

**Minutes**  
**Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting**  
**Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership**  
**June 12, 2024**  
**12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**One James Center, 9th Floor – Board Room**  
**Richmond, Virginia**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Marianne Radcliff called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

Members present: Carrie Chenery, John Hewa, Anne Oman, Marianne Radcliff, Nick Rush, and Steven Stone

Members absent: Nancy Howell Agee

Other Board Members: Mimi Coles, Stephen Edwards, Rick Harrell, Bill Hayter, Pace Lochte, Secretary Merrick, and William Sessoms

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Radcliff solicited public comments. There were none.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chair Radcliff requested approval of the December 6, 2023, and March 6, 2024, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Chenery and seconded by Mr. Hewa, and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**General Assembly Update**

Ms. Nicole Riley provided an update on the upcoming federal elections, reconvene session, and special session.

This November, 1 U.S. Senate and 11 U.S. House of Representatives seats are on the ballot.

**Key dates for the upcoming General Election:**

- June 18, 2024 – Primary Election Day
- September 20, 2024 – First day of absentee and in-person early voting
- November 2, 2024 – Last day of in-person early voting

- November 5, 2024 – General Election Day

Ms. Riley gave a brief overview of primary candidates for the general election.

Ms. Riley reviewed legislative proposals of interest from the 2024 General Assembly session and their outcomes. The following eleven initiatives were signed into law.

<b>HB233 (Campbell)</b> <b>SB135 (Head)</b> VBRSP; eligible site for site development grant	<b>HB1083 (Coyner)</b> Virginia Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System
<b>HB1125 (Carr)</b> <b>SB217 (Locke)</b> Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program	<b>SB581 (Stuart)</b> Department of Environmental Quality; data groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits
<b>HB1491 (O’Quinn)</b> Small Modular Nuclear Facility development (AEP)	<b>SB454 (Marsden)</b> Small Modular Nuclear Facility development (Dominion)
<b>HB61 (Wright)</b> <b>SB679 (Head &amp; Mulchi)</b> Renew Enterprise Zones	<b>HB619 (Price)</b> <b>SB343 (Rouse)</b> Military-centered community zones
<b>SB581 (Stuart)</b> Department of Environmental Quality; data; groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits	<b>SB436 (Suetterlein)</b> Department of Workforce Development and Advancement
<b>HB1499 (Willett)</b> <b>SB155 (Head)</b> Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority	

The following initiatives were vetoed.

<b>SB729 (Surovell)</b> Virginia Clean Energy	<b>HB212 (Watts)</b> <b>SB393 (Pekarsky)</b> MEI Project Approval Commission; board- level gender and diversity requirements
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Ms. Riley shared the final VEDP incentive budget items for FY25-26.

<b>Initiative (Item)</b>	<b>Final Action (\$M)</b>
Expand Virginia Business Ready Sites Program	FY25 \$20M / FY26 \$20M
Fund the Virginia Business Ready Sites Acquisition Program	FY25 \$0 / FY26 \$0
Launch talent and workforce retention and recruitment campaign.	FY25 \$0 / FY26 \$0

Financial Services Expansion Grant	FY25 \$1.60M / F26 \$1.40M
Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Program payments	FY25 \$0 / FY26 \$4M
Site Threshold Language	Language
Sites Contiguous Language	Language
Amazon HQ2 Advance Payments	FY25 \$21.25M / FY26 \$21.25M
Launch Innovative Framework	FY25 \$1M / FY26 \$1.25M
Increase capacity for VOEE	FY25 \$1.25M / FY26 \$1.50M
Increase capacity for site-related administration	FY25 \$0.50M / FY26 \$0.50M
Establish Taiwan office	FY25 \$0.30M / FY26 \$0.30M
Cybersecurity Upgrades	FY25 \$0.20M / FY26 \$0.20M
Audit Provisions	Language

The General Assembly returned to Richmond on May 13, 2024, for a Special Session to finalize the budget. Below are additional items of interest:

- 3% state raises for teachers, state employees, and support staff for each year of the biennium.
- \$2.5M in the second year (FY26) for the continuation of the Inland Port development led by the Virginia Port with VEDP support to include a business recruitment strategy for the inland port.
- \$3.95M (FY25) and \$5.25M (FY26) to expand access to high-demand credentials through increased funding for the Workforce Credential Grant
- \$1.50M in the first year (FY25) to support the transition of the workforce programs to the newly established Department of Workforce Development and Advancement
- \$90M over six years to increase Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF) funding to address infrastructure needs of large economic development-related projects.
- \$10M in the first year (FY25) to establish the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank to finance climate initiatives within the Department of Energy. Up to \$2,000,000 of these amounts may be used for administration.

**Closed Session**

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

I move that the Legislation and Policy 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.

**Return 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. Radcliff	Aye
	Ms. Chenery	Aye
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Ms. Oman	Aye
	Mr. Rush	Aye
	Mr. Stone	Aye

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Brown