



## **Document #2:**

### **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

**Zoom Meeting:** September 7, 2022 – 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Attended:** Theodore L. Chandler, Jr., Cliff Fleet, Wilson Flohr, Moses Foster, Thomas R. Frantz, Nancy Grden, Greg Gilligan, Mitch Haddon, Bob Holsworth, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John W. Martin, John F. Reinhart, James Spore, and Laura Robidoux

**Absent:** Aubrey L. Layne

#### **Agenda Items:**

August 24, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – Approval

Nominations Committee – Corporate Governance Discussion

Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Initiative Update

- Steering Committee #2 Meeting

Virginia Capital Trail / BoAT Initiative Discussion

September 20 Board/MIC Meeting

- Agenda

Old Business/New Business

#### **August 24, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

The Executive Committee (EC) unanimously approved the August 24th EC meeting minutes.

#### **Nominations Committee – Corporate Governance Discussion**

There was a general discussion about upcoming board nominations. The goal is to even out the board with additional directors from the Richmond region.

Sarah Jane Kirkland provided an overview of the latest draft of the Corporate Governance document. (Note: Document details are in the August 24 meeting's minutes.)

Discussion points included:

- This is a comprehensive document.
- Expectations should emphasize voluntary over mandated commitments for board directors.
- Merge the Nominations and Corporate Governance committees into one committee: Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee. Suggestions were made for committee members who will be contacted directly.
- Review Bylaws to determine how to move forward with terms for both the board of directors and executive committee. Suggestions included:
  - Class out board directors regardless of entry date, and break into three sections (1-year, 2-year, 3-year). Review this concept with a lens for the EC terms and rotation.
  - Refrain from term limitations and let leaders choose when to step down from their positions.

Feedback will be incorporated into the next draft of the Corporate Governance document. Everyone on the EC is in accord with the working document. A vote on this document will be held at the next EC meeting.

Next Steps:

- Create a spreadsheet that contains the current terms for the board of directors.
- Update the Corporate Governance document to include new feedback.

### **Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Initiative Update**

There was a general discussion about the second Global Internet Hub Steering Committee meeting hosted on August 25. There was a high turn out from the group: 45 out of 62 steering committee members attended the in-person meeting in Williamsburg. This first in-person meeting emphasized how helpful it is to have so many different perspectives on the Steering Committee as well as the high level of engagement from committee participants.

Steering Committee discussion takeaways include:

- GO Virginia funding may go toward hiring TeleGeography as a consultant to understand its rating system and where the I-64 Innovation Corridor stands according to its stipulations. A second consultant may be hired to go in and conduct case studies of the top 10 Global Internet Hub locations – What steps did those localities take? What was the economic impact? What lessons were learned? Part of this study should include job creation: Based on investment, XXX jobs were created.
- The next meeting may include education opportunities, such as a speaker on the diversification of landing points or Dominion Energy’s impact on powering the digital infrastructure.
- Equitable economic development within the I-64 Innovation Corridor is key. It was suggested to tie in the historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). A key question to investigate: How did the other internet hubs build in equity?
- Medium and small businesses need to be informed.
- Engagement from new big players is building confidence in this movement.

Next Step:

- The next Steering Committee meeting will be held as an in-person-hybrid meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup> at William & Mary’s Business School. New developments will be shared as they arise.

### **Virginia Capital Trail / BoAT Initiative Discussion**

John Martin reflected on the initial 99-page PowerPoint on bike trails that was shared at the last EC meeting. An Executive Summary of this deck was created for this meeting’s discussion. The primary focus was on the last section of this document, which contains potential ways RVA757 Connects can support and advance the BoAT trail.

It was agreed that RVA757 Connects’ support for the BoAT trail would not be exclusive. Support for the new Fall Line Trail in the Richmond region is a popular cause. The Virginia Eastern Shore Trail is helpful to the Hampton Roads region. RVA757 Connects will support the buildout of Virginia’s trail system. This includes ensuring the BoAT trail is considered as one of the Big Four trails worthy of significant attention and investment.

Mr. Martin reviewed the speakers who will be invited to present about this topic at the Board/MIC meeting. Suggested speakers include Robert Crum (HRPDC / HRTPO), Cat



Anthony (Virginia Capital Trail), and a few city managers. After this briefing, the breakout session's generative discussion will focus on ways RVA757 Connects can help support this priority.

RVA757 Connects' goal is to have an action plan for this priority by the end of the year. The same process will be followed with the rail initiative for the December 13th Board/MIC meeting.

A general discussion was held on the organization's top four priorities (I-64 Gap, GIH, trail, rail). All four priorities are meant to induce connectivity, and they each mature at different times. Once one priority is funded, momentum will build. Each priority will be resourced in accordance with need.

Next Step:

- The Executive Summary document will be sent out with the September 20 Board/MIC meeting agenda to all participants.

**September 20 Board/MIC Meeting**

The EC reviewed the agenda for the September 20<sup>th</sup> Board/MIC meeting.

It was suggested for this Board/MIC meeting to remain virtual to encourage maximum participation. Convergence 2022 (scheduled for October 13) will be an in-person event and lead into future in-person Board/MIC meetings (starting with December 13).

Part of the generative discussion on bike trails at the Board/MIC meeting will also include a broader question – what other priorities/initiatives should RVA757 Connects consider?

A primary outcome of the September 20 board meeting will be clear input on how to move forward in support of the BoAT trail.

Next Step:

- RVA757 Connects' staff will send out Board/MIC meeting materials.

**Old Business/New Business**

N/A

The EC meeting ended at 9:01 a.m.