

**Minutes
Executive Committee Meeting
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority
September 16, 2026
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Claiborne Robertson Room
Richmond, Virginia**

Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Chair John Hewa. A quorum was present.

Committee Members In-Person: Secretary Carrie Chenery, Rick Harrell, John Hewa,
Secretary Mark Sickles, Steven Stone

Committee Members Absent:

Other Board Members present: Ken Johnson, April Kees, Connie Loughhead, Christopher
Lu, Bo Machayo, Sarah McCoy, Emily O'Quinn, Anne
Oman, David Ramadan, Bill Sudow

Public Comment Period

Chair Hewa solicited public comments. There were none.

Approval of Minutes for June 3, 2026 Meeting

Chair Hewa asked for approval of the minutes from the June 3, 2026, Committee meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Sickles, the motion was unanimously approved.

President's Report

Jason El Koubi, President and CEO, presented a brief summary of the President's Report and indicated that he would present a fuller presentation at the Board meeting on September 17, 2026.

A copy of the President's Report is available in the meeting materials.

Update on InternshipsVA Budget

Debbie Melvin, Vice President, Talent and Partnerships, provided an overview of the InternshipsVA program and reviewed VEDP's responsibilities under the FY2027 budget, including administering internship matching grants, coordinating with regional and higher education partners, convening stakeholders, and measuring program outcomes. Ms. Melvin also presented the proposed FY2027 InternshipsVA budget and activities, which require annual Board approval.

Chair Harrell asked for acceptance of the InternshipsVA budget. Upon motion by Mr. Hewa, seconded by Mr. Sickles, the InternshipsVA budget was unanimously accepted.

Closed Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Stone and seconded by Mr. Sickles to convene a closed meeting to discuss elements of VEDP's Strategic Plan, Marketing Plan, and Operational Plan pursuant to Subdivision A 50 of §2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, which allows for the discussion of such activities that would reveal to Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed, thus adversely affecting the financial interests of the Commonwealth.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Certification of Closed Meeting

After the Committee reconvened in open meeting, Counsel certified the closed meeting via 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 session, and (ii) only such matters as were identified in the motion to go into the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting?

Upon the vote:	Secretary Chenery	Aye
	Mr. Harrell	Aye
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Secretary Sickles	Aye
	Mr. Stone	Aye

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of the Executive Committee has not yet been scheduled. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.