

Minutes
Rural Virginia Action Committee Meeting
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership
September 17, 2025
11:30 a.m.
James Madison University, Student Success Center, Room 1075
738 S. Mason Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:33 a.m. by Chair Nick Rush.

In-person Committee members: Stephen Edwards, Bill Hayter, Nick Rush,

Absent Committee members: Mimi Coles, Rick Harrell, Connie Loughhead, Secretary Juan Pablo Segura

Other Board members present: John Hewa, Todd House, Sonya Montgomery, Emily O'Quinn

Public Comment Period

Chair Rush solicited public comments. There were none.

Approval of Minutes for June 11, 2025

Approval of minutes was not considered due to lack of quorum.

Overview of Shenandoah Valley Partnership

Chairman Rush welcomed guest speaker Jay Langston, Executive Director of the Shenandoah Valley Partnership (SVP), to the Committee meeting. Mr. Langston highlighted how the Shenandoah Valley Partnership is leading a refocused direction through convergent economic development by combining traditional economic development activities with community development and tourism development initiatives. Through this shared long-term vision and a region-wide commitment, SVP is seeing measurable results. A copy of his presentation is included in the Committee materials.

Closed Meeting

Ms. Hayter made a motion to go into closed session, which was seconded by Mr. Edwards. The members unanimously approved the motion shown below:

I move that the Rural Virginia Action Committee of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority convene a closed meeting to discuss elements of VEDP's Strategic Plan, Marketing Plan, and Operational Plan pursuant to Subdivision A 50 of §2.2-3711 of the Code of

Virginia, which allows for the discussion of such activities that would reveal to Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed, thus adversely affecting the financial interests of the Commonwealth.

Returned to Open Meeting, Certification of Closed Meeting – Followed by a Roll Call Vote

Ms. Wallmeyer read the following certification and then conducted a roll call vote:

Do you certify, that to the best of your knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of FOIA were discussed in the closed meeting, and (ii) only such matters as were identified in the motion to go into the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting?

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Upon the vote: | Ms. Coles | Not present |
| | Mr. Edwards | Aye |
| | Mr. Harrell | Not present |
| | Mr. Hayter | Aye |
| | Ms. Loughhead | Not present |
| | Mr. Rush | Aye |
| | Secretary Segura | Not present |

Adjournment

The next meeting of the Rural Virginia Action Committee will be held on December 10, 2025. There being no further business, Chair Rush adjourned the meeting at 12:34 pm.