

1                   **TOBACCO REGION REVITALIZATION COMMISSION**

2                               701 East Franklin Street, Suite 501

3                                       Richmond, Virginia 23219

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9                   **Southside Economic Development Committee Meeting**

10                               Monday, September 19, 2016

11                                       4:00 P.M.

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Inn at Wise

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Wise, Virginia

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2 **APPEARANCES:**

3 The Honorable Thomas C. Wright, Jr. – Chairman

4 The Honorable Edward Owens – Vice Chairman

5 The Honorable Kathy J. Byron

6 Mr. John Cannon

7 Ms. Mary Rae Carter

8 The Honorable Daniel W. Marshall, III

9 The Honorable Donald W. Merricks

10 The Honorable Frank M. Ruff

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12 COMMISSION STAFF:

13 Mr. Evan Feinman – Executive Director

14 Mr. Chris E. Piper – Deputy Executive Director

15 Mr. Timothy S. Pfohl – Grants Program Administration

16 Director

17 Ms. Sarah K. Capps – Grants Program Administrator,

18 Southside Virginia

19 Ms. Michelle Faircloth – Grants Assistant, Southside Virginia

20 Mr. Jordan L. Butler – Public Relations Coordinator

21 Ms. Stacey Richardson – Executive Assistant

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23 COUNSEL FOR THE COMMISSION:

24 Ms. Elizabeth B. Myers, Assistant Attorney General

25 Richmond, Virginia

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DELEGATE WRIGHT: I'll call this meeting to order, please come to order. I want to welcome everyone to the Southside Economic Development Committee meeting at beautiful Wise, Virginia. I hope you all enjoy being here. I'd like to also welcome the newest member to the Tobacco Commission, the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Basil Goodin. Let's give him a round of applause. [Applause.] It's a pleasure to have you with us, sir.

SECRETARY GOODIN: Thank you.

DELEGATE WRIGHT: Evan, would you call the roll?

MR. FEINMAN: Delegate Byron?

DELEGATE BYRON: Here.

MR. FEINMAN: Mr. Cannon?

MR. CANNON: Here.

MR. FEINMAN: Delegate Edmunds? (No response.) Ms. Gould? (No response.) Ms. Carter?

MS. CARTER: Here.

MR. FEINMAN: Mr. Holland? (No response.) Delegate Marshall?

DELEGATE MARSHALL: Here.

MR. FEINMAN: Mr. Merricks?

MR. MERRICKS: Here.

MR. FEINMAN: Mr. Mills? (No response.)

1 Mr. Owens?

2 MR. OWENS: Here.

3 MR. FEINMAN: Senator Ruff?

4 SENATOR RUFF: Here.

5 MR. FEINMAN: Senator Stanley? (No  
6 response.) Delegate Wright?

7 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Here.

8 MR. FEINMAN: You have a quorum, Mr.  
9 Chairman.

10 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Do I have a motion  
11 to approve the minutes of our May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting? All right, a  
12 motion has been made and seconded. Any questions on the  
13 minutes? All those in favor say aye. (Ayes.) Opposed, no?  
14 (No response.) The minutes are approved.

15 We're here today with what is called an  
16 out of cycle meeting, this is not really a regular meeting. We  
17 do have two items to take up today and I'd ask Tim if he would  
18 proceed.

19 MR. PFOHL: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr.  
20 Chairman. Members of the Committee, we have a brief  
21 agenda and one news item with directions from your  
22 Committee Chair. The staff has announced the regular cycle  
23 for fiscal year 2017 Southside Economic Development. Those  
24 applications are due to us on October 14<sup>th</sup> and funding  
25 decisions will be made at the January Commission meetings.

1 That has been posted and broadcast.

2 Two items, both involving Mecklenburg  
3 County are on the agenda today. The first one is a little bit  
4 unusual but it is a project the Commission has supported  
5 previously and very substantially. This is to construct a shell  
6 building in the Roanoke River Regional Business Park that the  
7 Commission approved a \$1.2 million grant two and a half  
8 years ago January of 2014 to build a 50,000 square foot shell  
9 building. The County has bid the project and bids came in  
10 not surprisingly over budget. The unusual aspect of this is  
11 that the County has asked the Commission to consider  
12 increasing the amount of the grant award, which is something  
13 we cleared with the Finance Director, which is something that  
14 will not mess up our books in any way. The County's request  
15 is to add \$142,000 out of the current Mecklenburg allocation,  
16 which is more than \$1.3 million. The County has raised  
17 sufficient funds through debt financing to match us dollar for  
18 dollar. I'll point out in 2014 that was not a requirement and  
19 did not become a requirement for dollar for dollar matching  
20 until 2015 and the County is prepared to match us dollar for  
21 dollar to construct this building.

22 So, as is usually the case with out of  
23 cycle requests, the staff does not take a position and we defer  
24 to the consensus of the Committee but given that this is a  
25 project that the Commission has awarded significantly with

1 the previous award, I think it's safe to say staff is in support of  
2 this request given that the County has brought us actual bid  
3 numbers and is matching us dollar for dollar. So there's a  
4 support of this request to provide fifty percent of the total  
5 project costs.

6 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Are there any  
7 questions?

8 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Tim, what is  
9 Mecklenburg's allocation?

10 MR. PFOHL: Currently they have \$1.3  
11 million available in what they receive on an annual basis as a  
12 percentage of the formula but I'd have to look up some notes.

13 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Anyone else? If  
14 there is no further questions, then we have a motion to  
15 approve the request? A motion has been made and properly  
16 seconded to approve this request for Mecklenburg County,  
17 2817. All those in favor say aye. (Ayes.) Opposed, no? (No  
18 response.) The motion carries and the request is approved.  
19 Tim?

20 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Chairman, just for the  
21 record and the minutes, that would increase grant 2817 from  
22 \$1.2 million to \$1.342 million, \$1,342,000.

23 Now, the second request involving  
24 Mecklenburg County is a request for a time extension for the  
25 correctional center feasibility study grant number 2528. This

1 is \$180,000 grant approved in January of 2013. Right now  
2 the state DOC is demolishing the former prison site in  
3 Mecklenburg and should have that work completed by the end  
4 of 2016. At this point, the agreement is that the property  
5 would be turned back to the County, which had provided the  
6 original site to corrections when the prison was built. The  
7 point at which the County takes the ownership of the property  
8 back, they'll begin the process that was approved under the  
9 grant to conduct environmental assessment, engineering and  
10 feasibility and support the property for economic development  
11 purposes.

12 Because the request has reached or  
13 nearly reached a four year anniversary to extend further into  
14 2017 and into 2018 to allow that work to be accomplished  
15 requires approval by the Committee. Staff recommends a one-  
16 year time extension through January 2018 for the approved  
17 use of \$180,000 grant for up to ninety percent of an  
18 environmental assessment and engineering of the cleared  
19 prison site when property title has been returned to the  
20 County.

21 DELEGATE MARSHALL: We have the  
22 County Administrator here Mr. Carter. Would Wayne Carter  
23 please come to the microphone and if there's any questions  
24 they can be directed to Mr. Carter. Mr. Carter, how many  
25 acres of land is involved and what's it used for?

1 MR. CARTER: There's currently 200  
2 acres of what the County donated to the state back in the  
3 '70s. They will keep approximately thirty acres for a shooting  
4 range on the site and don't want to give it up at this time but  
5 there will be an office building there. And there's a remaining  
6 170 and we've got that squared off along with some surveying.  
7 It's on a plateau, anywhere from 125 to 150 and we haven't  
8 done a survey of it yet. The main part, which is about 130  
9 acres is flat.

10 DELEGATE MARSHALL: So the water  
11 and sewer to the Department of Corrections have their own or  
12 did the County provide that?

13 MR. CARTER: The water is provided by  
14 the Town of South Hill to the site and the sewer is by the Town  
15 of Boydton.

16 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Any further  
17 questions?

18 SENATOR RUFF: Just to clarify, Mr.  
19 Chairman, to clarify your question about the size and the  
20 firing range, that required extensive cleanup.

21 MR. CARTER: It's off to the side, it's not  
22 in the middle of it.

23 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Any further  
24 questions? Thank you, Mr. Carter.

25 SENATOR RUFF: I move the time

1 extension be granted.

2 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Second.

3 DELEGATE WRIGHT: We have a motion  
4 and properly seconded by Delegate Marshall. Any questions?  
5 If not, all those in favor signify by saying aye. (Ayes.)  
6 Opposed, no? (No response.) All right, it is approved. Thank  
7 you very much.

8 Now, are there any public comments? If  
9 not, I want to thank everyone for being here. Do I have a  
10 motion to adjourn?

11 MR. OWENS: So moved.

12 DELEGATE WRIGHT: We have a motion  
13 to adjourn and the motion is seconded. All those in favor say  
14 aye. (Ayes.) Opposed, no? (No response.) We are adjourned.

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16 PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

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CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Virginia at large, do hereby certify that I was the court reporter who took down and transcribed the proceedings of the **Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission Southside Economic Development Committee meeting when held on Monday, September 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at the Inn at Wise, Wise, Virginia.**

I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript, to the best of my ability to hear and understand the proceedings.

Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

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Medford W. Howard

Registered Professional Reporter

Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large

My Commission Expires: October 31, 2018.

Notary Registration Number: 224566