



AGENDA

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMITTEE

Peaks of Otter Lodge

85554 Blue Ridge Parkway, Bedford, VA

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

11:15 A.M.

In accordance with §2.2-3708.2.D.2 of the Code of Virginia, the public may witness this meeting electronically via a computer, phone or other electronic device by following the below link:

<https://virginiatobaccocommission.my.webex.com/virginiatobaccocommission.my/j.php?MTID=m4d406acea73aed98454a83a113c6e4bf>

Only audio and the chat box feature will be utilized for the electronic meeting no video will be available. The meeting may be accessed via telephone by dialing: 1-408-418-9388 (toll) and utilize the access code: 132 663 7916 and password: 84875737.

If you experience problems calling in, please call Mr. David Bringman at 804-894-9659 or email at: dbringman@revitalizeva.org

Welcome and Call to Order

The Honorable Chris Hurst, Chair

Call of the Roll

Evan Feinman, Executive Director

Approval of the 5/27/21 Minutes

(published on website)

Public Comments

Extensions and Modifications

Sara Williams, Southwest Regional Director

FY22 SWVA Application

Round Announcement

Sara Williams, Southwest Regional Director

Other Business

Evan Feinman, Executive Director

Public Comments

Adjournment

Southwest Virginia Committee

September 22, 2021

The Southwest Virginia Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 11:15 a.m. to consider extensions of five existing grants.

The Barter Foundation, Inc.

Expanding the Production Capacity of Barter Theatre, Phase 2 (#3071)

Approved for \$250,532 in September 2015 (\$66,163.32 balance)

Request for three-month extension

Staff Overview & Comments: This grant was intended to assist with costs related to renovating and upgrading Barter's costume shop. The project also received a \$500,000 award from Appalachian Regional Commission. In September 2020, the Commission approved a one-year extension and a significant budget revision to allow TRRC funds to be used to provide operating support while the Theater operated at limited capacity due to the pandemic. During the past year and a half, Barter has been limited to performances at the outdoor Moonlight Theater. Indoor performances will resume at the Theater's main stage later this month.

Because the budget revision for the ARC grant was not approved until December 2020, a delay was created for the TRRC grant. As a result, an additional extension is needed to continue to allow the balance of the grant to serve as the required match for the ARC funds. The project will be completed by December 31, 2021.

Staff recommends the approval of a three-month extension through December 31, 2021.

Floyd County EDA

Floyd Regional Commerce Center Phase II Development (#3191)

Approved for \$420,696 in September 2017 (\$406,273.75 balance)

Request for one-year extension

Staff Overview & Comments: The balance of this grant will be used for construction of utilities to serve the additional building pads that are under development at the Commerce Center. Phase II activities also include the construction of an access road that is funded through the ARC Access Road Program. The EDA made an additional request to the ARC Program because costs have increased. Currently, VDOT's schedule shows completion by September 2023. Under this timeline, TRRC should expect an additional extension request next year. Nevertheless, the project team is diligently pursuing the project and keeping Staff informed.

Staff recommends approval of a one-year extension through September 30, 2022.

Friends of Southwest Virginia

Building Appalachian Spring: Growing the Economy of Southwest Virginia through Developing Outdoor Recreation Destinations (#3198)

Approved for \$500,000 in September 2016 (\$206,053 balance)

Request for one-year extension

Staff Overview & Comments: The balance of this grant is allocated for three construction projects. The first, construction of the Damascus Trail Center, has been completed and final paperwork is being prepared. The second project, the High Knob Destination Center, will utilize the remainder of this grant. This project is on track and anticipates completion in November 2022. Currently, the local partner for the Center (the City of Norton) is waiting for final VDOT approval and will bid the project once the approval is received. Finally, the Haysi to Breaks trail construction project encountered a last minute roadblock related to Buchanan County's Section 202 Flood Program plans. This project, which would have resulted in the construction of a Riverwalk in Haysi, was ready for construction with over \$1M of funding committed. Due to the constraints for the Section 202 project, it is unlikely that the project will now proceed as planned. The grantee plans to submit an updated budget for the Haysi project that will utilize the remaining funds to improve river access in the Town. TRRC funds will continue to be matched by DHCD and others for the revised project.

Staff recommends approval of an extension through September 30, 2022 contingent upon the Executive Director's approval of a revised project budget, scope and outputs.

Scott County Economic Development Authority

Riverside Development Phase III – Site Development (# 3200)

Approved for \$500,000 in September 2017 (\$500,000 balance)

Request for one-year extension

Staff Overview & Comments: This project involves the development of an additional site at the Riverside Development. The project has been bid twice, however, the bids came in substantially over the engineer's estimate. The EDA is currently working with the engineer to complete a mass grading plan for the property to determine a more accurate cost estimate. The EDA is also planning to submit an application to the U.S. EDA to secure additional funding necessary to complete the project. To address concerns that Commission funds must to be put to work, Staff recommends requiring the EDA to seek and obtain matching funds within the extension period.

Staff recommends approval of a one-year extension through September 30, 2022, provided that the grantee must provide satisfactory documentation that it has obtained all funding necessary to complete the project before any Commission funds are released. If this funding is not secured, no additional extension will be considered.

Grayson County

Project Timberwolf (#3308)

Approved for \$150,000 in September 2017 (\$150,000 balance)

Request for one-year extension

Staff Overview & Comments: This grant was awarded for development of a new industrial site in Grayson County. The project was underway by 2020, however, due to quality concerns, the County released the original contractor from the project and rebid it in spring 2021. The new contractor is expected to begin work on September 27 and anticipates completion within 120 days. To allow adequate time for completion and grant close out activities, a one year extension has been requested.

Staff recommends a one year extension through September 30, 2022.