

**Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission
Southern Virginia Committee Meeting
Commonwealth Ballroom, Richmond Marriott Short Pump
4240 Dominion Blvd, Glen Allen, VA 23060
Monday, January 12, 2026
10:15 A.M.**

Committee Members Present

Senator Lashrecse D. Aird, Chair	Delegate Thomas A. Garrett, Jr.
Mr. William A. Pace, Vice-Chair	Mr. Richard T. Hite, Jr.
Mr. H. Wayne Carter	Mr. Jay D. Jennings
Ms. Gretchen Clark	Delegate Daniel W. Marshall, III
Mr. Rob Clowdis	Mr. Arthur “Dale” Moore
Mr. Randy Everett	Deputy Secretary Michael Moran (for Sec. Segura)
Mr. Watt R. Foster, Jr.	Mr. Hampton Wilkins

Committee Members Absent

Senator L. Louise Lucas

Staff

Hon. James Campos	Ms. Stephanie Kim
Mr. Stephen Versen	Ms. Suzette Patterson
Mr. Warren Bryson	Mr. Jerry Silva
Mr. Jordan Butler	Ms. Roz Stein
Ms. Sarah Capps	Ms. Emily Van Pelt
Ms. Adrian Chapman	Ms. Sara Williams
Ms. Leah Gibson	Ms. Lyndsie Young

Counsel for the Commission

Ms. Elizabeth Myers, Assistant Attorney General

Southern Virginia Committee Chair Aird opened the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Director Campos called roll and determined that a quorum was present.

Commissioner Pace moved to approve the minutes from the Southern Virginia Committee’s last meeting on September 23, 2025; Commissioner Hite seconded; all present voted to approve.

Aird called for public comment; there was none.

Ms. Capps called committee members’ attention to the RFP for the Southern Virginia Program’s FY2026 grant round on pages 4-5 of the Board Book, noting that the original deadline of February 4, 2026, has been extended to February 25, 2025. Aird thanked Capps for including the RFP and encouraged committee members to review it because the document acts as the guide that informs recommendations that staff make for funding awards.

Capps presented extension and modification requests for the Southern Virginia Committee, outlined on pages 6 and 7 of the Board Book.

Pace moved that the Southern Virginia Committee accept staff's recommendations to: Reassign grant #4219 to the City of Danville for an award of \$459,000 as outlined in the Commission Book page 6; and approve a two-year extension of Project (#4166) through October 31, 2028 as outlined in the Commission Book on page 7; Jennings seconded; all present voted to approve the motion.

Capps presented an analysis of where and how the Commission's grant funds have been invested over the past five and ten years, information that has been used to develop a classification system for the program's database. In the five-year analysis, the largest portion of funds (50%) has gone to economic development sites, which includes the 5% toward infrastructure because these are almost always tied to sites; funding for agribusiness was 18% and business development was 14%. The ten-year analysis showed a similar proportional breakdown, along with information about funding levels to localities. The document also contains a historic analysis that includes all grants awarded since 2001; this incorporates awards from programs that no longer exist. Capps noted that staff has this data and can run these types of reports as requested.

Aird thanked staff for compiling the data and preparing the reports. Aird stated that she requested the inclusion of the RFP and the data analysis in the staff report to provide background and context to help the Committee make decisions based on the needs of the region, as well as to ask policy questions regarding the program's spending in the future. She encouraged Committee members to spend time reviewing the RFP and analyses to make sure they make sense in terms of what the region needs, and to ask staff any questions that come up. Marshall added that this information is very useful and spoke to the importance of understanding the context behind the data. Capps added that they designed the classification system so they could separate out investments in real property (land, buildings, etc.) for analysis.

Hite added his appreciation to staff for their efforts in reaching out to counties that have not received as much TRRC funding. Versen added that the directive to increase outreach came from the recent strategic plan, which gathered its information from local partners across the region. Garrett expressed his gratitude for the work that Marshall and Capp put into promoting the TRRC programs across the Southern region. Capps spoke to the difficulty of project development and identifying matching funds in more rural counties.

Aird called for any other business, and there was none.

Aird adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.