for the GO Virginia State Board meeting slated for September 22nd, 2020, the State Board will examine possibly extending Board Policy #11, GO Virginia Program Match Requirements – Per Capita Funds. This policy reduces match from \$1 to \$1 to \$2 to \$1 and eliminates the local match requirement. Since the onset of this policy in April 2020, Region 6 has been able to approve five projects with one additional project pending. Previous to this reduction, Region 6 had only approved 5 projects in 2.5 years. Ms. Morgan requested the Executive Committee direct staff on whether to write a letter to the State Board or not in favor of extending the reduction in match. Mr. Quartel motioned to direct staff to write a letter to the GO Virginia State Board in favor of extending Board Policy #11, GO Virginia Program Match Requirements – Per Capita Funds. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Morgan informed the Executive Committee that Region 6's Growth and Diversification Plan is required to be updated in August of 2021. Ms. Morgan requested that the Executive Committee consider if the current Growth and Diversification Plan adequately represented the needs and priorities of Region 6. Ms. Morgan explained that another way to consider the Growth and Diversification Plan would be to complete a strategic plan. Mr. Beale questioned how much time and effort this would take. Ms. McClellan was concerned if a strategic plan would limit ideas. Ms. Morgan informed the Executive Committee staff did not seek a motion at the current meeting. Mr. Beale instructed staff and the Executive Committee to consider this idea and be prepared to vote at the September Executive Committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Mr. Quartel moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.