

Approved Minutes
Virginia Spirits Board
November 9, 2020
Virtual via WebEx

This meeting was held electronically via WebEx on Monday, November 9, 2020 during the Governor's declared state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic making it unsafe for the public body to assemble in a single location.

A recording of the meeting is available:

<https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/j.php?MTID=m929050973188cf65d8bf884866aa710c>

Password: VASpirits2020

Board Members Present:

Jeff Bloem	Kara King
Joshua Chandler	Gareth Moore
David Cuttino	Brian Prewitt
Scott Harris	Dr. Jewel Bronaugh
Bill Karlson	Travis Hill

Guests/Staff:

Bettina Ring, Secretary of Agriculture & Forestry
Justin Bell, Assistant Attorney General
Jennifer Atkins, Board Secretary
Melissa Ball, VDACS, Manager, Special Projects
Bill Scruggs, VDACS, Deputy Director, Division of Marketing
Kendra Shifflett, VDACS, Director, Administrative & Financial Services
Karin Taylor, VDACS, Manager, Office of Promotions
Amy Ciarametaro, Virginia Distillers Association, Executive Director
Ken Hurley, Director, Virginia Tech Enology Analytical Services Laboratory

Other Attendees:

Brittany Zamborsky

I. Call to Order – 1:02PM

The notice of meeting was read followed by member roll call. All Board members were present. Opening remarks welcoming the group to the inaugural meeting were made by Commissioner Bronaugh and Secretary Ring.

II. FOIA Training - Justin Bell, Assistant Attorney General

PowerPoint presentation given by Mr. Bell with availability for questions and answers from Board members.

*PowerPoint presentation sent to Board members via email for reference on November 11, 2020.

III. Housekeeping

Ms. Ball introduced the Board's Program Manager, Jennifer Atkins, and gave a quick page-by-page overview of the Spirits Board Handbook, which is currently a working draft during the formative stages of the machinations of the Board.

Ms. Ball also presented a quick review of the sixteen commodity boards, noting how each one collects funds and what entity collects those funds.

IV. New Business

The Board discussed potential revenue options for short-term and long-term funding of the Virginia Spirits Promotion Fund. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting. The Board is required to submit a report to VDACS detailing how the Board plans to fund the Virginia Spirits Promotion Fund after July 1, 2021. This report was originally due on October 1, 2020, but the Board was granted an extension until December 15, 2020.

V. Election of Officers

Ms. Ball opened up the floor for nominations for Board Chairman. Ms. King was nominated by Mr. Moore for the position of Chairman. Mr. Harris seconded the nomination. Mr. Cuttino nominated himself for Chairman and this nomination was seconded by Mr. Chandler. Mr. Harris made the motion to close nominations and Mr. Karlson seconded. The vote via roll call was 7-1 in favor of electing Ms. King as Chairman.

Ms. Ball opened up the floor for nominations for Board Vice-Chairman. Mr. Moore was nominated by Ms. King for the position of Vice-Chairman. Mr. Harris seconded the nomination. Mr. Cuttino was nominated by Mr. Prewitt for Vice-Chairman and this nomination was seconded by Mr. Chandler. The vote via roll call was unanimous to elect Mr. Cuttino as Vice-Chairman.

VI. Public Comment

Ms. Ball opened up the floor for any public comments.

Ken Hurley, Director, Virginia Tech Enology Analytical Services Laboratory, introduced himself to the group.

No other public comments.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 23, 2020 at 10:00AM.

VIII. Adjourn

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:42PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Atkins
Secretary