

**Minutes**  
**Rural Virginia Action Committee Meeting**  
**Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership**  
**September 17, 2025**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**James Madison University, Student Success Center, Room 1075**  
**738 S. Mason Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22807**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 11:33 a.m. by Chair Nick Rush.

In-person Committee members: Stephen Edwards, Bill Hayter, Nick Rush,

Absent Committee members: Mimi Coles, Rick Harrell, Connie Loughhead, Secretary  
Juan Pablo Segura

Other Board members present: John Hewa, Todd House, Sonya Montgomery, Emily  
O'Quinn

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Rush solicited public comments. There were none.

**Approval of Minutes for June 11, 2025**

Approval of minutes was not considered due to lack of quorum.

**Overview of Shenandoah Valley Partnership**

Chairman Rush welcomed guest speaker Jay Langston, Executive Director of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), to the Committee meeting. Mr. Langston highlighted how the Shenandoah Valley Partnership is leading a refocused direction through convergent economic development by combining traditional economic development activities with community development and tourism development initiatives. Through this shared long-term vision and a region-wide commitment, SVP is seeing measurable results. A copy of his presentation is included in the Committee materials.

**Closed Meeting**

Ms. Hayter made a motion to go into closed session, which was seconded by Mr. Edwards. The members unanimously approved the motion shown below:

I move that the Rural Virginia Action Committee of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority 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.

**Returned to 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. Coles	Not present
	Mr. Edwards	Aye
	Mr. Harrell	Not present
	Mr. Hayter	Aye
	Ms. Loughhead	Not present
	Mr. Rush	Aye
	Secretary Segura	Not present

**Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Rural Virginia Action Committee will be held on December 10, 2025. There being no further business, Chair Rush adjourned the meeting at 12:34 pm.