



REGION 1 COUNCIL MEETING

June 5, 2018

Minutes

The GO Virginia Region 1 Council held its sixth meeting on June 5, 2018 at The Crossroads Institute, Galax, Virginia. Members present were Moir Beamer, Lois Clarke, Richard Edwards, Mark Eschle, Allan Funk, Donna Henry, David Leonard, Josh Lewis, Ron McCall, Duane Miller, David Olive, Keith Perrigan, Mike Quillen, Beth Rhinehart, Dean Sprinkle, Cathy St. Clair, Travis Staton, Mike Stollings, and Joe Street.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mike Quillen, Chair of the Region 1 Council presided over the meeting. Becki Joyce and Martha Necessary recorded the meeting minutes. Confirming a quorum, Chairman Quillen called the meeting to order. Chairman Quillen introduced new Council member Mark Eschle. Mr. Eschle is retired from CGI IT Delivery Center in Lebanon, Virginia and currently serves as an IT Contact Center Consultant with a start-up company. Joe Street made the motion to approve the meeting agenda and the minutes from the March 6th meeting. Lois Clarke seconded the motions, which were unanimously approved by Council members.

Presentation from State Board

Mr. Ben Davenport, Jr., Vice Chairman of the GO Virginia State Board presented an overview of the accomplishments and goals of the State Board. Mr. Davenport also introduced Chris Lloyd of McGuire Woods who serves as Council to the State Board. The presentation highlighted the following:

- **Review of GO Virginia Purpose Statement and Core Values** – The importance of regional collaboration and representation in the creation of higher paying jobs is critical to the success of the GO Virginia initiative. Virginia has been lagging in economic growth as compared to national levels. Of note, state localities such as Bristol, Blacksburg and Hampton Roads have experienced negative economic growth in recent years. Agency collaboration between VEDP and GO Virginia creates positive outcomes as the State Board supports and funds Per Capita, Enhanced Capacity Building and Competitive grants.
- **GO Virginia Budget**
 - Introduced budget level funded grant funding for the 2019/2020 biennium at \$24.5 million per year (\$250,000/year for regional Councils, \$10.9 million in per capita grants, \$11.3 million in statewide competitive grants).
 - Introduced budget also included \$637,000 per year for consulting and capacity building at DHCD to support regional Councils.
 - Current budget compromise increases funding by \$15 million across all 3 funding pools, allows Board to waive local match on regional Council funding, establishes \$1 million floor per region, maintains proposal for additional consulting and capacity building funds.
- **Related Budget Items**
 - A collaborative task force with a Chief Broadband Advisor to expand broadband and create higher paying jobs in rural areas of the state.
 - Alignment between regional council industry clusters and VCCS credentialing programs.

- Cyber X Initiative – Virginia Tech is the lead agency for this program. Funding includes \$40 million cash, \$10 million bonds for cyber security moonshot (currently funded at \$20 million and \$5 million bonds). Region 1 is ideal for this initiative through K-12, community college and 4 year higher education collaboration. Mr. Davenport noted this initiative is a good start and is glad Virginia is recognizing the potential for cybersecurity.
- Virginia Internship Initiative – Highlighting the United Way of SWVA Ignite Internship Program, Mr. Davenport stressed that businesses and communities must get serious about developing and cultivating strong internship programs. SCHEV has been appropriated \$200,000 to create and promote the Virginia Internship pilot program. Mr. Davenport stated, “As a region, no one will buck you on best connectivity and internships with employers, and as a Council we should promote this initiative.”
- Virginia Research Investment Committee – Appropriation for the 2019/2020 biennium is \$16 million. VRIC implementation task force is under way with six GO Virginia State Board members serving on the committee.
- GO Virginia Implementation – The State Board has approved 23 projects, leveraging over \$12.4 million in additional funds. Many projects focused on workforce, site infrastructure, and entrepreneurship.
- Region 1 Implementation - Region 1 received \$650,000 in capacity building funding. The Washington County Tech Spec project is a great opportunity for the entire Region 1, not just Washington County.
- **Project Themes** – Regional start up accelerators and site development are coming together to invest in industrial sites, which is a great way for revenue sharing. Mr. Davenport noted that internship and graduate retention program funding is a top priority for the State Board. He emphasized the importance of building a talent development pipeline focusing on middle school access and credentialing to meet the needs of regional industry clusters. Mr. Davenport mentioned the regional collaboration between Region 3 and Wytheville Community College on a substantial project creating opportunities for middle school students.
- **Lessons Learned**
 - The State Board has established high standards for project approval.
 - The State Board and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) want to see a direct link between projects and regional plans.
 - Capacity building, without immediate link to job creation, is vital.
 - Provide regions with more ownership and flexibility.
- **Changes**
 - Enhanced Capacity Projects up to \$100,000/capped at \$250,000 per region each year will not require State Board approval. DHCD will approve these projects and report to board.
 - Advocated for board waiver of matching requirement on planning and capacity building funds.
- **Future Needs**
 - Tell success stories of approved project grants, i.e. United Way of SWVA Ignite Internships is a great example of a success story.
 - Broaden and deepen legislative awareness of GO Virginia programs and projects
 - Encourage local governments to include match funding in their annual budgets. This is critical in the long term support and success of regional projects.
 - “Prime the Pump” for eligible projects and grants, particularly statewide competitive grants.

- **Emerging Policy Issues**
 - Alignment and coordination with VEDP on site development and workforce development issue.
 - Entrepreneurship Ecosystem - Shannon Blevins noted that Opportunity SWVA is creating an entrepreneurship ecosystem, however, there is still a gap in the need for an angel investment fund.
 - Machining and Advanced Manufacturing – there are four British companies that are attracted to Virginia due to workforce. We must have qualified workers to support these investments.
 - The state has no “technology czar” to help facilitate a broadband strategy. The Tobacco Commission is hiring a developer to assist in promoting this need.
 - Alignment and coordination with Governor’s Chief Workforce Advisor on healthcare issues, outreach.
 - The Governor’s Chief Economic Advisor is working on the creation of an Economic Development Strategic Plan to support GO VA initiatives.
- **Charge to the Regional Council Leadership – Be Bold; Be Innovative; Be Collaborative; Be Willing to Fail; Get Local Governments More Integrated; Leverage Other Stakeholders – We must work together –**

At the conclusion of Mr. Davenport’s presentation, Chairman Quillen noted the struggle during the last year to 18 months as it relates to the processes of GO Virginia and DHCD. Although the Council is not to the point of fully understanding all policies and rules, the cooperation and collaboration among the Council is strong.

Chairman Quillen opened the floor for questions regarding Mr. Davenport’s presentation.

David Olive – **Q.** In the first round of various approvals, how is Region 1 stacking up with other regions? Are we in line or being outpaced? **A.** Chris Lloyd responded that there were two regions that have used all of their funding allocations; Region 3 and 5. Region 1 is in the middle of the pack. Mr. Olive responded that he wanted to make sure we were not too far behind the other regions.

Allan Funk – **Q.** Concerning conversations with local legislators as it relates to funding, what is the projected future of GO VA? Is it a one cycle/two cycle program? Is this a flash in the pan program or is it a long-term sustainable system? **A.** Mr. Davenport responded the quality of the board stands out with the strong business level of leadership. Meetings are well attended and the effort to do this right is solid. Legislators are excited about us being here. They know our economy is sliding behind, they want to fix it and are happy to see the business community step in. As a result there is a bump in funding. It is important that the board is strong and that the level of leadership is there and not taken for granted. Chris Lloyd noted that for the 2019/2020 biennium, the GO Virginia appropriation is \$65 million, COF is \$40 million and VEDP is \$24 million; which, from an economic development standard is an enormous amount of money and a vote of confidence. Chairman Quillen stated that Virginia and SWVA have lagged behind in economic development as compared to other southern states. There is no doubt there was some apprehension concerning the sustainability of the initiative, but the increase in funding is a very positive indicator.

Reporting from the Economic Development Subcommittee meeting, Josh Lewis discussed that the Collaborative Jobs Act is another tool for GO Virginia to use, and that people are unclear as to exactly what it is or how it works. However, it could be a tool that helps get income tax back for counties. Josh

suggested a workshop for the economic developers to better understand the Act and how best to utilize it.

Check Presentation:

Chairman Quillen and Mr. Davenport presented a check to Travis Staton with United Way of Southwest Virginia in the amount of \$250,000 for the Ignite Internship project approved by the State Board. Chairman Quillen commented that it was rewarding to receive all of the positive comments from the region and around the state in support of the Ignite Internship project. Travis Staton informed the Council that the Tobacco Commission did not approve funding for the project; however, funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is pending. The contract between the support organization and United Way will be signed by June 30, 2018.

Chairman Quillen provided an update on the Washington County Tech Spec project. The State Board did not approve funding citing additional partner support for the project was needed. Technically, the project met the requirement of at least one locality partner, the City of Bristol, however, the City did not contribute any direct financial support. Washington County was working with Dickenson County to sign on as an additional partner, but the agreement was never completed and the State Board needed Dickenson County to provide financial support as well. The State Board has asked Washington County to reapply. Chairman Quillen said he understood Washington County's frustration, but did not agree with their representation of what happened at the state level. Everyone agrees the Tech Spec is a good project and a sweet spot with what Region 1 wants and needs. The State Board recognized this was a good project, and just needed more regional support. There were also revenue sharing issues. Richard Edwards stated there had been no response from Dickenson County at this time. Jordan Snelling from DHCD reported that Washington County does not have to resubmit a full application. The project has been rolled back in the CAMS systems for at will edits. Once Washington County makes the appropriate edits to their application, UVa-Wise can edit the project in the CAMS system. DHCD has not heard back from them. Total funding for the project is \$1.2 million, Washington County was funding \$900k of the project.

Staff has added an additional deadline for grant applications which will be presented to the Executive Committee in August for approval. Shannon Blevins noted that Letters of Intent will be due on June 8, 2018 and applications will be due on July 9, 2018. This coincides with the State Board meeting in August.

Action Items:

Per Capita Grant Projects

Chairman Quillen reported that 2 grant applications were submitted to the Region 1 Council during the 4th round. Shannon Blevins noted there were 2 grant categories, Planning Grants: Enhanced Capacity Building projects and Implementation Grants: Collaborative project. Both requests that the Council reviewed are for Planning Grants with funding requests under \$100,000. An application for Administrative Approval is required for these submissions, which will be approved by DHCD if recommended by the Council. Shannon also provided a review of GO VA funding, grant categories and application processes:

- Competitive Grant Applications – State interregional collaboration. Region 1 has engaged with regions 2, 3, 5 and 8 concerning potential projects, however, discussions are in the early stages and not in a place to be evaluated.
- There are three types of applications depending on the type of project: Per Capita Application for Enhanced Capacity Building projects requesting more than \$100,000 and Collaborative projects; Administrative Approval Application for Enhanced Capacity Building projects requesting \$100,000 or less; Competitive Application for statewide interregional projects.
- Application Review Process – Support Organization staff review applications for submission to the Region 1 Council. Staff also work with applicants to ensure the application submission is complete. Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) are engaged from outside the region. The Region 1 Council recommends project to the State Board for funding consideration. If there is a timing issue with the submission, the Executive Committee has the authority to approve projects for State Board funding approval. Project information is loaded into the DHCD CAMS reporting system; working groups of SMEs are engaged to validate the application; and the State Board has final approval. *This round of applications will be approved by DHCD.*
- GO Virginia FY 2018 Funding:
 \$503,122 – Per Capita Allocation
\$211,770 – Building Capacity Reserves
\$714,892 Total Per Capita funding

GO Virginia Region 1 Approved Projects

\$250,000 – United Way of SWVA Ignite Internships Award

Unallocated - FY'18 Total Available Per Capita Funding: \$464,892

This amount will carryforward into FY 2019.

- Allan Funk asked Shannon to explain what happens after a grant is funded and how the process works. Shannon replied that agreements between the applicant, DHCD and UVa-Wise (the support organization) are executed following State Board approval. DHCD and UVa-Wise serve as the fiscal agents for the grant. As an example, the United Way Ignite Internships grant will be required to submit documentation when requesting reimbursement for expenditures, as well as demonstrate that the match funding is also being spent. Applicants will submit quarterly reports for review to the support organization, which will be submitted to DHCD once reviewed. Josh Lewis followed up with a question concerning the match waiver for the administratively approved enhanced capacity building grants. Shannon indicated that all grant requests require a 1:1 match, but the enhanced capacity building grant requests \$100,000 or less are not required to meet the local match requirement of \$50,000 or 20%, whichever is greater. Applicants have the ability to request a waiver, however, waivers are not guaranteed and the State Board is not inclined to approve a waiver. Mr. Lewis asked if it was possible to get a 50% match waiver. Shannon responded that applicants can request a waiver to reduce the match if they can demonstrate fiscal distress or a unique economic opportunity. The local contribution match waiver can be requested if the project impacts over 50% of the region's population.
- Before turning it over to Robyn Lee to present the applications, Shannon Blevins noted that she did not participate in the review process for either application due to her affiliation with the Southwest Virginia Technology Council. Robyn Lee presented an overview of the two applications submitted for Round 4 to the Council. Robyn noted that the Appalachian

Sustainable Development application will not be going forward for a vote at this time, specifically due to the lack of locality participation in the project. Staff is continuing to work with the applicants to identify potential matching sources and obtain support from localities in order to put in front of the Executive Committee in August. Robyn noted that the staff approach was to give applicants as much time as possible to meet the application requirements prior to submitting to the Council for a vote. Robyn still provided an overview of the project for the Council.

- **Agriculture Action Plans submitted by Appalachian Sustainable Development (ASD):**
\$97,713 Requested
 - **Project Summary Provided by Applicant:** Appalachian Sustainable Development (ASD) is seeking support from the GO VA Region 1 Enhanced Capacity Building Program to lead the development of a suite of Agriculture Action Plans that will be used to guide the implementation of agriculture, food and beverage value chains and industry clusters in Southwest Virginia. This project builds on the Agriculture Strategic Plan (finalized in October 2017) created by the Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development for the VA Coalfield Economic Development Authority and a similar plan developed for LENOWISCO. This project will result in (1) the identification of regional infrastructure and services that will produce private sector growth in the agriculture industry, (2) individual Agriculture Action Plans to advance each initiative through proof of concept or pilot, and (3) an overarching strategic platform that ensures the initiatives are appropriately overseen and integrated to have the greatest impact.
 - ASD is still working to secure a committed match and locality participation in the project.
 - **Comments:** Chairman Quillen noted that the ASD project is similar to one in Bluefield and that it was important for localities to communicate with one another concerning planned projects. He also commented as to what David Leonard and Moir Beamer were doing in the agricultural sector, noting that communication solves problems which creates a positive and more productive collaboration. Josh Lewis inquired about the match requirements; Robyn stated that the applicant is not required to obtain a local match, but would have to secure a dollar for dollar match. Robyn mentioned that ASD is seeking support for the project, not necessarily financial commitment at this time from the localities.
- **SWVA Hub Link submitted by the Southwest Virginia Technology Council (SVTC):**
\$47,088 Requested
 - **Project Summary Provided by Applicant:** SWVA Hub Link is a talent connection initiative, which brings together components of the talent pipeline supporting technology company recruitment efforts throughout the Southwest Virginia Region 1. The project strengthens the connections of the education institutions, qualified employment seekers and employers, providing opportunities to further align programming and curriculum with the needs of employers and bring new jobs to the region. Partnering with both four-year and two-year higher educational institutions as well as regional employers and those interested in establishing operations in the region, the SWVA Hub Link will

provide a user-friendly and effective platform, which connects technology employers to qualified talent, and provide a common information portal with the region's resources thereby strengthening the pipeline to existing technology programs. The GO Virginia enhanced capacity proposal includes a request for funding to develop the strategic steps required to pull the various pieces of the project together.

- **Staff Recommendation:** Although this Enhanced Capacity Building request will not result in the development of the actual platform, the GO Virginia funding will provide the resources for the Southwest Virginia Technology Council to plan and develop the next steps for implementing the project. Following a successful plan, SWVA Hub Link intends to request implementation funds from GO Virginia to build the portal. SWVA Hub Link has engaged three localities to participate in the project and has met the 1:1 match from non-state sources required. This project is not obligated to meet the local match requirement, as it is requesting less than \$100,000. Staff recommends funding the full proposal.
- **Comments:** Chairman Quillen noted there is a struggle in obtaining a good line of communication with the employers of the region, i.e. trainers and educators. This project should help to identify more partnerships to make the marriage come together and supplement United Way, which is similar to a project funded in Region 7.
- **Approval:** After no further questions, Chairman Quillen called for a motion to approve the SWVA Hub Link Project. Allan Funk made the motion to approve, Dean Sprinkle seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Council.

Region 3 Support Request

Chairman Quillen reported that Region 1 has a real opportunity to partner with Region 3 on a project. Led by Danville Community College (DCC), the GO Tec II proposal is designed to a) increase capacity for training high demand, high income workers, e.g., machining and advanced manufacturing and b) to increase the pipeline of students entering such fields. The project includes a "hub and spoke" model, which has students from "spoke" institutions coming to a "hub" for specialized training. Wytheville Community College (WCC) has been invited to participate in the project, which requires a letter of endorsement from the Region 1 Council. In WCC's case, once completing WCC's machining program, students would complete a year of advanced training in machining in Danville. Timing could be difficult working in depth with schools. There is career exploration opportunities available, bringing machining into the career exploration curriculum. The project involves strong regional collaboration. Chairman Quillen noted this is a sweet spot in GO Virginia to create higher paying jobs with increased skill sets. Region 3 is requesting a letter of endorsement for the project from the Region 1 Council. Josh Lewis asked if this project would qualify as a state competitive grant. Dean Sprinkle responded that it could down the road. Chairman Quillen called for a motion to execute a letter of endorsement. The motion was made by David Olive, seconded by Richard Edwards and unanimously approved by the Council membership.

FY18/FY19 Building Capacity Budget

Shannon Blevins presented the fiscal year 2018 and 2019 budget reports to the Council.

- **FY18:** It is projected that there will be a carryforward from Building Capacity funds to Per Capita project funds in the amount of \$206,818.64 from FY 2018 to FY 2019. This amount could change in the coming weeks depending on unanticipated or outstanding expenses. The support organization has been very frugal in spending during the 2018 fiscal year. The Growth and Diversification Plan was developed and managed in house with the greatest expense being for consultant support from Chmura Analytics. Chairman Quillen thanked the support organization staff for carrying the load, performing an extraordinary job, and being as efficient as can be.
- **FY19:** The Building Capacity budget supports the administrative operations of the support organization and are appropriated through DHCD. At this time DHCD has requested that support organizations consider two budget options: \$250,000 and \$361,111. Shannon presented the two budget funding scenarios to the Council, noting that the \$361,111 budget will possibly have a match requirement, but will allow additional funding for project reserves. Jordan Snelling from DHCD confirmed that there will be some variation as to whether the support organization will be required to match the \$250,000 or \$361,111 allocation.
- The State Board will vote on June 12, 2018 to approve either the \$250,000 or the \$361,111 budget. Chairman Quillen stated that if the \$250,000 budget is approved by the State Board, expenditures will be tight. However, if the \$361,111 budget is approved, the Council will be able to do more work related to the Growth and Diversification Plan. He also noted that if the Council approves the \$361,111 budget, staff will not be required to make revisions with DHCD if the State Board approves budget funding of \$250,000. Chairman Quillen requested that a motion be made to approve the \$361,111 budget with a subset of \$250,000 depending on the action of the State Board. Allan Funk made the motion, Donna Henry seconded with unanimous approval by the Council.

Vice Chair Nominations

Chairman Quillen informed the Council that the Nominating Committee Chair, George Cridlin is experiencing health issues and will be absent for a period, but hopes to return as soon as possible. He noted that Mr. Cridlin has been a champion of the Region 1 Council and wished him well. David Olive, a member of the Nominating Committee, presented to the Council the nomination of Lois Clarke as Vice Chair and Mike Quillen as Chair for FY19. The floor was opened for additional nominations. No further names were offered into nomination. David Olive made the motion to accept the nominations, David Leonard seconded, Council voted unanimously to approve.

Report Items:

Reports from Committees

Economic Development

Josh Lewis reported there were several economic development folks at the VEDA Conference, held on the same day as the Council meeting. There were questions and concerns from practitioners and Economic Development groups as it relates to what the Collaborative Jobs Act is and the implementation of grants. Josh mentioned that there is a need for a contact where localities can seek guidance and help with the application process.

Education

Dean Sprinkle reported the education group had not met in a while. Under the leadership of Marty Holliday and Alita Spicer, an apprenticeship event was held to educate businesses on the benefits of apprenticeships. The Department of Labor, Commissioner of Workplace Standards of Kentucky and Vanguard held an apprenticeship event on May 8th. It was a good information session, although there were a limited number of business representatives in attendance. The event centered on solidifying relationships between business and educational entities.

The Education sub-committee has joined with Marty Holliday, Mount Rogers WDB and Aleta Spicer, SWVA WDB to focus on Workforce Development.

Chamber of Commerce

Beth Rhinehart reported there have been questions concerning the tourism industry in Region 1 not being included in the Growth and Diversification Plan. In response to an editorial piece, Chairman Quillen met with the Chamber of Commerce sub-committee to declare that tourism is an important industry in the region and although it is not part of the GO Virginia state mandate, it is a vital part of the regional plan. Chairman Quillen said they had a productive conversation and a great opportunity to demonstrate how tourism is part of economic development and how it could be a part of GO Virginia. Chairman Quillen stated the Region 1 Council will provide assistance in any way they can to help tourism with higher paying jobs and collaboration. He also noted that along with tourism, nursing and agriculture without manufacturing or processing did not meet the hiring criteria for above average paying job creation. Chairman Quillen mentioned that the good thing about GO Virginia is that we are not bound by state boundary issues. We border across Bluefield, North Carolina, and need to be cautious that we don't define our boundaries too small.

Non Profits

Travis Staton reminded Council members to save the date, September 26, 2018, for the Operation Tomorrow's Workforce Leadership Breakfast. The Expo will be held September 25-26 at the Washington County Fairgrounds and is expected to draw 17 localities and schools. In addition, businesses will provide over 4,300 7th graders with hands on and engaged demonstrations. County Administrators are interested in a GO Virginia project to connect Region 1 employers with employers across the country to see what they are doing. This could possibly result in a statewide collaboration. The Tobacco Commission did not fund the project due to concerns with identifying the alignment between employees and credentialing. Allen Levine and Ballad Health have invested \$75 million in population health. This investment will help identify how to leverage resources. Population health outcomes are instrumental in attracting site selectors and businesses to the region.

Staff Report

Robyn Lee Reported the terms of 7 Council members have expired. All 7 have agreed to serve another 4 years through 6/30/2020.

- **Website** – The Region 1 GO Virginia website; GOSWVA.org is now live. UVa-Wise IT Department developed the site which will have more functionality than the previous site. Robyn noted that applicants will not be able to submit proposals through the website due to security issues, but they can fill out an interest form and access all of the application documents from the site. Robyn invited Council members to review the site and suggest recommendations.
- **Outreach** – How to Apply Workshops were offered in March and April in Abingdon, Duffield, Richlands and Wytheville. Attendance totaled 37 people from around the region. Workshops

will be held on a quarterly basis with the next round scheduled for August. Presentations were given to the Lonesome Pine Rural Industrial Facilities Authority and the Highlands Community Collaboration Council. Planned presentations will be held in June at the Cumberland Rural Industrial Facilities Authority.

- **Collaboration** – Staff has been working to align efforts on grant strategies with the Tobacco Commission, ARC, DHCD, and DMME.
- **Marketing** – Staff is developing a brochure covering information on the Regional Council, Growth and Diversification Plan, and funding opportunities. A Region 1 business card was shared with Council members, which includes information on targeted industries and strategies for Region 1. The card can be used to assist Council members in discussing GO Virginia Region 1 with constituents. The Region 1 Council sponsored a booth at the 3rd annual SWVA Economic Forum held at UVa-Wise on May 17th. Breakout sessions at the forum centered around the region’s target industries with a focus on Talent. Attendance at the 2018 Forum totaled 367.
- **Miscellaneous** – Chairman Quillen noted the grant entities meeting brought together more efficiencies. Chairman Quillen and Mr. Davenport have put pressure on Virginia Tech to be more engaged with Regions 1 and 3 rural areas. Virginia Tech’s Vibrant Virginia meetings will be held on June 13th and 14th in Southwest Virginia. There will be an I81 public hearing on June 6th in which Chairman Quillen will present on potential opportunities along the I81 corridor. This will be a listening session. Beth Rhinehart recommended as conversations begin, to take the opportunity to stress how passenger rails can be a part of the long-term solution. This transportation option has been in the works for decades and is critical to economic development in the region.

Council / Public Comment

Chairman Quillen opened the floor for Council or public comments. Allan Funk thanked Chairman Quillen and Mr. Davenport on behalf of the region for their service on the Council and State Board respectively. Allan noted Chairman Quillen’s commitment to GO Virginia Region 1 from the start up and working with the Council and support organization on projects. His service to the region is appreciated and has a strong connection to the state. Allan continued that Chairman Quillen is a model of business leadership.

David Leonard reported Virginia Tech’s Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences will be visiting Southwest Community College in Lebanon on June 15th to discuss offering a satellite class for the 7 county region. Council members seemed interested in this proposal.

The Executive Committee Meeting scheduled for 12:15 PM was cancelled. VEDP will be presenting at the October 2, 2018 Council meeting at the request of the Economic Development sub-committee.

Adjournment

Chairman Quillen asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting and approved unanimously. Chairman Quillen adjourned the meeting.