VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
July 30, 2025
3:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Members Present	Members Absent
Nancy Howell Agee	Delegate Luke Torian
Jim Cheng	
The Honorable Stephen Cummings	
Heywood Fralin	
Joel Griffin	
Kenneth Johnson	
Senator L. Louise Lucas	
Emily O'Quinn	

Call to Order

Ms. Emily O'Quinn, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board Governance and Policy Committee, called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Mr. Cody Anderson, GO Virginia Program Administrator for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), called the roll and noted that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Ms. O'Quinn opened the floor for public comment.

No members of the public appeared before the Committee for the public comment period.

The public comment period was closed.

Consent Agenda

Ms. O'Quinn noted that the consent agenda consisted of the March 1, 2025, meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Ms. Agee and seconded by Mr. Fralin to approve the minutes. The motion passed (Yea: Agee, Cummings, Fralin, Griffin, Lucas, O'Quinn; Nay: None).

Nomination of Officers

Chair O'Quinn recognized Nancy Agee to conduct the nomination of officers.

Ms. Agee announced that three candidates had emerged as interested candidates for the three pending Board leadership positions: Emily O'Quinn for the position of Chair, Jim Cheng for the position of Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation, and John King for the position of Vice Chair of Regional Councils.

A motion was made by Ms. Agee and seconded by Mr. Fralin to nominate Emily O'Quinn for the position of Chair of the Board. The motion passed (Yea: Agee, Cummings, Fralin, Griffin, Lucas; Nay: None; Abstention: O'Quinn).

A motion was made by Ms. Agee and seconded by Ms. O'Quinn to nominate Jim Cheng for the position of Vice Chair of Program Performance and Evaluation. The motion passed (Yea: Agee, Cummings, Fralin, Griffin, Lucas, O'Quinn; Nay: None).

A motion was made by Ms. Agee and seconded by Senator Lucas to nominate John King for the position of Vice Chair of Regional Councils. The motion passed (Yea: Agee, Cummings, Fralin, Griffin, Johnson, Lucas, O'Quinn; Nay: None).

Staff Report

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the roadmap for addressing the JLARC report on GO Virginia's recommendations.

Mr. Anderson led a discussion about a JLARC recommendation that suggested either eliminating local match requirements or reducing the local match from 20% to 10%. Mr. Anderson noted that staff recommends not taking action on this item due to rapid changes in the overall match policy resulting from legislative changes during the most recent General Assembly session. Mr. Anderson explained that if the Board noticed a concerning trend in resource utilization, the committee could choose to take action on this recommendation at a later date.

Mr. Anderson presented a JLARC recommendation that suggested increasing the amount of planning money a region may access from $250,000 of their per capita allocation to 25% of their per capita allocation and to raise the cap on individual planning efforts from $100,000. Mr. Anderson noted that staff had completed an initial analysis of planning grant conversions to implementation. The analysis concluded that approximately 51% of GO Virginia planning grants either led to an implementation or led to a recommendation to not move forward with further implementation. Mr. Anderson noted that during the analysis, staff noted several inconsistencies with Board policy and administrative guidance, and in order to better prepare for a recommendation on the recommendation, staff would like more time to evaluate those inconsistencies.

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of a recommended change to Board policy to create flexibility in GO Virginia regional planning grant limits. Mr. Anderson noted that currently, the $250,000 limit on planning activities for a region includes both site planning applications and normal planning applications. Staff recommended adopting a change to board policy which would exclude site planning and broadband planning activities from counting toward a region's planning grant cap.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Agee to approve the policy amendment as presented. The motion passed (Yea: Agee, Cheng, Cummings, Fralin, Griffin, Johnson, Lucas, O'Quinn; Nay: None).

Information Items — Mr. Anderson noted that the information item in the Committee packet included a Board Membership Turnover Report, detailing new Board appointments and upcoming member term expirations.

Adjournment — The meeting was adjourned.