VIRGINIA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE
May 19, 2026
11:00 AM
Virtual

Members Present	Members Absent
Jim Cheng	Joel Griffin
Cliff Fleet	Senator L. Louise Lucas
Heywood Fralin	Delegate Luke Torian
Kenneth Johnson	

Call to Order	Mr. Cliff Fleet, Chair of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity (GO Virginia) Board of 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 not present. Mr. Fleet noted that a member was running behind and that the Consent Agenda would be moved to later in the agenda so that quorum would be achieved to take action.
Public Comment	Mr. Fleet 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.
Staff Report	Mr. Fleet recognized Mr. Anderson to provide the staff report.

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the Joint Legislative and Audit Review Commission (JLARC) items that remained for consideration by the Governance and Policy Committee.

Mr. Anderson noted that Policy Consideration 2, which referred to a recommendation that the GO Virginia Board revise its policies to allow smaller organizations, which meet criteria set by the Board, to receive a portion of their GO Virginia award at the start of the grant period, was the last JLARC related item delegated to the committee for consideration.

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the reimbursement-based grant disbursement model that the GO Virginia program utilizes. Mr. Anderson noted that the program requires a proof of expense and a proof of payment for reimbursement for project aligned expenditures to be processed. Mr. Anderson explained that DHCD has an additional flexibility option that allows organizations with cash flow challenges to receive reimbursement on proof of expense without proof of payment, on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Anderson explained that this process has been employed for many years but has not been officially documented in guidance but will be included in fiscal year 2027 guidance updates.

After discussion, Mr. Fleet noted that with the update to fiscal year 2027 guidance to memorialize the reimbursement model's flexibility options, the concerns related to fiscal capacity of smaller organizations are addressed through program policy.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Fleet noted that the consent agenda includes the minutes of the March 24, 2026, meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Fralin and seconded by Mr. Cheng to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

Discussion Items

Mr. Fleet noted that during the March 24, 2026, meeting of the GO Virginia State Board, the Board discussed the efficacy of talent attraction and retention related efforts. As part of that discussion, the Board referred the topic to the Governance and Policy Committee for further consideration. Mr. Fleet welcomed Nicole Overley, Commissioner of Virginia Works and Debbie Melvin, Vice President of Talent and Partnerships, to present on the topic.
Mr. Anderson provided a brief overview of talent attraction and retention efforts that have been funded by the GO Virginia

program to date. Mr. Anderson noted that the Board had funded three projects related to this topic, including three talent attraction related web portals.

Ms. Overley provided an overview of the talent retention efforts that Virginia Works is engaged in, including self service digital tools, synchronous virtual learning opportunities, group sessions and workshops, and workforce center enrollment and coaching opportunities.

Ms. Melvin provided an overview of information related to talent attraction efforts. Ms. Melvin provided baseline data regarding talent migration trends and provided a review of two talent attraction pilots launched by VEDP, the launch of the Start in Hampton Roads landing page and an expansion of Roanoke's Get 2 Know the Noke web portal.

Information Items

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the Board Membership and Turnover Report. Mr. Anderson noted that three members would have their terms expiring in 2026: John King, Kenneth Johnson, and Jon Peterson.

Mr. Anderson explained that Speaker Don Scott, who is empowered by the Code of Virginia to appoint three legislators to serve on the GO Virginia State Board, chose not to reappoint himself to the Board. Additionally, Delegate Michelle Maldonado, who's appointed term by the Speaker is coincidental with her term of office, resigned from the House of Delegates, ending her term on the GO Virginia Board as well.

Mr. Anderson noted that Speaker Scott appointed Delegate Virgil Thornton, Sr., to the GO Virginia State Board to replace the seat that the Speaker vacated. At the time of the meeting, Speaker Scott had not chosen a new appointee to replace Delegate Maldonado.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.