

**Minutes  
Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting  
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership  
September 13, 2023  
12:30 p.m.**

**901 East Cary Street  
One James Center, Board Room, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Radcliff called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

In-Person Committee Members: Chair Marianne Radcliff, Carrie Chenery, John Hewa, Nick Rush, and Steven Stone

Virtual Committee Members: Anne Oman

Committee Members Absent: Nancy Howell Agee

Other In-Person Board Members: Secretary Stephen Cummings, Rick Harrell, Pace Lochte, Secretary Caren Merrick, and Will Sessoms

Other Virtual Board Members: Bill Hayter and Anne Oman

In-Person VEDP Staff Members: Lindsay Akers, Lesley Brown, Greg Burkart, Star Cranston, Nicole David, David Devan, Jason El Koubi, Stef Florie, Chris Hughes Heather McKay, Nicole Riley, Tim Stuller, Vickie Tilkey, Lisa Wallmeyer, Abigail Wescott, and Summer Xia

Virtual VEDP Staff Members: Carrie Vuori

In-Person Guests: Kendra Shifflett

Virtual Guests: Chelsea Jenkins and Kim McKay

The Committee approved the virtual participation of Anne Oman pursuant to subdivision (B) (4) of Section 2.2-3708.3 of the Code of Virginia and the Committee's policy adopted pursuant to subsection D of Section 2.2-3708.3 of the Code of Virginia. Anne Oman participated remotely from the Pocahontas Building , due to a pending office move.

### **Public Comment Period**

Chair Radcliff asked if any members of the public wished to comment. There were none.

### **Approval of Minutes for June 7, 2023**

Chair Radcliff requested approval of the June 7, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Chenery and seconded by Mr. Hewa, and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

### **Special Session Update**

Chair Radcliff introduced Nicole Riley to provide an overview of the General Assembly's Special Session and election update.

Ms. Riley explained that the General Assembly returned to Richmond on April 12, 2023 for a Special Session to vote on the budget.

Ms. Riley reviewed the budget items approved in the special session related to VEDP. There was a significant funding increase to the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) Fund of \$125M and \$75M to fund the Virginia Business Ready Sites Acquisition Fund. Adjustments were made to the incentive grants, and additional funding of \$233K was provided to the Virginia Office of Economic Education (VOEE). Ms. Riley also briefly reviewed other budget items of interest.

Mr. El Koubi spoke about the substantial investment in site development on an ongoing basis. He explained that VEDP's Real Estate Solutions Team will need to expand to manage this investment on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Ms. Riley also shared that all state employees will receive an additional 2% salary increase to be applied on December 10, 2023, in addition to the 5% that became effective on June 10, 2023.

### **Election Update**

Ms. Riley shared the results of the special election held on August 29, 2023, to fill the vacated seat for former Delegate Jeff Campell. Jed Arnold won that election and is the new Delegate for House District 6.

Ms. Riley reviewed key voting dates. She explained that early voting is September 22 and that

the deadline to register to vote is October 16. She said the deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is October 27, the last day for early voting is November 15, and election day is November 7.

**Closed Meeting**

**Policy Discussion; Budget and Legislative Proposals**

A motion was made by Mr. Rush and seconded by Mr. Stone to move into a closed meeting. The members unanimously approved the motion shown below.

I move that the Legislative and Policy Committee convene a closed meeting to discuss specific marketing strategies pursuant to Subdivision A 50 of §2.2-3711 of the Code Virginia, which allows for the discussion of activities related to the strategic plan that would reveal to the Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed by the Commonwealth.

**Back in Open Meeting, Certification of Closed Meeting – Followed by a Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Wallmeyer read the following certification and then conducted a roll call vote:

Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of FOIA were discussed in the closed meeting, and (ii) only such matters as were identified in the motion to go into the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting?

Upon the vote:	Ms. Radcliff	Aye
	Ms. Chenery	Aye
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Ms. Oman	Aye
	Mr. Rush	Aye
	Mr. Stone	Aye

The Office of External Affairs has identified candidates to begin educational outreach with before the general election, and those candidates and meeting dates were provided to the Committee.

Mr. El Koubi acknowledged Lindsay Akers for her contributions to VEDP and to announce that Ms. Akers would be departing VEDP for a position with the Office of the Attorney General.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 1:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lesley Brown