

**Minutes  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority  
December 6, 2023  
3:30 p.m.**

**901 East Cary Street  
James Center One, Katherine Johnson Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. by Chair Bill Hayter, who noted that a quorum was present.

In-Person Committee Members:	Carrie Chenery, Secretary Cummings, Rick Harrell, Bill Hayter, John Hewa, Secretary Caren Merrick, Marianne Radcliff, and Nick Rush
Committee Members Absent:	None
Other In-Person Board Members:	Pace Lochte and Steven Stone
Other Virtual Board Members:	April Kees
In-Person VEDP Staff Members:	Stephanie Agee, Greg Burkart, Nicole David, David Devan, Michael Dreiling, Jason El Koubi, Stef Florie, Stephen Hartka, Nicole Riley, and Lisa Wallmeyer
Virtual VEDP Staff Members:	Carrie Vuori, Blake Omohundro, and Vickie Tilkey
In-Person Guests:	Anita Begnaud and Kendra Shifflett

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Hayter solicited public comments. There were none.

**Approval of Minutes for 09/13/23 Meeting**

Chair Hayter asked for approval of the minutes from the September 13, 2023, Committee meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Rush and seconded by Mr. Harrell and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Hayter thanked VEDP staff for the tremendous work they are doing and gave his compliments on the information that was prepared for this set of meetings. He said he is pleased with the direction VEDP is heading.

## **President's Report**

Chair Hayter introduced Mr. El Koubi to deliver the President's Report.

Mr. El Koubi explained that he would provide a brief overview of his report and would deliver the full report during the Board meeting on December 7.

Mr. El Koubi stated that VEDP is substantially on track with its performance metrics and major initiatives for the fiscal year, but that he anticipates VEDP will face some headwinds in the future.

Mr. El Koubi shared that VEDP achieved an important milestone recently in filling open positions on VEDP's Executive Leadership Team. He spoke about the most recent addition to the team, Anita Begnaud as VEDP's new Vice President of Marketing & Communications. Mr. El Koubi mentioned that he and Ms. Begnaud worked together earlier in their careers in Louisiana. He highlighted some of Ms. Begnaud's experience, adding that she is extremely talented and one of the most collaborative people he has ever worked with. Chair Hayter said Louisiana's loss is Virginia's gain.

Chair Hayter said that the Board will look forward to Mr. El Koubi's full report during the Board meeting.

## **Closed Meeting:**

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

I move that the Executive Committee convene a closed meeting to discuss specific 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, marketing plan, and operational plan that would reveal to the Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed by the Commonwealth.

Chair Hayter allowed VEDP staff and legislative guests to stay for the closed meeting.

## **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 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:	Mr. Hayter	Aye
	Ms. Chenery	Aye
	Secretary Cummings	Aye
	Mr. Harrell	Aye
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Secretary Merrick	Aye
	Ms. Radcliff	Aye
	Mr. Rush	Aye

**Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on March 6, 2024, exact time TBD. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole David  
Acting Recording Secretary