

MINUTES

The August meeting of the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (WVRIFA) Board was held on Friday, August 18, 2023 at 10 a.m. at the Roanoke Valley – Alleghany Regional Commission office (Top Floor Conference Room), 313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke VA.

***NOTE:** The August 18, 2023 Meetings of the WVRIFA Board of Directors and the WVRIFA Participation Committee were held simultaneously (jointly) since several items on both agendas were the same.*

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Larrowe called the WVRIFA Board of Directors' Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Larrowe asked Virginia Mullen to call the roll of the WVRIFA Board. Ms. Mullen reported that a quorum was established.

Board Members Present: Gary Larrowe, Botetourt County; Ken McFadyen, Botetourt County; Michael Burnette, Franklin County; Richard Caywood (*arrived late*), Roanoke County; Doug Blount, Roanoke County; Megan Baker, Roanoke County; Bob Cowell, City of Roanoke; Herbert Berding, City of Roanoke; James Taliaferro, City of Salem; Rob Light, City of Salem; Richard "Pete" Peters, Town of Vinton.

Others Present: Luke Campbell, Botetourt County; Marc Nelson, City of Roanoke.

Staff Present: John Hull, WVRIFA Director; Matt Miller, Roanoke Regional Partnership; Sam Darby, WVRIFA Counsel; Virginia Mullen, WVRIFA Finance/Administrative Staff.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: APROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following consent agenda items were distributed earlier: (A) Revised August 18, 2023 WVRIFA Board Agenda, (B) May 19, 2023 WVRIFA Board Minutes, (C) Financial Reports Ending June 30, 2023 and (D) Audit Engagement Letter.

ADMINISTERED BY:

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission
313 Luck Avenue, SW, Roanoke, VA 24016
info@wvrifa.org / www.wvrifa.org

Chair Larrowe noted that the agenda was revised by adding a closed session and a notice was sent out to members and posted on WVRIFA's website.

Motion: by Bob Cowell to confirm the change to the agenda – adding a closed session. The motion was seconded by Doug Blount.

WVRIFA Board Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: by Michael Burnette to approve the consent agenda items (A), (B), (C) and (D), as presented. The motion was seconded by Bob Cowell.

WVRIFA Board Action: Motion carried unanimously.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments.

5. **PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Hull reported that the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) has authorized an informal amendment to the Virginia Business Ready Site Program grant that is going to allow a slightly different approach regarding the acquisition of real estate.

Mr. Hull noted that the Roanoke Regional Partnership has submitted the Wood Haven Technology Park eleven times this year to VEDP for projects. Most projects are manufacturing related, several of them are still active. Investments range from \$45 million to \$1.5 billion. The site's utility capacities are suitable. There has been a significant interest in the property.

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

7. **REQUEST FOR CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made by James Taliaferro that the Board convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss the potential disposition of publicly held real 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. of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. The motion was seconded by Doug Blount. The motion carried. The WVRIFA Board went into a Closed Meeting at 10:09 a.m.

8. **END OF CLOSED MEETING, RECONVENE REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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Motion was made by James Taliaferro and seconded by Bob Cowell that the WVRIFA Board end the Closed Meeting and return to its regular committee meeting. The motion carried. The WVRIFA Board ended the Closed Meeting and returned to its regular committee meeting at 10:52 a.m.

9. **ADOPTION OF CERTIFICATION OF RESOLUTION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made by James Taliaferro and seconded by Doug Blount to adopt the following certification resolution:

WHEREAS, the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority.

The motion was adopted by a Roll Call vote of 10 to 0 as follows:

Member & Vote

Gary Larrowe – Yes
Ken McFadyen – Yes
Michael Burnette – Yes
Megan Baker – Yes
Doug Blount – Yes
Bob Cowell – Yes
Herbert Berding – Yes
James Taliaferro – Yes
Rob Light – Yes
Pete Peters – Yes

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10. **ACTION BY THE BOARD AS A RESULT OF THE CLOSED MEETING**

There was no action by the Participation Committee as a result of the closed meeting.

11. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE WVRIFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

The WVRIFA Board of Directors' meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.



Richard Caywood, Secretary
WVRIFA Board of Directors



Attest

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