Region 6 Regional Council Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2026
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
In-Person Meeting Location – UMW Dahlgren Campus
Virtual Meeting Location -
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82781366875?pwd=1uVEzaLCxUJpmvyatER0IImZL7BiXT.1

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING: Chair – John Anzivino, John Bateman (virtual), Sarah Chiles, Ernisha Hall, Donna Hart, Stephanie Heinatz, Pete Humes, Dr. Shannon Kennedy, Cyndi Mack, Monty Mason, Ginni Matern, Joe Syslo, Jeff Szyperski, Dr. Kimberly Young

MEMBERS PRESENT VIRTUALLY AND NOT VOTING: Kyle Allwine (arrived after roll call), Rene Daniels, Vernon Green Jr

MEMBERS ABSENT: Taryn Bryice-Rowland, Jackie Davis, Ryan DeWeese, Jan Erkert, Tina Lance, Melissa Sheffield

STAFF: GWRC – Chip Boyles, Cheyenne Courtney, Sarah Oldaker

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kim Allman – **Kim Allman LLC**; Angela Freeman - **University of Mary Washington (virtual)**; Billy Gammel, Jack Honig – **DHCD**; Barbara Kirkwood-Taylor, Hannah Overby – **VEDP**; Sheila Minor – **Individual (virtual)**; Nancy Patillo – **Cyber Bytes Foundation;** Mike Purello – **Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecosystem;** Catherine Van Noy – **RIVERE**; Woodie Walker – **Essex EDA (virtual)**

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Anzivino called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

ROLL CALL
Mr. Anzivino asked Ms. Oldaker to take roll. Ms. Oldaker took roll and indicated that an in-person quorum was present.

Approval of Members Participating Remotely (Action Item)
Dr. Young made a motion to approve Ms. Sheffield and Mr. Bateman to participate in the GO Virginia Region 6 Regional Council Meeting remotely. Dr. Kennedy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS
Mr. Anzivino welcomed attendees and new members to the Region 6 Regional Council Meeting.

PUBLIC INVOLVMENT
There was no public involvement

CONSENT AGENDA
Mr. Anzivino presented the consent agenda which included the approval of Minutes from January 26, 2026, MBWRC meeting. Ms. Matern made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Young seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT & PROJECT PIPELINE REPORT
Ms. Oldaker presented the financial report and briefly covered Projects in Pipeline and Planning Grant Funding. She noted that this is the first time GO Virginia Region 6 has fully expended its Per Capita funding.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (ACTION ITEM)
Mr. Anzivino briefly covered the planning grant approved by the Executive Committee, which is included in the packet.

Elect Dr. Tashika Griffith to the Regional Council (ACTION ITEM)
Mr. Anzivino made a motion to approve the membership of Dr. Tashika Griffith for the Go Virginia Region 6 Regional Council. Dr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS
Cyber Titans VIP Grant Report
Ms. Patillo, from Cyber Bytes Foundation, presented on the Cyber Titans Internship Program. She provided an outline of the project and the Cyber Titan VIP Planning Grant.

RIVERE Ecological Center Economic Impact Analysis Report
Ms. Van Noy, from RIVERE, presented RIVERE's Ecological Center Economic Impact Analysis Report. She covered what the RIVERE Ecological Center is, the GO Virginia planning grant that funded the project, their project team, Steering Committee, economic impact analysis, and next steps.

Regional Entrepreneurship Initiative Report
Mr. Purello, from Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecosystem, presented a report to the council members on the Regional Entrepreneurial Initiative Action Plan. He covered the development of the REI Action Plan, regional priorities, recommendations, outcomes, and next steps.

Internships VA Program
Ms. Overby, from VEDP, presented on creating a talent pipeline through internships. She discussed the benefits and impact of internship programs, strategies for recruitment, building a talent pipeline, and available grant opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS
FY 2027 Capacity Building Budget (ACTION ITEM)
Ms. Oldaker presented the FY 2027 Capacity Building Budget and covered budget line items. Mr. Anzivino asked questions and Ms. Oldaker answered accordingly. Mr. Szyperski made a motion to approve the FY 2027 Capacity Building Budget. Dr. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS IN PACKET
Ms. Oldaker provided an overview of the GO Virginia Region 6 self-assessment as presented in the packet. Council members asked questions and Ms. Oldaker answered accordingly. Ms. Allman provided a presentation on GO Virginia Region 6's metrics and performance report.

ADJOURNMENT
Being no further business, Mr. Anzivino adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm