 *Cities of: Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington,*

*Staunton, Waynesboro, & Winchester*

*Counties of: Augusta, Bath, Clarke, Frederick,*

*Highland, Page, Rockbridge,*

*Rockingham, Shenandoah, & Warren*

**GO Virginia Region 8 Executive Committee Minutes**

Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 10:00am to 11:00am

Virtual Meeting via Zoom/No Committee Action Taken

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FIRST** | **LAST** | **AFFILIATION** | **ATTENDED** |
| Joanie | Eiland | Elk Trucking, Inc., Region 8 Vice Chair |  |
| Chris | Kyle | Shentel, Region 8 Chair | X |
| Connie | Loughhead | Des Champs Technologies | X |
| Keith | May | Cottonwood Commercial | X |

Deborah Flippo (Region 8 Executive Director) also participated in the meeting.

**Call to Order**

The January 4, 2023 virtual Executive Committee meeting for GO Virginia Region 8 was called to order by Chair Chris Kyle at 10:00a.m.

**Quorum Confirmation/Virtual Meeting Guidelines**

Deborah Flippo confirmed quorum was met per FOIA requirements. It was noted all participants were joining virtually since the meeting was informational and no action would be taken.

**Plans for January 24 R8 Council Meeting**

Deborah proposed the following agenda for the next All Virtual meeting of the Region 8 Council:

* Introductions / Roll Call
* Approval of October Meeting minutes
* Annual Election of Officers (per by-laws)
* Project Reports
* DHCD Programs
* Marketing & Communications Committee Update
* Executive Director’s Report
* April 25 Council Meeting

The Executive Committee agreed this agenda would keep the virtual meeting short, as Council members have expressed in the past that virtual meetings need to be more concise.

**Executive Director’s Report**

Deborah reported that she will be working remotely during the month of February, while she and her husband are traveling.

JMU has asked for a Letter of Support and Participation for a proposal being submitted by JMU/SU/BRCC to the State Council for Higher Education, Virginia to develop a program for internships and apprenticeships for Shenandoah Valley students and local industries. The Committee agreed Deborah should send the letter, and ask Yolanda Shields to provide the participation element.

Deborah is planning “sub-regional” meetings in March/April to get stakeholder input for potential projects. Region 8 has only one potential project in the pipeline – which Deborah is discussing with the City of Harrisonburg.

Joel Hensley is working diligently to schedule meetings with R8 legislators on January 19, after VEDA Legislative Reception.

Deborah and Chair Kyle are likely to be interviewed for the JLARC Study of GO Virginia.

Chair Kyle had a brief discussion, at her request with Secretary of Commerce & Trade Karen Merrick, who hopes to visit the Shihadeh project in 2023.

**Public Comment**

No one from the public participated.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Region 8 Executive Committee the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. by Chair Kyle.