

# WESTERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL FACILITY AUTHORITY

## MINUTES Board Meeting March 17, 2016

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kevin Boggess, Wayne Bowers, Thomas Gates, Jill Loope, Gary Larrowe, Chris Morrill, Brent Robertson, Barry Thompson, Gary Woodson (9)

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** David Moorman (1)

**GOVERNMENTS:** Botetourt County, Franklin County, City of Roanoke, City of Salem, Roanoke County, Town of Vinton (6)

**Staff:** Laura Carini, Beth Doughty, John Hull, Lisa Link

Chairman Morrill called the meeting to order. Link read the roll call and established a quorum was present.

A motion by Gates to accept the Minutes from the February 18, 2016 meeting was seconded by Boggess and approved unanimously.

**MODELING PROJECT STATUS UPDATE:** Hull reported that in response to the Request for Proposal advertised, detailed proposals were received from Gentry Locke, Woods Rogers/Skyline Capital, Spilman, Thomas and Battle, and Davenport/Sands Anderson. A committee comprised of economic development representatives from each of the participating localities reviewed and scored the proposals. The top two scoring, Davenport/Sands Anderson and Woods Rogers, were asked to provide a cost estimate for services. Davenport/ Sands Anderson proposed \$20,000 and Woods Rogers/Skyline Capital proposed \$30,000. Hull noted that the grant funding will more than cover the anticipated expenses and both organizations are prepared to get started within a week of contract completion with work completed by mid-June. A motion by Loope to secure Davenport/Sands Anderson for services proposed was seconded by Boggess was approved unanimously.

**STATUS OF AGREEMENTS ON OPTION REIMBURSEMENT:** Carini reported that she has reviewed options for reimbursement from participating localities. She noted that the City has no authority to give money to a private entity, but that there are two ways around the issue. The first is to agree to fund without a contract. A participation agreement can be entered into later. The second option is to agree to be invoiced by the WVRIFA on a per capita percentage basis. After some discussion it was agreed that the WVRIFA would invoice as needed on a per capita basis.

**ON GOING FUNDING:** Doughty reported that to date, the Roanoke Regional Partnership has covered most administrative costs, which have been minimal. Going forward, a reserve account will be necessary for expenses related to land acquisition and development and a revenue source will need to be identified. Morrill suggested that Brownfield monies might be available for use; Bowers will investigate. Boggess suggested that a formula for ongoing funding be


developed to build reserves. Doughty will draft and distribute a preliminary budget before the next meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION** – A communication from Chris Morrill, chairman of the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (WVRIFA) requesting that the Authority convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the potential acquisition of privately-owned property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to section 2.2-3711(A)(3), Code of Virginia (1950) as amended. A motion by Boggess, to go into closed session per the request was seconded by Gates and was certified. Roll was called and the motion was passed.

With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded Boggess moved that each member of the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Authority certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority. A motion to certify the closed session made by Townsend was seconded by Gates and passed unanimously. Roll was called and the certification was unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Loope asked Doughty if there was any new information on the Go Virginia funding. Doughty reported that there wasn't, but that in her conversations with Chris Lloyd, he noted that because of WVRIFA, our region is in much better position than other areas. It was suggested we could strengthen the position by adding New River Valley to our group. After some discussion it was suggested that Dooley, VA Tech Foundation, host a meeting to discuss rolls and goals. Morrill will reach out to Dooley.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Secretary

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Attest

***The next meeting of the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 10:30 AM.***