

**Board Members Present:**

Jeff Bloem                      Scott Harris                      Tim Nichols  
Vicki Haneberg Tom Murray                      Kelly Gordon  
Joshua Chandler  
Joseph Guthrie, VDACS Commissioner

**Board Members Absent:**

Andrew Yancey  
Dale Farino, Virginia ABC  
Matthew Harris

**Guests/Staff:**

Jennifer Atkins, VDACS  
Melissa Ball, VDACS  
Robert Davenport, VDACS  
Jack Gorman, Spirits Board Marketing Office (VSBMO)  
Adrienne Band, VSBMO  
David Cuttino  
Erin Mitchell, VA ABC  
Cory Jensen  
Erik Kozlik  
Justin Bell, Office of Attorney General

**I. Call to Order – 9:00AM**

**II. Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2024, and December 9, 2024**

*The minutes from the October 7, 2024, meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved as presented. The motion was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Nichols.*

*The minutes from the December 9, 2024, meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved as presented. The motion was made by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Ms. Haneberg.*

**III. Virginia Spirits Board Marketing Office – Updates**

Mr. Gorman gave updates regarding the First Landing Cup competition, the Virginia 250 bottle project, continuing Cocktail Games press, tray tastings, and VA ABC store displays.

- First Landing Cup - partnered with the American Craft Spirits Association; inaugural event will take place in Richmond with judging on April 30, 2025, distilleries can submit products March through mid-April
- VA 250 bottle project – three-bottle set of whiskey, rum, and gin
- Cocktail Games – Henry Hill, the inaugural winner, will travel doing bartender interviews at several restaurants for the social media spot, “Make it Virginia Made.”
- Tray tastings – moving forward, planning in progress
- ABC store displays - moving forward, planning in progress

#### **IV. Other Business**

- Research and Education Grant Program – proposals due March 3, 2025.
- *Allocate \$497.24 for the Board Secretary’s attendance and travel to the 2025 Mid-Atlantic Grain Conference. The motion was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Gordon; the vote was unanimously in favor.*
- Spirits Pilot Laboratory Grant Update – The principal investigator, Mr. Jensen, has requested a fiscal agent change from Virginia Commonwealth University to Garden Grove Brewing & Urban Winery and an extension of the grant period to June 30, 2025.
  - *A motion was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Nichols to approve the Spirits Pilot Laboratory project’s fiscal agent change to Garden Grove Brewery & Urban Winery and extend the grant period to June 30, 2025; the vote was unanimously in favor.*

#### **IX. Public Comment**

The Chairman opened the floor for any public comments. There were no public comments.

#### **X. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for April 7, 2025, in Richmond at the Hodges Partnership at 12PM.

#### **X. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 9:35AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Atkins  
Secretary