

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY YOUTH  
701 EAST FRANKLIN STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

IN RE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
HEARD BEFORE: JOHN O'BANNON, III, MD  
BOARD CHAIR

MAY 13, 2025

CONFERENCE CENTER

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON RICHMOND

2925 EMERYWOOD PARKWAY

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

12:16 P.M.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 John O'Bannon, III, MD, Presiding  
3 Board Chair

4 Ghulam Qureshi, MD  
5 Vice-Chair

6 Robin McVoy, Esq.  
7 Office of the Attorney General  
8 Foundation Counsel

9 VFHY BOARD MEMBERS:

10 Delaine Mazich

11 Sarah B. Holland

12 Riley Shaia

13 Randall Pearson

14 Pat Hughes

15 Tyler S. Johnson

16 Zubin Meta

17 David Marsden, Senator  
18 35th District  
19 Virginia General Assembly

20 Annette Ansong, MD

21 Joseph Hilbert

22 Patte Koval

23 Angela Lindsay, MD

24 Katherine Crumble

25

1 VFHY BOARD MEMBERS (con't.)

2 Barbara Favola, Senator\*  
3 40th District  
4 Virginia General Assembly

5 VFHY STAFF:

6 Andy Sorrell  
7 Deputy Director

8 Eloise Parker

9 Brennan Smith

10 Wilma Jordan

11 Greg Dorazio

12 Lisa Brown

13 Terri-Ann Brown

14 Danny Saggese

15 Hannah Robbins Bruce

16 Michael Parsons

17 Mary Miller

18

19 Y STREET REPRESENTATIVES:

20 Kellen Travers

21 London Vaughn

22 ALSO PRESENT:

23 Caroline Cobb, MD

24 Justin Bell

25 \*Appearance achieved via Microsoft Teams.

1 ALSO PRESENT (con't.):

2 Staci Hostetler

3 Sarah Caputo

4 Max Shatzen

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1           (The Board of Trustees meeting commenced at  
2 12:16 p.m., and the Board's agenda proceeded as  
3 follows:)

4  
5           DR. O'BANNON: The really good news  
6 is we have quorum. So I appreciate  
7 everybody that braved the weather to get  
8 here. We're going to have Senator Barbara  
9 Favola online and --

10  
11           MS. FAVOLA: Hello.

12  
13           DR. O'BANNON: Thank you for  
14 joining us. And Delegate Nadarius Clark, I  
15 think, is also -- hopefully going to be  
16 joining us. So we have a lot to do today.  
17 We've got some decisions to make.

18           I'm going to ask that we just,  
19 you know, very brief introduction. 30  
20 seconds about yourself, where you are in the  
21 grand scheme and what you represent here.

22  
23           MS. MILLER: Hi, I'm. I'm with the  
24 Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth.

25

1 MS. MAZICH: Hi, I'm Delaine  
2 Mazich. I'm a Fentanyl ambassador for the  
3 It Only Takes One with Suzanne Youngkin.  
4

5 MS. HOLLAND: Hey, everybody. I'm  
6 Sarah Holland. Currently the CEO of  
7 Virginia Health Catalyst, a statewide  
8 organization that concentrates on community  
9 health.  
10

11 MS. SHAIYA: I'm Riley Shaia and I'm  
12 one of the community members and I do a lot  
13 of work in the health and fitness industry.  
14

15 MR. PEARSON: Randy Pearson, also  
16 one of the new members on the Board. And  
17 I'm a VP at Two Capitols Consulting where  
18 our lobby shop does a lot in all sectors  
19 including health care -- youth health care.  
20

21 MR. HUGHES: I'm Pat Hughes from  
22 the private sector. I'm a dad and  
23 grandfather, hunter and fisherman.  
24

25 MR. JOHNSON: I am Tyler Johnson.

1 I'm an attorney at Williams Mullen and I'm  
2 also a community member.

3  
4 MR. META: I'm Zubin Meta and I'm a  
5 youth representative on the Foundation.

6  
7 DR. QURESHI: I'm Ghulam Qureshi.  
8 I'm an oncologist, but I'm working with MCV  
9 plus the -- and the Youth Foundation. I'm  
10 very busy.

11  
12 DR. O'BANNON: That's great. John  
13 O'Bannon. I'm your current chair.

14  
15 MR. SORRELL: Andy Sorrell, Deputy  
16 Director of the Foundation, your fearless  
17 leader today. Marty is traveling. So while  
18 she's not -- but she wishes she was here.  
19 She sends her regards.

20  
21 MS. MCVOY: Robin McVoy from the  
22 Attorney General's Office.

23  
24 MR. MARSDEN: Senator Dave Marsden.

1 DR. ANSONG: I'm Annette Ansong. I  
2 live in Fairfax County and I practice as a  
3 pediatric cardiologist at Children's  
4 National.

5  
6 MR. HILBERT: Good afternoon. Joe  
7 Hilbert. I'm a deputy commissioner at the  
8 Virginia Department of Health. I'm  
9 representing the State Health Commissioner,  
10 Dr. Karen Shelton.

11  
12 MS. KOVAL: I'm Patte Koval. I am  
13 also a community member and am with the  
14 Virginia Finders Network.

15  
16 DR. LINDSAY: I'm Angie Lindsay.  
17 I'm an emergency physician at VCU Health and  
18 I'm a Medical Society member.

19  
20 MS. CRUMBLE: I'm Katie Crumble  
21 from Virginia ABC. I'm the director of  
22 community health and engagement there.

23  
24 DR. ROWLAND: Leah Rowland. I'm  
25 with CHKD as a pediatrician and also

1 representing the Virginia Chapter of the  
2 American Academy of Pediatrics.

3  
4 COURT REPORTER: Debroah Carter,  
5 your Court Reporter. The one person who  
6 shouldn't be talking.

7  
8 DR. O'BANNON: Okay, go ahead,  
9 Danny. Start over in the corner.

10  
11 MR. SAGGESE: Hey, sir. Danny  
12 Saggese, director of marketing for the  
13 Foundation.

14  
15 MS. BROWN: Hi, everyone. I'm Lisa  
16 Brown. I'm the regional administrator for  
17 the northern region of Virginia.

18  
19 MS. T. BROWN: I'm Terri-Ann Brown.  
20 I'm the regional administrator for the  
21 central region.

22  
23 MS. BURKE: Hello, Eloise Burke.  
24 Senior executive assistant for the  
25 Foundation.

1 MS. BRUCE: Hannah Robbins Bruce,  
2 marketing strategist for the Foundation.

3  
4 MR. PARSONS: Michael Parsons,  
5 director of programs for the Foundation.

6  
7 MS. HOSTETLER: Hi, I'm Staci  
8 Hostetler. I'm with the Rescue Agency.

9  
10 MS. CAPUTO: I'm Sarah Caputo, I'm  
11 also with Rescue Agency.

12  
13 DR. COBB: Caroline Cobb, Virginia  
14 Commonwealth University. I'm one of the  
15 grantees.

16  
17 MR. TRAVERS: I'm Kellen Travers.  
18 I am a youth -- I am a member of Y Street.

19  
20 YOUNG LADY: Hello, I'm also  
21 representing Y Street.

22  
23 COURT REPORTER: What's your name?

24  
25 MS. VAUGHN: Oh, sorry. My name is

1 London Vaughn. Sorry.

2  
3 MR. DORAZIO: I'm Greg Dorazio.  
4 I'm a campaign -- marketing campaign  
5 specialist helping you out on the It Only  
6 Takes One campaign.

7  
8 MS. JORDAN: Hi, I'm Wilma Jordan.  
9 I am with the Foundation.

10  
11 MR. SMITH: Brennan Smith, chief  
12 public information officer for the  
13 Foundation.

14  
15 MR. SHATZEN: Hi, I'm Max Shatzen,  
16 and I work with Senator Marsden's Office.

17  
18 DR. O'BANNON: Awesome. And  
19 Senator Barbara Favola. Barbara, if you  
20 want to --

21  
22 MS. FAVOLA: Hi -- good afternoon.  
23 I'm delighted to be able to participate  
24 virtually. And I'm representing District  
25 40.

1 DR. O'BANNON: We appreciate your  
2 attending very much. Thank you. So the  
3 minutes were sent out. If anybody has any  
4 questions or corrections, please let us know  
5 where you all happen to stand.

6 I'm going to give a very brief  
7 report. I just want to thank everybody for  
8 attending. I want to thank the staff and  
9 everybody involved for all the good work  
10 that you've been doing.

11 You know, we've seen great  
12 things happen with the only -- It Only Takes  
13 One campaign and what we've done in  
14 Fentanyl. Virginia's got a great story.

15 There's plenty more to do, but  
16 at least we -- putting the curve in the  
17 right direction on that. We appreciate  
18 everybody's involvement. I also want to  
19 thank everybody who attended the gala that  
20 we had in January.

21 You know, I guess the second  
22 time is the charm because the first one got  
23 cancelled because of the weather. But it's  
24 -- 25 years is a long time. And I think we  
25 can all be very proud of what we've been

1 doing. Today, you're going to get some  
2 reports, we're going to spend some money.  
3 You're also going to address some issues  
4 going forward as far as long term planning.

5 It's critical to where we're  
6 going from here. And lastly, I want to  
7 simply thank Karen Addison. Karen's not  
8 here today. She's rotating off the Board.  
9 Patte, thank you for your service.

10 We've appreciated it.

11 Dr. Qureshi, thank you so much. And Yaseen  
12 Bhatti is not here, but is also rotating  
13 off. We've also got some good tenured  
14 staff.

15 Michael Parsons has five  
16 years. Wilma, 35 years. And Marty's been  
17 with us 30 years. She's really great. So  
18 these are all wonderful accomplishments.  
19 Andy.

20  
21 MR. SORRELL: Thank you,  
22 Mr. Chairman. As has Chairman O'Bannon  
23 mentioned, I'm standing in for Marty today  
24 as she travels. But I will go ahead and  
25 kick off the Executive Director's report.

1 You'll notice in your packet about 20 pages  
2 that detail all the things that have been  
3 occurring since we last met in February, but  
4 I'll give you the -- a few of the  
5 highlights here as you see on the screen.

6 With our programs department  
7 during February and April, we've emphasized  
8 collaboration with our grantees active study  
9 across our tobacco intervention grantee  
10 network.

11 We've had virtual meetings and  
12 advisory board assessments that really give  
13 an opportunity for a knowledge exchange and  
14 strategic planning with these grantees.

15 Meanwhile, our regional  
16 administrators that are also here today have  
17 conducted extensive site visits to assess  
18 the development of these programs and  
19 provide any interim support and reinforcing  
20 our commitment to the high quality  
21 implementation that -- that go into our  
22 grants and the services that we provide our  
23 grantees. And it's really done to ensure  
24 that we're recommending you in a way that --  
25 that you -- that you're proud of. We also

1 have -- guide our grantees through two  
2 processes like their quarterly reporting.  
3 You know, with any type of grants, you need  
4 the knowledge to report on the status and  
5 how you're moving along with those.

6 And so, we help them with that  
7 process. You know, many of our grants our  
8 small awards. And we want to make sure that  
9 they're able to go forward as best they can.

10 And we also help when they --  
11 they need help with the program  
12 modifications that we introduced. You know,  
13 these -- we also provide partnership with a  
14 volunteer matching service that is called  
15 Catchafire.

16 It really helps to bolster  
17 their ability to execute impactful and  
18 community-based issues. All right, next  
19 slide.

20 With our marketing department,  
21 over the same period, we had our youth-led  
22 initiative, Y Street, that has made  
23 significant strides in public health across  
24 the state. We've had leadership summits and  
25 targeted outreach. Y Street members have

1           successfully influenced the adoption of  
2           tobacco-free parks and pop art policies in  
3           several counties across the state.

4                         And helped integrate water  
5           positive language into school wellness  
6           policies, such as drinking water is more  
7           healthful than drinking sugar sweetened  
8           beverages and things of that nature.

9                         And we'll have, in a few  
10          minutes, a presentation from two of our Y  
11          Street youth, so be looking forward to that.

12          The -- the Foundation also continues  
13          advancing its Deadly Dose Fentanyl  
14          prevention campaign with updated managing  
15          strategies and ongoing collaboration with  
16          our statewide partners.

17                         And the Rev Your Bev, we -- we  
18          -- was it this week, last week? It's been a  
19          couple weeks, yeah. And reached a  
20          milestone, engaging over 40,000 kids across  
21          Virginia on hydration helps in education --  
22          with more than 500 schools and child care  
23          providers participating in these activities.  
24          So that was a -- that was a pretty important  
25          milestone. And then with our research

1 program, our -- our research -- one of our  
2 research grantees, Dr. Hill or Dr. Cobb --  
3 and I see Dr. Cobb is here today, have  
4 presented on their particular research on  
5 confiscated vapes, excuse me, and met with  
6 the administration officials from HHR,  
7 Health and Human Resources and the  
8 Department of Education, to discuss their  
9 findings on the confiscated vapes project.

10 This project has also been  
11 recognized in local Richmond media over the  
12 last month. And we're working with our  
13 partners to do a follow up story about  
14 statewide prevention efforts that -- that  
15 are taking place.

16 And then moving along to  
17 legislative. You see some of the pictures  
18 there from Health Youths Day and then from a  
19 Bill signing.

20 Our Executive Director, Marty  
21 Kilgore, was a guest of Delegate Pugh that  
22 was a bill -- House Bill 1910 that was  
23 signed recently, intending to exclude  
24 certain food additives in the future and  
25 conserve the cost to Virginia schools.

1 Delegate Kent invited several youth from Y  
2 Street in the King George County area, who  
3 also attended the event advocating a healthy  
4 outcome in their own community.

5 And it's a -- it's a really  
6 good example, you know, that staff has been  
7 working towards growing these relationships  
8 with members of the legislature like  
9 Delegate Kent.

10 And then she met with Y Street  
11 youth for Healthy Youth Day back in January-  
12 February. You know, that allowed her to  
13 remember -- oh, Y Street's the program that  
14 I met with earlier this year.

15 So that helped get in -- see  
16 them have an opportunity to be involved in  
17 that process to attend the bill signing.  
18 Moving on to our administrative meetings and  
19 collaboration -- administration meeting.

20 We played a -- VFHY has played  
21 a central role in advancing several key  
22 state initiatives alongside the Office of  
23 the First Lady and the Secretary of Health  
24 and Human Resources. And as I mentioned a  
25 little bit earlier, we helped secure --

1 coordinate and secure -- execute phase two  
2 of the It Only Takes One campaign, which is  
3 aimed at raising Fentanyl awareness through  
4 media efforts and community engagement.

5 And currently, the co-chair  
6 for Reclaiming Childhood Community Workgroup  
7 -- which supports the development of the  
8 social media tool kit to address these  
9 mental health under the governor's Executive  
10 Order 43.

11 And through ongoing  
12 collaboration with state agencies and  
13 partners and all the stakeholders, VFHY is  
14 continuing to improvise and impact youth  
15 health and safety across the state.

16 Additionally, I wanted to --  
17 we have a nice shout-out here for Zubin for  
18 his leadership and his op-ed that he did  
19 that we published -- I believe -- at the end  
20 of October that was addressing the opioid  
21 crisis. And that was in Clinical News,  
22 which is a --

23  
24 MR. META: I think it was in the  
25 Virginia Mercury.

1 MR. SORRELL: The Virginia Mercury.  
2 So if you haven't seen that yet, look that  
3 up. It was -- I appreciated everything that  
4 went to -- in getting that op-ed published.

5 And so, the other item I just  
6 wanted to mention, you know, we also met  
7 recently with staff at the Joint Commission  
8 on Health Care to review the implementation  
9 of It Only Takes One and how that's been  
10 working.

11 I believe they have a report  
12 that's due to the General Assembly in  
13 November in prep for the next session. And  
14 so we were providing feedback to them about  
15 that as well.

16 And then finally, just noting  
17 -- you know, our next event's coming up. We  
18 have our next Board meeting which will be  
19 right after Labor Day, on September 16th.

20 And then, so that we don't --  
21 hopefully won't have any conflicts with  
22 weather or with the General Assembly  
23 session, we're going back to having our  
24 winter meeting in December. And so that  
25 will be December 9th. I'd be happy to

1 answer any questions that the Board may  
2 have. Like I said, this is a summary of a  
3 lengthier report that you'll find in your  
4 packet materials.

5  
6 DR. O'BANNON: Can you go back one  
7 slide, please? One more. I just wanted to  
8 do a shout out here. Because if any of you  
9 think government doesn't play well together,  
10 I hope you'll look at that list.

11 Because we are interacting  
12 with multiple areas of government all -- all  
13 over the state. And I just think it's --  
14 it's a tribute to the organization that  
15 we're able to relate to what's going on in  
16 our arena.

17 And I just hope everybody will  
18 take a look at that and appreciate it. Does  
19 anybody have any questions of our Executive  
20 Director assistant -- associate. Okay.

21 Now this is a special event.  
22 It's not on the agenda. And I want to  
23 introduce London and Kellen from Y Street,  
24 two of our -- two of our youth. And they're  
25 going to give us a brief presentation here.

1 Before we get the exciting COIA training.

2  
3 MS. BRUCE: Thank you,  
4 Dr. O'Bannon. Yeah, I'm going to also  
5 introduce you, so you get double  
6 introductions. Hannah from the Foundation,  
7 I'm in our marketing department.

8 So I'm excited for you guys to  
9 see our youth from the Y Street program.  
10 They are two of your Y Street leadership  
11 team members. And if you're not familiar,  
12 the leadership team are basically the cream  
13 of the crop.

14 They're the ones who do the  
15 most. They are the most enthusiastic and  
16 they are really excellent health advocates  
17 out here in the Commonwealth. So Kellen  
18 Travers, I'm excited to introduce you to, is  
19 from J. R. Tucker High School.

20 And then we have London Vaughn  
21 from Courtland High School out in  
22 Spotsylvania. I'm sorry, Tucker in Henrico  
23 -- Henrico territory. So I'm going to let  
24 you guys take it away, so please.

1 MS. VAUGHN: So good afternoon,  
2 everyone. Like you heard, my name is London  
3 Vaughn. I'm a senior at Courtland High  
4 School in Spotsylvania. And this is my  
5 second, and sadly, last year as a member of  
6 the Y Street leadership team and a Y Street  
7 member.

8  
9 MR. TRAVERS: And hello, everyone.  
10 My name is Kellen Travers. As you've heard,  
11 I'm from -- I am a -- from J. R. Tucker High  
12 School. I'm a junior.

13 This is my third year in Y  
14 Street, my second year on the leadership  
15 team. And I hope to continue one more. So  
16 Y Street is a 100% youth-led movement.

17 It's through the Virginia  
18 Foundation of Healthy Youth and it partners  
19 with multiple schools across the State of  
20 Virginia to empower youth to do advocacy  
21 work.

22 We lead our -- in fact, we're  
23 doing two campaigns -- one being obesity  
24 prevention and the other being tobacco use  
25 prevention. And these campaigns are being

1 used to empower teens to go out and make the  
2 change in their communities.

3  
4 MS. BRUCE: Introducing Rev Your  
5 Bev, our obesity prevention campaign aims to  
6 increase the access, availability and  
7 promotion of drinking water in Virginia  
8 schools through comprehensive policy  
9 adoption.

10 So as you guys may or not --  
11 may or may not be able to tell, I am kind of  
12 suffering from some spring allergies right  
13 now.

14 And so, that's kind of the  
15 common thing that a lot students, teachers,  
16 administrators, etcetera deal with. They  
17 have to deal with allergies a lot of the  
18 time -- the fall and the spring.

19 And water has really been a  
20 key essential nutrient for me during this  
21 time. It's not -- it's one of the many  
22 reasons why I really support and advocate  
23 for the Rev Your Bev campaign. In as Rev  
24 Your Bev -- as Y Street members, we organize  
25 school events. We collect support cards and

1 surveys. We meet with our school board  
2 members to amplify and educate them about  
3 the benefits of adopting Rev Your Bev's  
4 policy.

5 We participate in Rev Your Bev  
6 week -- one of my favorite events. We  
7 present conferences and engage with the  
8 public on social media. It's really  
9 amplified our healthy hydration messaging.

10 Also, members of the Y Street  
11 -- Y Street leadership team have attended  
12 over 130 meetings, and those were with the  
13 key decision-makers such as school board  
14 members to educate them and advocate for the  
15 campaign.

16 28 school divisions have been  
17 impacted by -- have updated their school  
18 wellness policy by adopting Rev Your Bev's  
19 policy language.

20 Over 300,000 are covered and  
21 impacted under the policy changes, and most  
22 of are our partners. We distribute free  
23 resources and host celebratory events. And  
24 I will now pass it over to Kellen to talk a  
25 little bit more about his experience as a

1 district aid partner of Rev Your Bev.

2  
3 MR. TRAVERS: Thank you, London.  
4 So yes, my district -- Henrico County -- is  
5 a partner of the Rev Your Bev campaign. And  
6 last year, we just held a celebratory Rev  
7 Your Bev event where we had a little table  
8 set up at my high school, J. R. Tucker.

9 And we had a good opportunity  
10 during the lunch period -- we got to talk to  
11 the students. Tell them, yeah, we are Rev  
12 Your Bev partners. This is the stuff that  
13 we've been doing in the background.

14 And this is why we have had  
15 better water accessibility policies in the  
16 school. This is how we're going to continue  
17 to talk about water accessibility and water  
18 promotion.

19 And we also like to give some  
20 little thank you cards and fill them out so  
21 we can send them over to our wellness  
22 committees and to share them with the school  
23 board committee as well. And this event was  
24 really impactful. It really brought the  
25 community together. It was a lot of shining

1 faces, even introduced me to our principal  
2 and we got really -- had a really deep  
3 conversation over Rev Your Bev and over the  
4 work we're doing.

5 So it was a good opportunity.  
6 Thank you. So for our next campaign, Share  
7 the Air. Share the Air is our campaign  
8 focusing on 100% e-cigarette and tobacco-  
9 free public spaces and recreational areas.

10 We -- in this campaign, we  
11 have been doing things like providing free  
12 signage. We have had over 130 given out.  
13 And we have also been collecting measures of  
14 progress in the community and just providing  
15 them with what we're doing.

16 For me personally, Share the  
17 Air has been a very helpful event for my  
18 family personally. I have a long history of  
19 lung issues from asthma to lung diseases  
20 from my dad's side of the family.

21 So lung health and just  
22 quality air have been a very important topic  
23 for my whole life growing up. So when I  
24 heard about Share the Air and when I heard  
25 about Y Street all those years ago -- in my

1 freshman year -- I knew this was a program I  
2 wanted to be in. And I knew this was a  
3 program I had to advocate for as just  
4 someone who's been impacted by this very  
5 topic for years.

6 And I am not the only one who  
7 thinks so because through this program, we  
8 have had over 29 localities adopt the Share  
9 the Air policy, most recently being Pulaski,  
10 Greene County and Smithfield County are some  
11 of the most recent partners.

12 And through this, we have  
13 ultimately impacted 3M Virginians through  
14 Share the Air policy adoption and through  
15 constant hydration.

16 And we go through, like I  
17 said, provide that free signage that just  
18 says that they are a Share the Air partner  
19 in that this is -- the policy also says that  
20 they encourage you, when you see the  
21 signage, to please don't smoke if they are  
22 -- just encourages to limit the amount of  
23 smoke in the space.

24  
25 MS. VAUGHN: And since 2004, we

1 have had over 100 schools partner with Y  
2 Street, Kellen's and my school being two of  
3 them. And this year, we've had 24 schools  
4 partner alone.

5 Today, we have 66 people on  
6 the Y Street leadership team and 698 Y  
7 Street members. And so, I was home-schooled  
8 from 2021 to 2023.

9 So I went into public school  
10 in the fall of 2023 with no community  
11 service, no leadership and only one  
12 extracurricular. And I'm a senior right  
13 now, so it came time to apply for colleges.

14 Y Street has really helped me  
15 because it ticked all the boxes. It gave me  
16 community service. I have almost 100 hours  
17 from Y Street alone. I've a lot of  
18 leadership experience and I'm also able to  
19 activate in my community.

20 So when I was able -- when I  
21 transferred to public school, I was able to  
22 apply and get accepted into my school's  
23 national honor society. I was able to be  
24 accepted into Virginia Commonwealth  
25 University. I have a \$4,000.00 scholarship

1 and I am much better than I was.

2  
3 (The assemblage applauded.)

4  
5 MR. TRAVERS: And yes, for me, Y  
6 Street has been a program that has shaped my  
7 high school experience. Like I was saying,  
8 all those years back in freshman year, I  
9 heard about this program.

10 I knew it was something I had  
11 to do. They talked about how they gave us  
12 -- how they would give us the opportunity to  
13 be youth advocates. And it would give us  
14 the chance to show that high schoolers have  
15 a voice and how we can make a change.

16 And how we, even though we're  
17 youth, have just as deep of an impact and we  
18 get just as personally impacted by the  
19 issues that we are discussing.

20 So when Y Street told me this,  
21 I knew this was a program where I had to be.  
22 It gave me the opportunity and, yes, it gave  
23 me volunteer hours. And yes, it gave me  
24 different awards and stuff like that. But  
25 more importantly, it gave me the opportunity

1 to speak for myself and speak for the things  
2 I believe in. And that's something I  
3 wouldn't trade for anything. So thank you.  
4 And yes, thank you very much.

5  
6 (The assemblage applauded.)  
7

8 DR. O'BANNON: That's Y Street.  
9 Anybody have any questions of these folks?  
10 How many of us could've been able to do that  
11 when we were in high school? Go right  
12 ahead.

13  
14 DR. ROWLAND: I just wanted to ask,  
15 have you run into obstacles in trying to get  
16 districts or regions to adopt the Rev Your  
17 Bev?

18 I live in the eastern region  
19 and I see Virginia Beach and Chesapeake and  
20 Norfolk is missing. So of course, my -- my  
21 brain is going. But what kind of obstacles  
22 are you seeing?  
23

24 MR. TRAVERS: People -- when you  
25 speak about air advocacy, what is this

1 about? It takes time. You got to go and  
2 you got to keep talking and you got to be  
3 really aggressive with it. So it's not like  
4 an obstacle, it's more like -- it's just how  
5 the work goes.

6 And you should -- you probably  
7 all know this. You have to just keep going  
8 at it and you got to keep believing in what  
9 you believe in. You just got to keep  
10 presenting it. And eventually, things  
11 happen. It's a slow thing.

12  
13 DR. ROWLAND: Good for you.

14  
15 MS. VAUGHN: Yeah. And that's why  
16 we really emphasize all the statistics and  
17 the data because kind of Y Street is kind of  
18 like a -- it's like an organization but a  
19 lot of people don't really know much about  
20 it.

21 So the fact that we're able to  
22 provide data and show that the Commonwealth,  
23 all of Virginia really supports and care  
24 about these messages and these campaigns, it  
25 really pushes the mission forward. So I

1           guess the only challenge would just be  
2           really proving that this is not something  
3           that just Y Street believes in. This is  
4           something that the entirety of Virginia  
5           believes in.

6  
7                   DR. O'BANNON: That is so nice.

8  
9                   (The assemblage applauded.)

10  
11                   DR. O'BANNON: Thank you very much.  
12           That's wonderful. At the recommendation of  
13           counsel from the Attorney General's Office,  
14           I'm going to respectfully request someone  
15           make a motion to approve the minutes that  
16           were presented.

17  
18                   MR. PEARSON: So moved.

19  
20                   DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

21  
22                   MR. JOHNSON: Second.

23  
24                   DR. O'BANNON: All in favor?  
25

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. All  
4 right, Andy.

5  
6 MR. SORRELL: All right. Thank  
7 you, Mr. Chairman. If you remember from our  
8 January meeting -- February meeting, we had  
9 a great presentation on the Freedom of  
10 Information Act by the Office of the  
11 Attorney General and Justin Bell with the  
12 Office of the Attorney General.

13 As part of our ongoing Board  
14 responsibilities, it's important to  
15 understand the Freedom of Information Act,  
16 but also the Conflicts of Interest Act.

17 And because those are two,  
18 sort of, different things that are important  
19 to know we broke them up -- with the Freedom  
20 of Information Act being in February.

21 And this is the presentation  
22 on the Conflicts of Interest Act. And  
23 Justin did a great job of making it a topic  
24 that is sometimes a little bit harder to get  
25 your head around -- interesting and uses

1 great examples. Thank you for being here,  
2 Justin.

3  
4 MR. BELL: Thank you, Andy. You  
5 know, I tried not to be a walking, talking  
6 stereotype. But we just had this lovely  
7 presentation that filled you with a lot of  
8 hope an optimism.

9 And now comes the government  
10 lawyer in a dark suit to scare the crap out  
11 of you. Luckily, I'm really good at that,  
12 so we're going to do that. We're going to  
13 talk about Conflicts of Interest Act.

14 I'm legally required to say  
15 this is my opinion and not the opinion of  
16 the actual Attorney General or the Office of  
17 the Attorney General. This is me giving you  
18 advice.

19 Let's focus here on this --  
20 this bolded text here. The citizen  
21 legislative member representing the -- fully  
22 the public in a legislative process and its  
23 citizens maintaining a high trust in their  
24 public officers and employees finally  
25 declared that the citizens are entitled to

1 -- to be assured that the judgment of public  
2 officers and employees will be guided by a  
3 law that defines and prohibits inappropriate  
4 conflicts and requires disclosure of  
5 economic interests. That's why we're here.

6 That's what the Conflicts of  
7 Interest Act is supposed to do and that's  
8 what we're going to learn about today. Just  
9 take a second and look at the entire slide,  
10 but I'm going to focus on that bottom block  
11 of text there, okay?

12 This is in addition to all the  
13 other stuff. This is in addition to  
14 bribery. This is in addition to extortion,  
15 all the nasty things that you might read  
16 about in a Tom Clancy novel.

17 This is in addition to it, and  
18 it shall be liberally construed to  
19 effectuate the purpose of -- of the chapter.  
20 So everything we're about to learn, you're  
21 going to err on the side of openness.

22 You're going to err on the  
23 side of eliminating those conflicts of  
24 interest. You're going to open -- you will  
25 err on the side of shoring up the public

1 trust. So this language is actually taken  
2 directly from the 2.2-3100. That's the --  
3 that's the -- that's the citation for the  
4 Conflicts Act.

5 That phrase, shall be  
6 liberally construed, is in the entire Code  
7 of Virginia -- I think it's 216 times. Out  
8 of the millions of lines of -- of Code.  
9 That's in there only 216 times.

10 When it's in there, it's  
11 supposed to be taken seriously -- so do not  
12 play with this. The law says that you shall  
13 be given a copy of the chapter and you must  
14 review it, okay?

15 There's a duty to familiarize  
16 it. So I'm going to ask either Andy or  
17 Robin to give you a copy of the Conflicts  
18 Act. And I'm going to remind you of your  
19 duty to familiarize yourself with it.

20 That means you have to read it  
21 end to end. It is horrifically boring, so  
22 give yourself time to do so. An hour a  
23 night, 30 minutes a night. You'll get it  
24 done in a week. You'll actually learn a  
25 couple of things and you'll keep yourself

1 from getting in trouble. Okay. Now that  
2 you've -- assuming you fulfilled your duty,  
3 what are you going to learn? What is going  
4 to -- what are you going to familiarize  
5 yourself with?

6 Well, you're going to  
7 familiarize yourself with the end goal -- or  
8 avoiding the end goal -- a knowing violation  
9 of the Conflicts Act, COIA.

10 If you commit a knowing  
11 violation, you shall be guilty of a  
12 misdemeanor -- I just got to point at it,  
13 right?

14 You shall be guilty of a  
15 misdemeanor, shall be guilty of a  
16 malfeasance in public office and you shall  
17 be subject to civil penalty in an amount  
18 equal to the amount of money or thing of  
19 value received as a result of such a  
20 violation, and the money or thing of value  
21 is forfeited.

22 A knowing violation is one in  
23 which the person engages in a conduct,  
24 performs an act or refuses to perform an act  
25 when he knows that the conduct is prohibited

1 or required by COIA. What's that mean?  
2 Crime doesn't pay. If you get a \$10,000.00  
3 promise of interest in a company and you  
4 improperly accept this gift, you're going to  
5 jail.

6 You gonna -- you're gonna face  
7 a penalty and you're not going to get that  
8 stock anyway. Why bother? Let's not do  
9 that. Skip to the end, let's not do that  
10 bit of nonsense.

11 Well, hold on. Pause here for  
12 a second. Questions before I go any  
13 further? That's how you know you really got  
14 them scared, they don't even want to talk.

15 As long as you don't do this,  
16 you should be okay. That's the good part.  
17 And to protect yourself from that, you're  
18 going to use this as your shield, if you  
19 ever really face that situation.

20 A state officer will be --  
21 shall not be prosecuted for a knowing  
22 violation -- that's the one that gets you in  
23 jail -- if the alleged violation resulted  
24 from his good faith reliance on either a  
25 written opinion of the Attorney General or a

1 formal opinion of -- a formal opinion or  
2 written opinion of the council. We'll talk  
3 about the council later, but note there's  
4 two routes you can get this -- this sort of  
5 insulation from this penalty.

6 It was made in response to his  
7 written request for such an opinion or  
8 advice. The opinion or advice was made  
9 after a full disclosure of the facts, the  
10 advice or opinion is withdrawn and can only  
11 be relied upon for acts and -- or omissions  
12 occurring after its issuance and before its  
13 withdrawal.

14 What's that mean in practical  
15 terms? If you know you're going to face one  
16 of these decision points where you may be in  
17 trouble, you have to make that written  
18 request for help.

19 You have to get that written  
20 opinion and you have to rely upon it before  
21 somebody says, wait a minute. That wasn't  
22 right. It's not that terrible. You have to  
23 ask -- you have to ask for permission, not  
24 for forgiveness. Doesn't work like that in  
25 conflicts. This is the big event. This is

1 the biggest -- the best advice I can give  
2 you today is the bottom line. Don't guess.  
3 It's not worth it to guess. The worst thing  
4 that can happen is you get an answer that  
5 says yes or no.

6 And then you just follow the  
7 advice. But do not guess, okay? Check in  
8 with your team. Virginia's a big state.  
9 You've got a lot of people that do great  
10 work in this state.

11 The office has a roster of --  
12 yeah, 460 -- something like that. Somebody  
13 can help you. Even if we don't help you,  
14 you can go to the Conflicts Council and get  
15 help. Do not leave yourself unprotected.

16  
17 MS. MCVOY: Justin, can I interject  
18 something? I don't work a lot with COIA,  
19 but I've gone to the Council a few times  
20 thinking I had done the proper analysis.

21 They went through it and I'd  
22 been completely wrong. So this is your  
23 point about not guessing. I wasn't  
24 guessing, I had done research. But they  
25 looked at some case law that they know about

1 that -- that nobody in this room know about.  
2 So you know they would know where to find  
3 it. So I was just supporting that as fact.  
4

5 MR. BELL: Let me -- let me double  
6 down on that. You know -- how long you been  
7 with us, Robin?  
8

9 MS. MCVOY: A little over six  
10 years.  
11

12 MR. BELL: Six years. I'm -- this  
13 is my ninth year. I've been doing this the  
14 whole time. And I still learn stuff all the  
15 time about conflicts.

16 I, too, go to the Conflicts  
17 Council and I think I've nailed it. And  
18 they highlight on some fact that I didn't  
19 think was important or they ask the question  
20 that I didn't think was important -- or even  
21 realize was important.

22 And it changes the entire  
23 conclusion. So that's why we don't guess.  
24 We ask for help, we go to the experts and  
25 you get the proper answer and you keep your

1 butt out of jail. And the worse part is  
2 you're probably going down for the -- you  
3 going after misdemeanors. You're probably  
4 going down for -- you're going to get jail  
5 time on the weekends.

6 You're going to work during  
7 the week. Then you're going to come home  
8 then go to jail on the weekends. Just give  
9 me the straight sentence. I'll take my  
10 weekend.

11 The basic no-no's are  
12 accepting anything of value in exchange for  
13 influencing you in the use of your office.  
14 Any opportunity where there is a reasonable  
15 likelihood that it's being offered to  
16 influence you in the use of your office or  
17 if they secure your family's own economic  
18 interest in the use of your office.

19 You cannot prohibit to every  
20 -- you're prohibited from participating in a  
21 transaction being considered by the body in  
22 which you have a personal interest. And do  
23 not forget to file your disclosure forms if  
24 the law says you have to. I actually don't  
25 know if this body has to. But if you do,

1 make sure you do. Okay. Before we go into  
2 what a personal interest is, pause again for  
3 questions. Okay. You're going to read this  
4 whole thing anyway, so I'm not going to make  
5 you read the whole thing today.

6 Just take a -- take a look at  
7 what the high points are. What is a  
8 personal interest? And what -- what might  
9 it look like?

10 Income that exceeds \$5,000.00  
11 from the interest in a -- in a property or a  
12 business. Ownership of real property or a  
13 business. Liability incurred or assumed on  
14 behalf of a business.

15 If it's three percent of the  
16 assets of the business. Option for  
17 ownership of a business or personal property  
18 -- personal real property. I'll give you --  
19 I'll give you half of this rental property  
20 if you approve this thing for me.

21 What if I -- what if I get you  
22 a bonus? What if I get you -- what if I get  
23 you a bonus at that job you're working at?  
24 That's -- that's what we're talking about.  
25 We're talking about the -- it's probably

1 triggering that -- that -- triggering that  
2 phrase in your mind, quid pro quo, right?  
3 That's -- that's really what we're trying to  
4 avoid. That's one of the big no-no's here.

5 Now a personal interest in a  
6 contract, also defined, as the personal  
7 interest when due to his being a part of the  
8 project or due to a personal interest in a  
9 business that is party to the contracts.

10 So it's a -- it's a  
11 contracting thing with a public body? What  
12 might that look like? Well, somebody's got  
13 to clean the building. Somebody's got to  
14 supply the paper.

15 You know, disclose you've got  
16 a personal interest on -- in the shipping  
17 company that delivers the paper. Well, you  
18 might get yourself in trouble then if you  
19 don't disclose that your -- your sister's --  
20 your sister's cleaning business is the one  
21 that you recommended that -- that you  
22 approved that the -- that the Board then  
23 entered into a contract to clean up the  
24 building after -- after hours. You might  
25 get yourself in trouble, right? See how it

1 works? See how it works? Remember, it's  
2 going to get -- it's going to get rescinded  
3 anyway. So we're not -- there's no interest  
4 for you to do it.

5 It's to disincentivize this --  
6 this type of behavior. So we're not going  
7 to make those -- those deals because we're  
8 going to unwind them anyways. I should go  
9 back.

10 And it's -- it goes five years  
11 out, so you -- you can't just make it run  
12 and then benefit. You've got to wait five  
13 years for it to benefit. Now a transaction  
14 is different than a contract.

15 A transaction is something  
16 that comes in front of the Board as part of  
17 its normal duties. So let's say -- what's  
18 something that this board might consider?

19 Do you have a -- do you have  
20 like a yearly conference or something like  
21 that? There you go, I'm seeing some nods in  
22 the background. Well, if you or a member of  
23 your immediate family has a personal  
24 interest in a property or business or a  
25 government agency, it's subject to the --

1 it's subject to the transaction, may realize  
2 or recently foreseeable direct or indirect  
3 benefit or detriment as a result of the  
4 action.

5 You know, my -- my wife -- not  
6 actually. But let's say my wife -- she runs  
7 the -- the Norfolk Scope. And I'm going to  
8 get the conference moved to the Scope. It's  
9 going to be a big windfall for her.

10 Personal interest in  
11 transaction. Not great, not great. It's  
12 fairly easy to see why that's -- that's a  
13 problem. You don't want people on both  
14 sides of the transaction.

15 It's a poor use of -- of  
16 public trust, poor use of the government's  
17 power. So actually, if that wasn't the best  
18 thing for it, now we're working against our  
19 own interest for money interest --  
20 deceptive.

21 If you have to file a  
22 disclosure form -- this also goes to your  
23 family -- you're prohibited from accepting a  
24 gift in excess of \$100.00 in aggregate value  
25 if the gift is from a lobbyist, person who

1 uses lobbyists, somebody who is seeking a  
2 contract with the agency or which you have  
3 authority to direct the activities of the  
4 agency.

5 And if the gift is valued at  
6 more than \$20.00, all this together. It's  
7 any of those plus that. What's that look  
8 like, what's that look like? Okay. If it's  
9 under \$20.00, you don't have to care about  
10 it.

11 Somebody can buy you a cup of  
12 coffee every week for the entire year, as  
13 long as that coffee doesn't cost more than  
14 \$20.00. It's bad out there, but it's not  
15 that bad, right?

16 Let's just say the coffee is  
17 \$6.00 -- \$5.00-\$6.00, somewhere in that  
18 range. Doesn't count because it's under  
19 that threshold. It's over that threshold,  
20 you have to start counting.

21 And as soon as you hit that  
22 \$100.00 mark, you've hit your cap for the  
23 year from that person. You cannot accept  
24 that. Now this also has to be in play,  
25 right? They have to be from either A, B or

1 C. It's that crazy, is everyone following  
2 it. It's going to get crazy. This is the  
3 baseline.

4 Even if the gift is valued  
5 more than \$20.00 and is from a lobbyist or  
6 any of the other categories we just talked  
7 about, you or your family may accept the  
8 gift without restriction from personal  
9 friends.

10 Yes, a personal friend is  
11 defined in the Code. It's all in this wall  
12 of text that you're going to read when you  
13 get back home and pour your favorite drink  
14 and wade through -- make your way through  
15 the Conflicts Act.

16 But it's pretty self -- I  
17 think it's actually pretty -- pretty  
18 straight forward. What [were] the  
19 circumstances the gift was offered? Is it  
20 -- is it your birthday?

21 Is it -- is it normal to even  
22 accept a gift in this situation? The  
23 history of the relationship between the  
24 person and the donor, including the nature  
25 and the length of the friendship, and any

1 previous exchange of gifts between them. Do  
2 you normally exchange Christmas gifts or  
3 gifts for Hanukkah or some other -- some  
4 other celebration?

5 That, you know, the fact that  
6 that would point -- that this is a  
7 legitimate friendship and not some sort of  
8 graft or inducement.

9 They've said no to the person  
10 when the donor person paying for the gift or  
11 sought a tax reduction or a business  
12 reimbursement for the gift.

13 Is this a business activity or  
14 is this somebody showing a legitimate  
15 expression of -- of emotion. And then  
16 finally, when the donor is given the same or  
17 similar gifts to other persons to file --  
18 required to file a disclosure form  
19 prescribed as soon as possible.

20 Is this person buying you  
21 tickets to -- to the Commanders' game, the  
22 home opener because you guys are old friends  
23 or is this because they bought a rack of  
24 tickets and they're looking to get favorable  
25 dealings from various government officials.

1 Hopefully that makes sense why -- why  
2 certain things are regulated and prohibited  
3 and certain things are permitted. Okay. As  
4 usual, the key is going to be in the bolded  
5 text here.

6 So keep in mind that it's okay  
7 if you do these things. But we're looking  
8 out for the gift of travel, like  
9 reimbursement for when you travel to places.

10 Not talking about the travel  
11 for your work here. That's -- that's  
12 governed by something else, that's okay.  
13 But you may accept the gift of travel even  
14 if it's from a lobbyist if you do this.

15 You have to submit the  
16 approval form first and get the approval  
17 before you accept it. Remember, you can't  
18 ask for forgiveness. You have to ask for  
19 permission, okay?

20 It's also going to be in your  
21 disclosure forms, which we're always --  
22 we're always going to file on time. Okay.  
23 You may accept gifts in excess of \$100.00 in  
24 food, beverage and entertainment or the cost  
25 of admission when it's accepted or received

1 while in attendance at a widely attended  
2 event and is associated with the event.  
3 Again, you're going to report that on the  
4 disclosure form.

5 What's that look like? What's  
6 a widely attended event? 25 persons or  
7 more. All members of the public, civic or  
8 charitable and professional organization,  
9 from a particular industry or profession or  
10 who represent an industry in a particular  
11 cause.

12 You know, us in the legal  
13 field we like our big conferences. We like  
14 our national, statewide, annual -- annual  
15 conference.

16 If I go to the Virginia Bar  
17 Association conference and there's 50  
18 attorneys. And we all talk about how great  
19 a job we do and how important we are.

20 That's the kind of event we're  
21 talking about. It doesn't have to be as  
22 self-congratulatory as that. It can be --  
23 it can be service organization. It can be  
24 -- it can be a -- it can be anything. But  
25 as long as it fits that and you declare it

1 on your form, you're okay. This used to be  
2 a really funny joke. I don't think it's  
3 that funny any more.

4 But if you get an offer for --  
5 from a foreign dignitary to give you some  
6 sort of gift, please call your lawyer. Do  
7 not -- don't pass go. Don't do anything  
8 else. Call or email Robin immediately.

9 Questions about that before I  
10 move forward? I don't like to spend \$250.00  
11 on fines, despite what my parking tickets  
12 might -- might show.

13 So pay -- do your forms on  
14 time so you don't get hit with a penalty,  
15 right? I mentioned this council early on.  
16 This is free resource available to you all,  
17 even members of the public.

18 You may not get the same sort  
19 of service or response time, but they're --  
20 they're there for everyone. They have a web  
21 site, they have a database of searchable  
22 opinions. They have a bunch of resources to  
23 help you better understand. And you can  
24 cold call them or email them and ask them  
25 particular questions about your situation.

1 This goes down to your local level, too. If  
2 you think you have a problem at your local  
3 level, this is one of the ways you can --  
4 you can figure out if you actually have a  
5 problem or not.

6 It goes for you sitting on the  
7 Board. If you think you're in one of these  
8 situations and you can't get ahold of Robin  
9 for some reason, you can go to them.

10 I don't want to speak for  
11 Robin, but when my clients come to me, I go  
12 to them anyways because they're the experts.  
13 We might mull over -- we might even craft  
14 the perfect question to make sure we get the  
15 perfect answer -- the appropriate answer.

16 But this is a resource here.  
17 And as long as you follow -- follow those  
18 steps and ask for permission, not for  
19 forgiveness -- you, too, will not go to  
20 jail. That's all I got today, folks.  
21 Questions before I get out of here?

22  
23 (The assemblage applauded.)

24  
25 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you very much,

1 Mr. Bell. Black suit and all, you make  
2 something good after all.

3  
4 MR. BELL: My pleasure, sir.

5  
6 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Next  
7 item is update on the current annual budget.  
8 Later on, we'll hear the proposed budget for  
9 the following year which we will need to  
10 vote on. Go right ahead, Andy.

11  
12 MR. SORRELL: Thank you,  
13 Mr. Chairman. I'll just note that I do have  
14 copies of this presentation if anybody wants  
15 a copy of the -- the COIA presentation. I  
16 have copies of that, yes.

17 I just wanted to note we have  
18 -- in your packet, a couple of -- about  
19 halfway through our financial reports which  
20 describe our financial position through the  
21 end of March.

22 By reflecting my notes when  
23 you look at those is that, you know,  
24 particularly this time of year we start --  
25 expenditures increase as we're getting

1 towards the end of the fiscal year. One of  
2 the things that we have recently done was  
3 getting additional funds in that are non-MSA  
4 funds, the end settlement fund -- which is a  
5 dual settlement.

6 Both grant dollars from the  
7 Opioid funds and things like that. So those  
8 -- those monies take a while to work through  
9 the process to get transferred over to the  
10 fund where we actually spend down those --  
11 those dollars.

12 But I did want to note before  
13 I get into too much detail that our MSA  
14 payment was received at the end of April.  
15 And like I expected, it was not unexpected.

16 It's \$9.8M, which is about  
17 seven percent less than it was last year.  
18 And seven percent less than it was the year  
19 before that.

20 And so what that's indicating  
21 to us is that, you know, this is a trend  
22 that the MSA dollars that are slowly, slowly  
23 going down. And so the initial part thought  
24 being that -- that the Foundation, you know,  
25 secures -- helps offset the declining amount

1 of MSA dollars. And so you'll -- you'll  
2 notice -- or you'll see in our budget that  
3 it was presented towards the end of this  
4 meeting because we'll want to adopt a budget  
5 as one of your final actions after talking  
6 about all the things that -- that would be  
7 part of it.

8 But you know, the bottom line  
9 is with a -- with the endowment going down,  
10 that's something that should be -- we need  
11 to keep an eye on.

12 And you know, as I mentioned,  
13 we had been successful in getting several  
14 millions of dollars in other funds that are  
15 very strictly set aside for particular uses,  
16 like we did receive and was successful in  
17 the budget.

18 And with the General  
19 Assembly's approval, receiving a dual  
20 settlement fund and the end settlement fund.  
21 It goes towards making anti-vaping  
22 campaigns. And we also received general  
23 fund dollars generously from the General  
24 Assembly for a marijuana prevention  
25 campaign. And so we also realized that the

1 Opioid Authority -- we do a lot with youth  
2 prevention for substance use as well. And  
3 so we went after funds with -- with that  
4 group as well and also received more funds.

5 So several million dollars in  
6 addition to the funds that we have also  
7 received from the massive settlement  
8 agreement.

9 And so anyhow, I also wanted  
10 to note that you'll see in there the  
11 interest for an endowment. We have an  
12 endowment that was established a number of  
13 years ago.

14 That interest is in the local  
15 government investment pool, if you ware  
16 interested in that type of thing. And since  
17 we put it in there, I think it's received  
18 about \$400,000.00 in interest.

19 And so, that is something to  
20 -- that is part of our, you know, relation  
21 to stuff. I'd be happy to answer any  
22 questions. I know that our finance  
23 director, Wilma Jordan, is here as well if  
24 anybody has any. Thank you.

25

1 DR. O'BANNON: Okay, thank you.

2 So Senator Favola, Senator Marsden, I want  
3 to thank you all for the budget. I know you  
4 were both appropriators, so we'll try to  
5 make the highest and best use of these  
6 dollars that you sent to us. Thank you for  
7 doing that.

8  
9 MR. MARSDEN: Thank you very much.

10 But keep in mind, you know, it's been  
11 probably 15 or more years since we've had a  
12 budget situation like -- like we are seeing  
13 now.

14 So we needed two General  
15 Assembly sessions and what have you. So  
16 make sure you get your allies lined up and  
17 an introduction in whatever role.

18 If you get any requests and  
19 then you have the funds. This is likely to  
20 be a different environment, you know, than  
21 you're used to. And so -- just let us know  
22 when you -- you need help.

23  
24 DR. O'BANNON: Senator Favola?  
25

1 MS. FAVOLA: Hi, did you call on  
2 me?

3  
4 DR. O'BANNON: No. I just wanted  
5 to thank you for the budget and your work on  
6 that. And --

7  
8 MS. FAVOLA: I just -- I just  
9 wanted to say that we -- you can talk to us  
10 about state budgeted dollars, in either a  
11 Title I schools or at-risk schools because  
12 we don't have unlimited resources.

13 We are going to try to focus  
14 on areas where we know potential federal  
15 cuts will have the biggest impact. So  
16 that's finding funds.

17  
18 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. That's  
19 on our radar screen. And I am acutely aware  
20 of -- what year was it -- 2009, maybe. We  
21 were told we had 8.5% commission instead of  
22 10% commission. All right, thank you very  
23 much. All these items under Old Business,  
24 we're going to go ahead and discuss the  
25 policies committee report under New

1 Business. So I think we can now move on to  
2 item A, which is Champions for Youth Summit,  
3 management and production. Danny.

4  
5 MR. SAGGESE: Yes, thank you.

6  
7 DR. O'BANNON: These are action  
8 items, I guess.

9  
10 MR. SAGGESE: Yes, sir. These are  
11 items of New Business. Thank you,  
12 Mr. Chairman. So as everyone is likely  
13 aware, we host -- the Virginia Foundation  
14 for Healthy Youth co-hosts the Champions for  
15 Youth Summit every 18 to 24 months.

16 This past one was the second  
17 one that we held, and that was in -- in  
18 October of this year. And several of our  
19 Board members attended that with that --  
20 that workshop -- or that summit.

21 The summit, basically,  
22 convenes hundreds of youth prevention  
23 planning professionals who are committed to  
24 exploring best practices that impact youth  
25 and young adults on topics like tobacco and

1 nicotine use, substance use to the factors  
2 that impact childhood obesity. The summit  
3 has an attendance of over 500 practitioners  
4 from Virginia and subject matter experts  
5 from across -- from across the -- across the  
6 country.

7 And generally, we have about  
8 30 or so speakers. We've had a -- we had  
9 the venue contract for the same venue that  
10 we would have in -- that we had in 2024.  
11 That's for lodging and rooms, meals and  
12 things like that. And that's the Hyatt  
13 Regency in Reston.

14 And what this memo -- what  
15 we're requesting for from the Board is,  
16 through an RFP process, we do desire to  
17 contract with an event manager that will  
18 work in conjunction with our staff and the  
19 Board and prevention connections to make  
20 sure that we carry out the duties associated  
21 with the general planning and management and  
22 overall implementation of the summit. But  
23 this includes, you know, including  
24 registration and speaker management, sponsor  
25 and exhibitors participation, planning and

1 general management. All the different types  
2 of things that go on in planning an event  
3 for 500 people.

4 And so -- you know, this with  
5 all the final procurements and strategic  
6 decisions would be approved by the  
7 Foundation. But generally, this is looking  
8 for general and management production  
9 services.

10 You know, so what staff is  
11 requesting the Board consider and adopt as  
12 part of your budget at the end of this -- at  
13 the end of the day is a not to exceed amount  
14 of \$350,000.00 as part of our FY26 budget to  
15 provide for these services.

16 And again, we have to choose a  
17 contractor and everything like that, yes.  
18 It'll be a decent amount. We don't expect  
19 it to be that total amount, but we want to  
20 make sure that we don't have to come back to  
21 you again for funds while we -- while we  
22 pursue this opportunity. I'd be happy to  
23 answer any questions that you have. But  
24 that's about it for the summit.

25

1 DR. O'BANNON: That's our big  
2 event. I trust there will be no conflicts  
3 of interest.

4  
5 MR. SAGGESE: That's always  
6 something we want to keep in mind.

7  
8 DR. O'BANNON: All right, any  
9 questions? A motion?

10  
11 MR. PEARSON: So moved.

12  
13 DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

14  
15 MS. SHAIYA: Second.

16  
17 DR. O'BANNON: Any discussion? All  
18 in favor, please say aye.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

21  
22 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you all.  
23 Strategic plan. Andy.

24  
25 MR. SORRELL: Okay. This is

1 another item of new business. The policy,  
2 planning and bylaws committee did discuss  
3 this, this morning as well.

4 Basically, VFHY has a  
5 strategic plan to make sure that we're  
6 implementing programming that aligns with  
7 our legislation that the General Assembly  
8 established some 25 years ago.

9 And that they've amended over  
10 the last couple of years for substance use  
11 and abuse as well. So it is the -- it is  
12 the legislation that gives us our mission  
13 and our purpose.

14 You know, puts us in the -- in  
15 the direction that we should be heading.  
16 It's a strategic plans that provides the  
17 time-limited and more direct goals and  
18 objectives and strategies.

19 Because it's direction is set,  
20 it's really important that we have a clear  
21 action plan that's supported by the Board,  
22 by executive leadership and by the staff.  
23 So our current strategic plan does provide  
24 us directions for implementing our current  
25 goals and programs and marketing and things

1       like that. But in the foreseeable future, a  
2       number of long-time staff members are likely  
3       to be retiring. They have the years. We  
4       heard that public service, you know, awards  
5       that -- that we have.

6               And it is a really good idea  
7       to really work on getting a plan for -- for  
8       -- getting a strategic plan that's current  
9       and fresh and is -- has the approval of the  
10      board of -- Board of Trustees.

11             And I also want to note that,  
12      you know, our long-time executive director  
13      -- Marty -- is considering that, you know --  
14      also is one of those people that's had many  
15      years of service to the Commonwealth.

16             So with -- with all of these  
17      taking off -- the retirements and with new  
18      administration coming in, you know, it's a  
19      good idea to make sure that everybody is on  
20      the same page with what we're implementing.

21             And it's possible that we'll  
22      have an interim director in the foreseeable  
23      future. And again, we want to make sure  
24      that there's a plan that we're implementing  
25      that has the support of this board. And so

1 that's the purpose of, you know, the memo  
2 that you have in your packet there. So we  
3 really wanted to acknowledge our current  
4 landscape and the future direction that we  
5 should be in.

6 And again, like I mentioned  
7 with the MSA payment amounts, the numbers  
8 are going down. There's going to be a  
9 budget crunch likely at the General  
10 Assembly.

11 So you know, we're going to  
12 need to really think strategically and now's  
13 a good time to be doing that. And so we're  
14 trying to do all of that actually against  
15 recurring.

16 So we want to work with  
17 subject matter experts to begin developing  
18 the plan later this spring and summer that  
19 can be presented to the Board for their  
20 review and ultimate approval.

21 That can happen in September,  
22 it can happen in December depending on how  
23 much feedback and how much back and forth  
24 that the Board is interested in providing  
25 staff. But ultimately, this is a work --

1 this is our work. And we are the ones, as  
2 staff, to implement it. And so, you know,  
3 once the draft becomes available over the  
4 summer, we can make sure that we provide all  
5 of that to the Board prior to any -- prior  
6 to presenting it to you for action in all  
7 our work.

8 So what this memo is really  
9 requesting is a not to exceed amount of  
10 \$40,000.00 as part of our budget for FY26 to  
11 develop and prepare a comprehensive  
12 strategic plan for review and adoption -- I  
13 say at the fall of 2025 meeting, but it  
14 could be also at the December one --  
15 whichever the Board prefers.

16  
17 MR. HILBERT: Thank you. The  
18 threats to young people are constantly  
19 evolving. You know, growing up in the '50's  
20 and '60's, it was about seat belts.

21 You know, we were probably --  
22 if you were created in the '50's, you were  
23 probably talking about seat belts. And  
24 there's always a change in the risk  
25 environment that we are subject to. And

1 this strategic planning process will look at  
2 that constant changing risk assessment. I  
3 know now we're looking at some things on  
4 vaccines we've never looked at before.

5 And -- and that may impact  
6 Virginia at some point in time. This is the  
7 purpose of the strategic plan, to look at  
8 those kinds of -- of emerging threats and to  
9 see that we can respond to them when it  
10 becomes necessary.

11  
12 MR. HUGHES: Absolutely. This  
13 Virginia plan is a fancy spot analysis.  
14 What are the strengths, what are weaknesses,  
15 what are the threats, what are the  
16 opportunities.

17 And that -- it's at an  
18 organizational level that's done. And you  
19 know, if -- you, we're talking to committees  
20 at the General Assembly about the work that  
21 we're doing and they're, you know, putting  
22 together reports for the General Assembly  
23 members to consider. And if they felt the  
24 budget was really important that we have an  
25 active future. And it's important that our

1 plan addresses that. And it can be in broad  
2 strokes. A strategic plan is a living  
3 document.

4 The Board should be reviewing  
5 it, making sure it's still -- the direction  
6 that has been pitting us -- pitting us in  
7 the right direction. And that direction  
8 might change as the threats change to youth  
9 and how we -- how we respond.

10 And how the General Assembly  
11 tells us what are main mission is. As we --  
12 we originally were founded to focus on  
13 tobacco and nicotine prevention.

14 And we were -- because we did  
15 that well, the General Assembly said, well,  
16 there's obesity prevention. Healthy -- you  
17 know, making sure children are -- are  
18 working with that.

19 And then comes vaping and  
20 Fentanyl prevention. And so, you know, when  
21 you do something well, the General Assembly  
22 notices. And they, you know, I think that's  
23 when -- again, we want to make sure that  
24 this plan is following what our enabling  
25 legislation says -- you know, putting us in

1 the right direction so that we can implement  
2 -- so that staff can implement a plan that  
3 this board approves.  
4

5 MR. JOHNSON: That -- that's good  
6 to hear. And -- but at the same time, the  
7 General Assembly needs to know from people  
8 on the ground, you know, who are interacting  
9 with young people around the state and what  
10 have you about the emerging threats that we  
11 might have so we can make adjustments to the  
12 business that we conduct.

13 And as you've seen, it's  
14 already changed significantly since the days  
15 that the Foundation was born.  
16

17 MR. SORRELL: Absolutely.  
18 Absolutely. I think celebrating our 25th  
19 anniversary, we -- you really can see that,  
20 you know, we've been here. But if we're  
21 going to go here, what do we need to do to  
22 prepare ourselves for that.  
23

24 DR. O'BANNON: Okay. Sarah.  
25

1 MS. HOLLAND: Just a quick  
2 question. We had organization and strategic  
3 planning not that long ago. And the worst  
4 thing than being late is coming back before  
5 you all.

6 And I just want to make sure  
7 you've got enough money in here to do  
8 exactly what you feel like needs to be done,  
9 particularly when members of the Board are  
10 looking at the environmental analysis as  
11 well as the succession planning and all  
12 that.

13  
14 DR. O'BANNON: Pat.

15  
16 MS. KOVAL: Andy, I was getting  
17 ready to say the same thing. I -- I, having  
18 done work with both large event planning and  
19 with strategic planning. I -- I'd switch  
20 some of that money out.

21 I -- I think you can do the  
22 event planning less. But that -- this is  
23 really low for a strategic plan that may go  
24 and need a broader scope.

25

1 MR. SORRELL: It is -- it is a  
2 lower amount. The amount was mostly to take  
3 a broader look at where we were today,  
4 utilizing plans from the past to take a look  
5 at where we might want to go in the future.

6 And we want to have more input  
7 sessions from both the Board and from the  
8 public and from other stakeholders. And it  
9 would need to be more money. I think that  
10 in the past we've focused on preparing a  
11 plan, presenting it to the Board.

12 But we welcome any impact --  
13 or any input that the Board might have. And  
14 if the Board desires to provide their  
15 feedback and give us that, that just makes  
16 strong -- stronger plans.

17  
18 MS. HOLLAND: I agree with you that  
19 given that the situation we're in right now,  
20 given all the time -- given the fact that  
21 the organization has definitely done a lot  
22 of good work, you need to give yourself the  
23 resources that you need to be able to do the  
24 thing you need.

25

1 DR. O'BANNON: Mr. Pearson is on  
2 the policy, personnel and development --

3  
4 MR. PEARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
5 I would just suggest, in light of everything  
6 that's being said. And it sounds like there  
7 are lots of folks on the Board who are  
8 interested in the strategic vision of the  
9 organization going forward.

10 And I think Andy's right to  
11 point out that there are some potential  
12 changes coming down the road that we need to  
13 be prepared for.

14 And it's so this foundation  
15 can continue to be successful and perform  
16 the mission its tasked of. So one thought I  
17 had is that given the interest we've had and  
18 the feedback on previous plans, it would be  
19 helpful to form some sort of ad hoc  
20 committee from among the Board to work with  
21 whatever consultant is retained with the  
22 Board and the organization to help advise on  
23 the strategic planning going forward over  
24 the next several months. Given that we only  
25 meet two or three times a year as a whole

1 board but knowing this needs to be done  
2 fairly quickly to have a group of us working  
3 with the consultants and with staff from the  
4 Foundation to advise and to give impact --  
5 to give input and get feedback. And help  
6 shape this vision the way we all want it to  
7 go. So I'll be --

8  
9 DR. O'BANNON: You're a good policy  
10 and personnel to develop a committee in a  
11 fair amount of time. And a couple of  
12 things, this very timely, it's very  
13 important right now. We're at a crossroads.

14 And if -- we don't know how  
15 things are going to go. So all of the  
16 things that -- particularly one that you  
17 mentioned that are very important.

18 I am supportive of and -- and  
19 our committee that won't have to change the  
20 bylaws to do this. And Randy Pearson would  
21 be a good person to chair that, I thought.

22 With -- with anybody who's  
23 interested and who's got expertise is -- is  
24 the plan to have input from every member of  
25 this Board as we go down this road. And

1 it's timely, so it's going to happen over  
2 the summer and fall. Anybody else?

3  
4 MR. PEARSON: I'll just note,  
5 Mr. Chairman, that the bylaws state that for  
6 an ad hoc committee that you need to have at  
7 least three members.

8  
9 DR. O'BANNON: Well, we'll have  
10 more than that. Let me just say for those  
11 of you -- your executive committee is always  
12 empowered to address a budget issue in  
13 essence, whenever needed.

14 So we happen to have a  
15 mechanism in place to adjust the dollars as  
16 we need to do going forward. So I would  
17 love to entertain a motion that we proceed  
18 with the long term planning, that we form an  
19 ad hoc committee with Mr. Pearson as the  
20 chairman.

21 And anybody that wants to  
22 volunteer please let him or Andy or me know.  
23 And we will move forward on this as far as  
24 we can go.

1 MR. JOHNSON: I move that.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: Do we have a second?

4  
5 MS. SHAIYA: Second.

6  
7 DR. O'BANNON: All right. So we  
8 can either do that now, or we can let them  
9 take -- we'll base it on -- I mean, I don't  
10 have any strong feelings about it.

11  
12 MR. SORRELL: I definitely feel  
13 that \$40,000.00 would be enough to get us  
14 started with that process. We need to put  
15 it to a vote to be clear.

16  
17 DR. O'BANNON: There was a motion  
18 and a second. Any further discussion? All  
19 in favor please say aye.

20  
21 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

22  
23 DR. O'BANNON: All opposed? Okay,  
24 thank you all very much.

1 DR. QURESHI: Let Mr. Pearson  
2 select his group. I'm here.

3  
4 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Partner  
5 funding.

6  
7 MR. SORRELL: Okay, thank you,  
8 Mr. Chairman. As you saw in your packet,  
9 reorganization at the US Department of  
10 Health and Human Services Department at the  
11 federal level is resulting in some major  
12 reductions in the federal funding -- that's  
13 the facts.

14 You know, VFHY has been  
15 notified by its partners with -- at the  
16 Tobacco Control Program and the Virginia  
17 Department of Health that due to some of  
18 these budget cuts that the Virginia Tobacco  
19 Control Program will be impacted soon.

20 So this is the program that's  
21 been around for a long time. But the bottom  
22 line -- and Joe might be able to, you know,  
23 concur with this. But 90% of VDH's funding  
24 comes from federal sources. And 100% of the  
25 Tobacco Control program funding has come

1 from federal sources in the past. And a key  
2 program of this Tobacco Control Program is  
3 Virginia Quitline. And that provides free  
4 tobacco and nicotine cessation resources.

5 Ultimately, the federal  
6 funding reductions will result in no funding  
7 for its Tobacco Control Program. And its  
8 programs in Virginia will result -- much  
9 with -- ultimately result in the  
10 discontinuation of the Virginia Quit Now  
11 program due to this lack of funding.

12 VDH has also noted -- VDH  
13 staff has also -- notes that the current  
14 annual cost for running the Quitline is  
15 about \$650,000.00. A smaller version of  
16 that can provide a basic level of service  
17 for about \$491,000.00 annually.

18 VDH has approached its state  
19 partners, like us and VDHBS and DMAS and  
20 others about ways to prevent the Quitline  
21 from ending due to the lack of the federal  
22 funding that it has apparently utilized for  
23 funding. In review of the FY26 budget,  
24 staff notifying that there could potentially  
25 be a maximum of up to \$150,000.00 that could

1 be utilized from the funds received from the  
2 JUUL settlement or from the ENDS fund that  
3 could be applied towards this for a stopgap  
4 measure to keep the Quitline from being  
5 discontinued.

6 While utilizing a portion of  
7 the JUUL settlement fund for the Quitline  
8 will result in some programming loss to us  
9 because we won't be using it for otheother  
10 -- other items.

11 It would keep a valuable  
12 resource available and active for  
13 Virginians. You know, it -- it is -- it's  
14 VFHY staff's hope that, you know, other  
15 partners will consider, you know, chipping  
16 in as well to ensure that this is not  
17 something that -- that goes away.

18 And I also recently received,  
19 you know, information from Tobacco Alliance,  
20 TOGAV, Tobacco Grade Alliance of Virginia.  
21 That's also going to go away. Their funding  
22 would go away without federal funds. So  
23 fortunately, this fund could potentially be  
24 used to help offset that on a temporary  
25 basis. I think that we're all looking at,

1 you know, sort of tight budgets. And in the  
2 absence of a sort of a help from partners,  
3 these type of things may go away. And once  
4 they go away, it's very difficult to  
5 recreate something that's -- that goes away.

6 And so what you have in front  
7 of you is a -- a request for a do not exceed  
8 amount of up to \$150,000.00 as part of the  
9 FY26 budget for a one-time funding  
10 assistance with the help of the Virginia  
11 Department of Health.

12 I'm thinking that -- and  
13 they'll assist the Virginia Quitline. But  
14 frankly, it should just be saved to support  
15 the Virginia Tobacco Control Program, to  
16 keep it from going.

17 The aspect of it that are  
18 keenly important to Virginians that we can  
19 help with. If there's anything that -- that  
20 you'd like to add to that, Joe, based on  
21 your experience with it.

22  
23 MR. HILBERT: Mr. Chairman, no. I  
24 mean, this summarizes it pretty well. It's  
25 totally dependent on federal funding for

1 this program -- federal funding is going  
2 away. We are aware of the JUUL settlement.  
3 We've not been a part of that. This program  
4 does not benefit from that.

5 And I know there've been some  
6 discussions with me and various folks about  
7 that. So this would certainly be -- be very  
8 helpful.

9  
10 DR. O'BANNON: Sarah Holland.

11  
12 MS. HOLLAND: I just had a question  
13 about -- and I think -- obviously, this  
14 leads to a much bigger issue and the  
15 Quitline is -- is one small casualty of a  
16 much more macro problem. But in thinking  
17 about -- so for the FY26 budget to spend  
18 less.

19 Like it -- it what's the --  
20 what's the longer term plan or is -- is this  
21 simply a stopgap and we'll be revisiting  
22 this in a year with the same \$150,000.00?  
23 Or is there a thought -- I guess I'm just  
24 acknowledging that we're already dealing  
25 with the crisis of our budget. And -- and

1 I'm not trying to diminish the Quitline by  
2 this statement. But -- and it's not a  
3 little amount by any imagination.

4 But I'm also just thinking  
5 about the longer term implications of either  
6 we'll be pulling \$150,000.00 from other  
7 sources going on in perpetuity? Or what is  
8 the longer conversation towards the --

9  
10 MR. SORRELL: That's an excellent  
11 question. And it's one that's on the very  
12 tip of our minds as well. That is -- this  
13 is not something that we had funded and we  
14 don't want to be perpetually funding  
15 something that has been funded by other  
16 sources, you know, if we don't -- if we fund  
17 that then that's taking away from other key  
18 programs that are already operating.

19 And frankly, our staff has  
20 already stretched thin in order to able to  
21 provide the services that we do. So this is  
22 really a stopgap at this particular point in  
23 time. You know, they have carryover funds  
24 that I believe is -- you know, they're  
25 trying to spend down. But you know, it

1 absolutely needs to be revisited in the  
2 future. And frankly, with this plan there's  
3 an opportunity to --

4  
5 MS. HOLLAND: Yeah. And again, I'm  
6 not -- I'm not against doing it. I think  
7 it's just -- I just feel like there needs to  
8 be a broader conversation --

9  
10 MR. SORRELL: Absolutely.

11  
12 MS. HOLLAND: -- about what are  
13 other programs that the Department of Health  
14 is cutting right now that are going to be  
15 impacting the populations that this  
16 foundation serves and the work that the  
17 Foundation does because I know the Quitline  
18 isn't the only one.

19 And so there -- if we're going  
20 to allocate \$150,000.00 for supplementing  
21 what was federal funding and include the  
22 best use of the \$150,000.00.

23  
24 MR. SORRELL: That's a fair  
25 question.

1 DR. O'BANNON: Yes, ma'am.

2  
3 DR. ROWLAND: Yes. I - I use the  
4 Quitline in my office with parents all the  
5 time. So as a pediatrician, I need  
6 something really quick, I pull it up on the  
7 computer. So I use it all the time. Do you  
8 know how many Virginians are accessing this?  
9 Because then that gives us more --

10  
11 MR. SORRELL: Yes. The -- the  
12 Health Department staff has put together a  
13 fact sheet on this. I'd be happy to share  
14 that with you that certainly lays that  
15 information -- the key facts about the  
16 Quitline.

17 But I think it's one that's  
18 its distinction is that only receives  
19 federal -- federal funding, that the states  
20 don't also contribute any funding towards  
21 it. It's what the Health Department said it  
22 means.

23  
24 DR. O'BANNON: I think you answered  
25 you own question.

1 DR. ROWLAND: That there's access,  
2 yeah. I was just wondering about numbers  
3 because I'm -- I'm using it. And it's -- it  
4 seems like if you need testimonials, it's  
5 very, very helpful for us out in the  
6 grassroots trying to do something quick in  
7 the office.

8 And then it has trickled down  
9 to the youth, of course. Because if we can  
10 get the parents to stop smoking -- and  
11 often, they don't have primary doctors. But  
12 if I say you can text this Quitline, it's  
13 free, it's --

14  
15 DR. O'BANNON: That's very --

16  
17 DR. ROWLAND: -- it's received well  
18 in the office.

19  
20 DR. O'BANNON: It's anticipated to  
21 be one time, but it's in the budget. And  
22 everything will be up open for review and  
23 decide on where we go. Is there a motion?

24  
25 MR. PEARSON: So moved.

1 DR. O'BANNON: What's your motion?  
2 To approve it?

3  
4 MR. PEARSON: Yeah. Is there a  
5 second?

6  
7 MS. SHAIYA: Second.

8  
9 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. Any more  
10 discussion? All in favor, please say aye.

11  
12 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

13  
14 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you all.  
15 Okay. I think the next two items are for a  
16 vote of the entire body. They're not  
17 technically under any agreement that we  
18 have. And so, Andy, if you would present  
19 those.

20  
21 MR. SORRELL: Yeah. First up is  
22 the Catchafire contest. Michael, do you  
23 want to just sort of mention -- describe a  
24 little bit about Catchafire and what its  
25 purpose is and how it helps our grantees in

1 terms of the program.

2  
3 MR. PARSONS: Sure. Catchafire is  
4 a national organization that we've  
5 contracted with over the past two years.  
6 They've been out to each of our nearly 100  
7 grantees with highly skilled professionals  
8 across country to help build their capacity.

9 So it could be a community  
10 service board who needs help re-vamping  
11 their web site. It could be a small school  
12 system who wants to translate materials into  
13 Spanish. Mexicans are a much larger group  
14 of extra volunteers. That's pretty much it.

15  
16 MR. SORRELL: And we've had this  
17 for how long?

18  
19 MR. PARSONS: Five years.

20  
21 MR. SORRELL: Five years so far.  
22 And what we would be requesting of the Board  
23 at this time would be selecting Catchafire  
24 for a three-year award with an annual amount  
25 not to exceed \$105,000.00 -- which is what

1           it's been for the last five years. And  
2           again, we want to make sure that we have the  
3           volume to promote the work, making decisions  
4           and have it reflected in the budget to work  
5           with later on.

6  
7                         DR. O'BANNON: Questions? Is there  
8           a motion?

9  
10                        MR. JOHNSON: Is this a national  
11           award?

12  
13                        MR. PARSONS: It is. They're based  
14           out of DC with their national team.

15  
16                        MR. JOHNSON: Motion to approve.

17  
18                        DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

19  
20                        MS. SHAIYA: I make the motion to  
21           approve --

22  
23                        DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. All in  
24           favor, say aye.

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: I'll let you know  
4 that the hotel's maintenance folks  
5 apparently are enroute trying to fix the air  
6 condition. But we're using a slightly lower  
7 tech right now. This is a substitute.  
8 Okay, graphic and web design.

9  
10 MR. SORRELL: Yes. That's the --  
11 this is our public relations. Basically,  
12 this is an RFP -- we submitted an RFP that  
13 by the end of this fiscal year for a  
14 contractor that would be selected to provide  
15 services towards communication, our web  
16 site, and the printed materials, social  
17 media, things like that.

18 It would be for our external  
19 audiences in promoting the Foundation for  
20 Healthy Youth. And so, we're bringing this  
21 year and requests that they might have  
22 that's getting out information and media  
23 images. But this would be more a contractor  
24 would be selected as part of our process for  
25 a five-year award with the amount not to

1 exceed \$200,000.00.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Any  
4 questions? Any motions?

5  
6 MR. PEARSON: Move to approve.

7  
8 DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

9  
10 MS. MAZICH: Second.

11  
12 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. Any  
13 discussion? All in favor, please say aye?

14  
15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16  
17 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Under  
18 marketing, I think somebody from marketing  
19 we need --

20  
21 MR. DORAZIO: Remind me -- are we  
22 going to be part of the marketing report?  
23 What do you say, Danny?

24  
25 MR. SAGGESE: Oh, whatever you guys

1 want.

2  
3 MR. DORAZIO: We could do it the  
4 same way that you --

5  
6 MR. SAGGESE: Knock it out right  
7 now.

8  
9 DR. O'BANNON: Well, as far as the  
10 marketing report goes --

11  
12 MR. DORAZIO: Do you want to do it  
13 -- could it be done as a part of the  
14 marketing report?

15  
16 MR. SORRELL: Mr. Chairman?

17  
18 DR. O'BANNON: Yes. I think you  
19 can bring up one other.

20  
21 MR. MARSDEN: This fall, I'm  
22 planning on putting together Zoom conference  
23 in the fall and an online booklet that --  
24 we're calling it Virginia by the Numbers.  
25 And what we want to do is -- just a one-page

1 thing on any number of topics that somebody  
2 can prevent -- can present in two to three,  
3 four minutes to just highlight what's going  
4 on.

5 We're -- we're in a field of  
6 service -- where it's been, where it is,  
7 where it's going, how it's trending. And to  
8 be able to put that together, I may be  
9 contacting you.

10 So if we're represented in  
11 that in terms of the work we've done, where  
12 we were when we started it, where it is now,  
13 where it's going, what are the new threats  
14 -- that type of -- of thing.

15 And it's just quick and dirty  
16 for legislators who have to know so many  
17 different things and can only go so deep in  
18 them that they have a reference guide.

19 And it'll be good to know --  
20 for the people to know what we're doing here  
21 and the success that we've had. And to be  
22 able to digest that in 30 seconds or less,  
23 that ought to be some solution for help.

24  
25 DR. O'BANNON: We appreciate your

1 interest in that work. Thank you. All  
2 right. We will now -- any other new  
3 business? We'll move on to committee  
4 reports. We'll start with marketing.

5  
6 MR. SAGGESE: Hey.

7  
8 DR. O'BANNON: Big dollars.

9  
10 MR. SAGGESE: My report other than  
11 the new business I've been talking about  
12 this year of the marketing committee.  
13 Mr. Hilbert is to thank this entity for its  
14 support, its support -- which allows me to  
15 thank Kellen and London for their  
16 presentation today.

17 Just a reminder, they are  
18 representing 70 leadership team youth  
19 throughout Virginia, in which that  
20 represents about 1,000 youth that we have  
21 trained each and every year that are working  
22 on health initiatives in their local  
23 community. And I really appreciated the  
24 question from Dr. Rowland. Because you got  
25 to hear the expertise that they are bringing

1 to the table. And -- and Kellen saying,  
2 hey, this is hard work and you've got to  
3 stick at it. And -- and London suggesting  
4 that it's not opinion.

5 It is based on all of those  
6 measures of influence that they are  
7 collecting from Virginians. Which, by the  
8 way, is about 8,000 strong for each of the  
9 brands for this particular year.

10 And the result is -- is them  
11 actually doing the professional work. They  
12 are true partners in this effort to change  
13 the health outcomes in the Commonwealth for  
14 -- for good.

15 They achieved 20 different  
16 localities approving policy change. And  
17 that is either done through a school board  
18 or through the municipality. So they are --  
19 they are actually doing the great work.

20 And they are -- they're  
21 partners of ours in this effort. I just  
22 want to say thanks again. And it's that --  
23 we hope we get to continue this. I'm going  
24 to toss it to Mr. Hilbert for the report.

1 DR. O'BANNON: Mr. Hilbert.

2  
3 MR. HILBERT: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. So what  
5 you have before you is the marketing  
6 committee's report and recommendation that a  
7 series of contracts that were competitively  
8 awarded a little over a year ago following a  
9 competitive process.

10 And they must all be extended  
11 for one year. There's three categories.  
12 One is first the social marketing  
13 initiatives, messaging, web, digital design  
14 and media.

15 We have four vendors and they  
16 are Rescue Agency, Siddall, Channel and Two  
17 Tango. They've all been performing very  
18 well. We recommend a one-year extension for  
19 those contracts for an amount not to exceed  
20 what's stated on the document.

21 The second category is  
22 evaluation of and research for our social  
23 marketing initiatives. Two -- two  
24 contractors there, Market Decisions Research  
25 and, again, Rescue Agency for the amounts

1 not to exceed what's stated. And the third  
2 is for youth engagement, volunteerism and  
3 advocacy. And again, our contractor there  
4 is Rescue Agency.

5 They've done a really great  
6 job with communicating with Y Street, for an  
7 amount not to exceed \$3M. So it is our  
8 recommendation all of these contracts be  
9 extended one year.

10  
11 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Any  
12 members of the committee have anything they  
13 want to add? Any questions? I will say one  
14 thing, for those of us that are not on the  
15 marketing committee.

16 One of the reasons we have  
17 been successful for a very long time is that  
18 we objectively measure how we spend this  
19 money. So when you look at this, we're  
20 doing evaluations of the social media.

21 We can use that data to do  
22 planning and moving forward. So I just want  
23 to make everybody aware that -- where we  
24 are. Any further discussion? Is there a  
25 motion?

1 MR. PEARSON: Move to approve.

2

3 DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

4

5 MS. HOLLAND: Second.

6

7 DR. O'BANNON: Any further  
8 discussion? All in favor, please say aye.

9

10 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

11

12 DR. O'BANNON: Okay, good.  
13 Anything else from the committee.

14

15 MR. HILBERT: That's it.

16

17 DR. O'BANNON: Policy, personnel  
18 and bylaws.

19

20 MR. SORRELL: Well, I guess we  
21 don't have our chairman of that committee.  
22 In fact, Karen Addison -- she is. But I'd  
23 be happy to run --

24

25 DR. O'BANNON: Why don't you go

1 ahead and run through these issues that we  
2 have.

3  
4 MR. SORRELL: Certainly, certainly.  
5 I've got so many tabs in my notebook. And  
6 they're multi-colored and they allow my  
7 brain to keep up with it all.

8 Okay, so in your packet you --  
9 the Board members all saw the procurement  
10 manual. Bottom line is we keep track of  
11 changes needed from the procurement manual.

12 We make those changes  
13 throughout the year and then in the editable  
14 document, we can present them to the Board  
15 for adoption once a year.

16 We did this at our January-  
17 February meeting, but we didn't have a  
18 quorum. So anyhow, this is what -- you  
19 know, that's why that's in front of you  
20 today.

21 One of the major changes was  
22 just to more clearly defining what a grant  
23 is versus a procurement. And you know, I  
24 worked with Robin, our AG counsel, to make  
25 sure that we -- that was clear in terms of

1           how we address that. Because you know, in  
2           our procurement manual, it's a little bit  
3           different. We're not fully a state agency,  
4           but we do follow the Virginia Public  
5           Procurement Act.

6                         So there's room for  
7           inconsistencies there that we need to make  
8           sure that we don't run into problems. So  
9           that's what the changes in that policy.

10  
11                        DR. O'BANNON: All right. That  
12           comes from committee and it doesn't need a  
13           second. Any questions on the discussion of  
14           our procurement act? Is there a motion to  
15           adopt it?

16  
17                        MR. JOHNSON: So moved.

18  
19                        DR. O'BANNON: Second?

20  
21                        MS. MAZICH: Second.

22  
23                        DR. O'BANNON: All in favor, say  
24           aye.

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: Next item.

4  
5 MR. SORRELL: Okay. Thank you,  
6 Mr. Chairman. HR manual, human resources  
7 manual. Again, very similar, to keep track  
8 of the change, we review with our counsel to  
9 make sure that we're up to date.

10 We work with our HR manager --  
11 finance and HR manager, Wilma created double  
12 duty there. Make sure that we've got things  
13 that are current and up to date. Happy to  
14 review any of those changes that we've made.

15  
16 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Is there  
17 any questions? Is there a motion?

18  
19 MR. PEARSON: Move to approve.

20  
21 DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

22  
23 MS. SHAIA: Second.

24  
25 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. All in

1 favor, say aye.

2  
3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4  
5 MR. SORRELL: All right.

6 Electronic meeting policy is up next.

7 Again, this is something that was last  
8 revised back in September of '22 when we  
9 were just coming out of the pandemic.

10 The General Assembly made  
11 pages in the fall of -- I mean, in the 2024  
12 session. This reflects those changes and  
13 makes sure that -- you know, one of the key  
14 things is that we need to review -- update  
15 our -- approval this policy annually.

16 And so that we'll be coming  
17 back to you to make sure it's up to date,  
18 current. And we're also going to make sure  
19 that our bylaws are -- bylaws were last  
20 updated in 2017, so we might need to update  
21 them to reflect our current electronic  
22 meeting policy. So policy and planning will  
23 be taking a look at that later on in the  
24 fall. But generally, this is reflecting the  
25 Code and how it relates to us. So I'm happy

1 to answer questions.

2  
3 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Any  
4 questions? Is there a motion?

5  
6 MR. PEARSON: Move to approve.

7  
8 DR. O'BANNON: Second?

9  
10 MS. HOLLAND: Second.

11  
12 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. All in  
13 favor, say aye.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16  
17 DR. O'BANNON: All right. Let's  
18 slow us down just a little and talk a little  
19 bit about the endowment policy.

20  
21 MR. SORRELL: The endowment policy.  
22 So you might recall that at your September  
23 meeting last year, the Board discussed  
24 having the policy management practices or  
25 policies on how to -- how to handle the

1 endowment. As you remember, about \$6M was  
2 put into the Foundation's endowment back in  
3 2023. And since that time period, it's  
4 basically been building interest to the tune  
5 of about \$500,000.00 on top of that.

6 And so, this is a policy that  
7 sort of establishes what the Board's  
8 management principles might be, and then the  
9 practices that actually implement them.

10 And so, this was presented to  
11 the Board back in January and again, since  
12 we didn't have a quorum we -- there was no  
13 action taken on it. But -- so it's up  
14 again.

15 And I think the key things  
16 are, you know, I think in your packet it  
17 includes the whole thing. It's a couple of  
18 pages, but I'll just highlight some things.

19 You know, really what we're  
20 trying to do is maintain and grow, if  
21 possible, what the initial amount was. Add  
22 to it when there's carry forward. If  
23 needed, apply that interest to key events  
24 like the Champions for Youth Summit. And if  
25 there ever is a time where there's a funding

1 gap that is going to impact our critical  
2 business functions or our public purpose, to  
3 access it for something like that.

4 The Code is very specific --  
5 the Code of Virginia is very specific on how  
6 and -- how we can access that money and how  
7 we can take it out. All that is required is  
8 Board approval.

9 And if we were to do that,  
10 we'd present that to the Board for their  
11 approval. But it's basically no more than  
12 10- or 15% of that \$6M. So at any one time  
13 in any one year, you can only take out  
14 \$600,000.00.

15 So anyhow, it's not a huge  
16 amount, but it could be a stopgap if we need  
17 it. And so the practice has addressed at --  
18 meaning the Code portion. Initially when  
19 this was drafted, there was a little bit  
20 fervor languaging.

21 Shall apply this to your  
22 budget planning cycle, but at the same time,  
23 as we were planning the budget this year, we  
24 said, you know, shall's are pretty firm.  
25 Let's do may's and let's do if needed's.

1 And so we said, if needed as part of our  
2 budget planning cycle, utilize an interest  
3 income that comes in.

4 Consider it a part of the  
5 planning -- budget planning cycle that if a  
6 carry forward exists, depositing a portion  
7 of that into the endowment.

8 And is a temporary funding gap  
9 that impacts our critical business  
10 functions, we can address it that way as  
11 well. I'm meeting with the Department of  
12 Treasury staff in the next week or so.

13 I understand it's more  
14 interesting and how it gets over to our  
15 account or doesn't get over to our account  
16 because it does pretty specifically say this  
17 interest shall be transferred and it's still  
18 there.

19 So we'll find out why the --  
20 what the process for that is and -- and  
21 everything. But that's basically what we're  
22 talking about with this kind of policy.

23  
24 DR. O'BANNON: Okay. Any  
25 questions? This comes from your policy

1 personnel and bylaws committee. It's good  
2 to have a rainy day fund. It may be swept  
3 if things get really bad.

4 But having -- how it's  
5 accessed is spelled out specifically in our  
6 part of the Code. So it's all pretty  
7 straight forward. Is there a motion?

8  
9 MR. PEARSON: Move to approve.

10  
11 DR. O'BANNON: Second?

12  
13 MR. JOHNSON: Second.

14  
15 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you. Any  
16 discussion? All in favor, please say aye.

17  
18 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

19  
20 DR. O'BANNON: We're getting close.  
21 Programs.

22  
23 MS. HOLLAND: All right. I am  
24 happy to say we've got 96 grants throughout  
25 the Commonwealth. They're supporting

1 obesity prevention programs, tobacco use  
2 prevention programs and Fentanyl prevention  
3 programs.

4 We also have published on the  
5 web site some pretty great educational  
6 materials that are free and accessible for  
7 anyone to access related to hemp projects as  
8 well as the danger of Fentanyl.

9 And they're looking at doing  
10 an overhaul of the nicotine product  
11 prevention lessons, but those are quite done  
12 yet.

13 But the big thing that we want  
14 to make sure that the Board knows is we have  
15 an RFP coming out for childhood obesity  
16 prevention grants in August.

17 So we definitely need folks to  
18 help share information about the how and  
19 why, so we get some really awesome  
20 applications. Anything else? I'm well-  
21 scripted.

22  
23 DR. O'BANNON: Well done, that's  
24 great. Thank you. Any questions? All  
25 right, Research.

1 MS. BROWN: Hello. I'm speaking on  
2 behalf of Pat Hughes who had to leave a  
3 little bit early. From the Research  
4 committee, today we talked about Virginia  
5 Youth Survey -- which is a super-important  
6 survey that we all look forward to getting  
7 the data from.

8 And it will be happening again  
9 in the fall of 2025. CDC pulls a sample and  
10 it's about 3,000 middle school students --  
11 I'm sorry. It's 3,000 high school students  
12 and 2,000 middle school students that take  
13 this every other year.

14 Right now, it'll be 60 middle  
15 schools and 60 high schools. We do not have  
16 that list, but we should have that list in  
17 late July or early August, and we will  
18 definitely share it with you.

19 So if there's any advocacy  
20 that needs to be done that can encourage  
21 school systems to participate, we will be in  
22 touch for sure. The survey has been  
23 developed and it will be on VDH's web site  
24 soon for you to review and just see the  
25 survey questions. It's about 90 questions

1 for high schoolers and about 50 for middle  
2 schoolers. So that will be in the fall.  
3 And then this summer, I -- as the staffer in  
4 charge of the Research grants -- will be  
5 conducting site visits with our current  
6 six-funded research grants.

7 So I look forward to going out  
8 to their labs and what not and finding out  
9 what they've been doing. And this is the  
10 first year we'll have one-year grants.

11 That's all I have.

12  
13 DR. O'BANNON: Great. The Youth  
14 Survey is a really big deal. It's been a  
15 long time and I really look forward to that.  
16 Okay. Last item is the proposed budget for  
17 the coming fiscal year. Andy.

18  
19 MR. SORRELL: Thank you,  
20 Mr. Chairman. There was a emailed memo in  
21 your packets. I will go over the high  
22 points. But as you guys know, the Board  
23 adopted your two -- a two-year budget at our  
24 spring meeting every year. The first year  
25 is our operating budget for the next fiscal

1 year. And the second year is the estimated  
2 budget that will ensure that we have funding  
3 available for these multi-year contracts  
4 like those I just mentioned for two years.

5 And so that's why you see  
6 estimates for two years versus just the one  
7 operating year. At our May 2025 meeting,  
8 the Board is considering the adoption of the  
9 '26 and '27 budget.

10 You'll notice that because of  
11 a lot of the second year funding is not yet  
12 known, that budget is usually a lot smaller  
13 -- and that's what you see in this as well.

14 This budget year is the last  
15 year, the biennium of the state budget year  
16 cycle. And a new biennium, so the members  
17 know, will be -- will be considered at this  
18 coming General Assembly session.

19 And so if there is any other  
20 budgetary items that we have that are a part  
21 of the state budget, the end settlement --  
22 JUUL settlement on the -- and date the funds  
23 that are not part of the -- the grant that  
24 we received, general fund dollars. That all  
25 has to be part of the budget again in the

1 next year. So that's not included in here  
2 because that's not been approved yet.

3 And so, the other additional  
4 funds that's not part of the state budget --  
5 that's typically part of our budget, again,  
6 Opioid Abatement Authority grant dollars --  
7 they don't approve those grants until the  
8 summer.

9 They follow the federal -- the  
10 federal fiscal year. And so that new fund  
11 won't be known until -- until August. So  
12 it's very possible that we'll come back  
13 before this board in September with a  
14 revised budget that includes that.

15 But when you get it, you know,  
16 you can't -- we can't guarantee anything.  
17 But typically when we submit a grant request  
18 to the members of the agency, it's reviewed  
19 by the health and human resources Secretary  
20 before we submit that.

21 And that's going to be done --  
22 that's currently under review and we would  
23 submit it. I think the deadline is May.  
24 We'll submit it to the Board. So basically,  
25 the -- the FY27 budget year is pretty small.

1 It includes a master settlement agreement  
2 estimated amount. Again, we don't know what  
3 that's going to be.

4 But if it's going to be seven  
5 percent less like it was the last couple of  
6 years, it's going to be less than what we  
7 have now.

8 And so, you know, I've  
9 instructed our program managers and our  
10 leadership team that we need to be  
11 resourceful and careful -- particularly when  
12 it comes to the next budget year.

13 Because there are still a lot  
14 of unknowns like Senator Marsden mentioned  
15 and Senator Favola mentioned in the state  
16 budget process for the next few years.

17 So what this budget does is it  
18 shows an operating budget for FY26 of  
19 approximately \$18,567,335.00. And that --  
20 that's our operating money that we have  
21 available. And of that, \$16,711,138.00  
22 would be -- would be utilized. The  
23 remaining money left over -- if you notice  
24 the few differences -- would be applied to  
25 what we estimate our MSA dollars will be in

1 -- received in -- next spring to give us  
2 that -- what is that number -- \$11.3M for  
3 FY27.

4 So yes, while we do have  
5 carryforward you see there, it's -- it's  
6 basically going into the '27 year so that we  
7 can make sure we meet our obligations for  
8 our grants.

9 And so the additional fund --  
10 we haven't necessarily felt as much of the  
11 impact over the declining impact of the MSA  
12 funds because of the additional dollars  
13 we've been successfully able to secure  
14 through our General Assembly partners and  
15 through our state budgeting process and also  
16 through grants.

17 But if those dollars aren't  
18 available and not part of the budget, it  
19 will be more impactful to our budget. And  
20 so at this point, I request -- you know --  
21 the Board adopt the budget as shown in your  
22 packet. It might be the last page or next  
23 to the last page that's dated today, and has  
24 '26 and '27. Happy to answer any questions.

25

1 DR. O'BANNON: Thank you, Andy.  
2 Any questions or comments? We've got two  
3 appropriators here. Any thoughts from  
4 Senator Favola or Senator Marsden?

5  
6 MR. MARSDEN: A lot of money, spend  
7 it well.

8  
9 DR. O'BANNON: Barbara?

10  
11 MS. HOLLAND: I think you're on  
12 mute.

13  
14 MS. FAVOLA: My apologies. I would  
15 just say that you're going to need to be  
16 flexible. So I think you may want to commit  
17 to a -- a narrower group of programs that  
18 you absolutely want to go forward with.

19 And then have a second tier of  
20 programs that sort of would be nice to have  
21 if you actually get the funding that you're  
22 asking for. It's going to be a very  
23 challenging year. There's so much  
24 uncertainty. You know, we don't know if  
25 we'll be in a recession. We don't know the

1 extent of cuts to some of our human services  
2 programs, especially the Medicaid programs  
3 where you expect to have cuts in -- in SNAP.  
4 And all of these things are going to add up  
5 to be quite a burden.

6 And even though we do have --  
7 the state does have a rainy day fund, a  
8 generous rainy day fund, our rainy day fund  
9 doesn't come anywhere near the impact will  
10 be that we have to address.

11 So I had to deliver such  
12 solemn news, but I just want you to be  
13 prepared in your planning stages to  
14 understand that what you're adopting is  
15 really -- it is really a plan that's subject  
16 to change is what I want to say.

17  
18 DR. O'BANNON: Great, thank you.

19  
20 MS. FAVOLA: Sorry about that.

21  
22 MR. MARSDEN: And one of the things  
23 we can count on to -- for the staff to be  
24 looking at is that the dreaded memo you get.  
25 I ran the Department of Juvenile Justice for

1 a time. You get the memo, prepare three,  
2 five and seven percent cuts, and we'll tell  
3 you which one we're going to adopt. But you  
4 know, be thinking early on around that  
5 process.

6 Because you know, it does take  
7 some time to come to possible terminations  
8 as to -- as to what you want to do. I don't  
9 think it's going to be a huge, huge impact  
10 this year with this budget.

11 But you know -- and the  
12 two-year budget, when that's adopted, we'll  
13 have a better idea of what's going on right  
14 now.

15 As Senator Favola said, it's  
16 not too certain because there is this great  
17 uncertainty out there as to where  
18 everything's going to land.

19  
20 DR. O'BANNON: Right. Today is a  
21 rainy day. And that's really good advice,  
22 which the long term planning could be --  
23 should take heed of -- of those comments.  
24 And I will remind everybody, including the  
25 staff, there's two ways to balance the

1 budget. One is cuts. The other is more  
2 money. So we need to be watchful of our  
3 budgeting going forward. So it is almost  
4 2:00 o'clock.

5 Is there any public comment?  
6 Going once, going twice. So I want to thank  
7 you all for coming. We've had a busy good  
8 meeting today, it's been productive.

9 I appreciate everybody  
10 choosing to come. Did you want to -- oh,  
11 I'm sorry. Is there a motion to adopt the  
12 budget?

13  
14 MR. PEARSON: Move to adopt the  
15 budget as presented, Mr. Chairman.

16  
17 DR. O'BANNON: Is there a second?

18  
19 MR. HUGHES: Second.

20  
21 DR. O'BANNON: All in favor, please  
22 say aye.

23  
24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

25

1 DR. O'BANNON: All opposed? Thank  
2 you all very much. So I thank the staff for  
3 all the good work. Thank you all for  
4 coming. Today's your last. Any thought?

5  
6 MS. KOVAL: Thank you. It's been  
7 -- I've never done anything as -- I'm more  
8 on the political side of things. And this  
9 is why I applied under the Northam  
10 Administration, but -- so it was a great  
11 honor to be re-appointed this last time.

12 And I have thoroughly enjoyed  
13 my time on the Board and especially working  
14 with the staff. So thanks.

15  
16 DR. O'BANNON: Ghulam.

17  
18 DR. QURESHI: Well?

19  
20 DR. O'BANNON: You get the last  
21 word.

22  
23 DR. QURESHI: I'm amazed at what's  
24 going on. And I'm so frustrated at the way  
25 that every corner there's a shop, smoke.

1 And -- and how did that happen? When did  
2 that rise? The legislature, I understand,  
3 had to approve these things. They knew that  
4 they -- that they market.

5 It's driving things, no doubt  
6 about that. But is there anybody who says,  
7 be sensible in what we are doing, you know.  
8 And I want -- you guys are there, you know.  
9 But if we don't -- it's getting out of hand.

10 Are children doing all of  
11 this? I attended a lecture the other day at  
12 MCV. This guy, he's a professor, he gave a  
13 strong remark.

14 And he showed that those guys  
15 who were on dope, you know, and -- the brain  
16 shrinks. There are anatomical changes  
17 taking place right in front of your eyes.  
18 Who do we show this to?

19 And who's responsible for  
20 showing this to parents and these kids in  
21 school? Isn't there a way that we could  
22 show them -- the headmasters? Who do you  
23 invite to or not invite to see this data?  
24 There -- this is available. It's  
25 information -- it's medical information.

1           What's to happen to these kids when they get  
2           to be 40 years old, 30 years old? They'll  
3           be parents. It frightens me. It frightens  
4           me.

5  
6                   DR. O'BANNON: All right, that's  
7           why we're here.

8  
9                   DR. QURESHI: No, but there is no  
10          -- nothing to say. You -- you guys are very  
11          important to go on this way. I mean, very  
12          important. I'm on several committees  
13          everywhere -- boards, this and that. This  
14          is important, no question about it. This is  
15          your future.

16  
17                   DR. O'BANNON: You protect them  
18          with marijuana.

19  
20                   DR. QURESHI: You're right with  
21          marijuana.

22  
23                   DR. O'BANNON: All right, we're  
24          done. Oh, by the way. There's a delightful  
25          commending resolution pertaining to the

1 House of Delegates honors our 25 years. And  
2 so it's a little wordy, I'm not going to  
3 burden you and read it.

4 But if anybody would like to  
5 look at it, it's here and it's going to get  
6 framed and it'll be in our office. So with  
7 that, absent objection -- it's 2:00 o'clock  
8 and we're done. Thank you all.

9  
10 (The Board of Trustees meeting concluded at  
11 2:01 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I, Debroah Carter, hereby certify that I was the Court Reporter at the BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING for the VIRGINIA FOUNDATION for HEALTHY YOUTH, heard in Richmond, Virginia, on May 13th, 2025, at the time of the board of trustees meeting herein.

I further certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the testimony and other incidents of the board of trustees meeting herein.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of May, 2025.



Debroah Carter, CMRS, CCR  
Virginia Certified  
Court Reporter

My certification expires June 30, 2025.