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4 VIRGINIA TOBACCO REGION REVITALIZATION COMMISSION

5 FALL FULL COMMISSION TWO-DAY MEETING

6 BERRY HILL RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

7 3105 RIVER ROAD

8 SOUTH BOSTON, VIRGINIA

9

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12

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

13

OCTOBER 5, 2022

14

10:45 a.m.

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COURT REPORTERS

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25 CAROLINE LANE, COURT REPORTER

1 APPEARANCES

2 Delegate James Morefield, Vice Chair  
Delegate Leslie Adams

3 Mr. Edward Blevins  
Delegate Kathy J. Byron

4 Ms. Julianne Hensley  
Delegate Terry G. Kilgore

5 Senator L. Louise Lucas  
Delegate Daniel Marshall, III

6 Mr. T. Jordan Miles, III  
Mr. Walter H. Shelton

7

8 COMMISSION STAFF

9 Joyce Knight  
Sara Williams

10 Sarah Capps  
David Bringman

11 Andy Sorrell  
Vicki Humphreys

12 Stephanie S. Kim  
Jordan Butler

13 Suzette Patterson  
Emily Van Pelt

14

15

COUNSEL FOR THE COMMISSION

16 Elizabeth, "Liz" Myers, Esquire

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We will call to  
4 order.

5 Mr. Sorrell, the roll call.

6 MR. SORRELL: All right. Delegate  
7 Morefield.

8 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Here.

9 MR. SHELTON: Delegate Adams.

10 DELEGATE ADAMS: Here.

11 MR. SORRELL: Mr. Blevins.

12 MR. BLEVINS: Here.

13 MR. SORRELL: Delegate Byron.

14 DELEGATE BYRON: Here.

15 MR. SHELTON: Ms. Hensley.

16 MS. HENSLEY: Here.

17 MR. SORRELL: Delegate Kilgore.

18 DELEGATE KILGORE: Here.

19 MR. SORRELL: Senator Lucas.

20 (No response)

21 MR. SORRELL: Delegate Marshall.

22 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Here.

23 MR. SHELTON: Mr. Miles.

24 DELEGATE MILES: Here.

25 MR. SORRELL: Mr. Shelton.

1 MR. SHELTON: Here.

2 MR. SORRELL: You have a quorum.

3 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Thank you.

4 The first order of business, we will  
5 accept recommendations for election of  
6 chairman.

7 SENATOR RUFF: I make a motion we approve  
8 the 5/3/22 minutes.

9 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All right. I think  
10 we have a motion to approve.

11 Second?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

13 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All right. There is  
14 a motion to approve and a second.

15 All in favor say "aye."

16 (All affirm)

17 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed.

18 (Negative response)

19 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Now we will move on  
20 to the recommendation for chairman of the  
21 Commission. And I would like to yield to  
22 Delegate Marshall.

23 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Thank you. I have a  
24 motion that I would like to nominate Senator  
25 Frank Ruff to the position of Chair.

1 I would like to speak to that.

2 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Yes, sir.

3 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Senator Ruff has been  
4 here for a couple of decades. Actually more  
5 than a couple of decades -- back when they  
6 first brought tobacco to Virginia.

7 So he has served on probably every  
8 committee that has been known to the Tobacco  
9 Commission and has always done a great job.

10 And I think that he would serve as well  
11 as Chairman.

12 So I make that motion.

13 SENATOR RUFF: And I did not pay him to  
14 say that.

15 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. So we have a  
16 motion to elect Senator Ruff as chairman of the  
17 Tobacco Commission.

18 DELEGATE BYRON: Second.

19 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a second.  
20 All in favor say "aye."

21 (All affirm)

22 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed.

23 (Negative response)

24 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Congratulations.

25 Thank you. Now, on to discussion of the

1 Invest Southern Virginia program.

2 And I do believe that we have a  
3 recommendation.

4 MR. SORRELL: Yes. I believe that --  
5 thank you.

6 I believe that there was going to be a  
7 closed session discussion of this matter. I  
8 believe that Delegate Marshall is going to read  
9 that -- a closed session discussion, and then  
10 we will come back into open session.

11 DELEGATE MARSHALL: Well, thank you,  
12 Andy.

13 So the purpose of closed session  
14 discussion is (indiscernible) public  
15 contracting -- public funds including a  
16 discussion of the terms and scope of such  
17 contract (indiscernible) Invest Southern  
18 Virginia (Indiscernible).

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

20 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. We have a  
21 motion to go into closed session, and a second.

22 All in favor say "aye."

23 (All affirm)I

24 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed.

25 (Negative response)

1 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Now, it is customary  
2 for Staff and the Executive Committee --

3 MR. SORRELL: Yeah. All members of the  
4 Commission can stay.

5 All members of the public, including the  
6 transcriptionist will need to step out of the  
7 room.

8 THE REPORTER: Okay.

9 (A closed session is held, whereupon at  
10 the conclusion of the closed session the  
11 commission meeting resumes in open session.)

12 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: So I move that we  
13 vote on the certification that, to the best of  
14 each member's knowledge, only public business  
15 as lawfully accepted from the meeting by the  
16 consent of the parties and those public  
17 business matters, as were identified in the  
18 motion, were heard or discussed in the closed  
19 part of the meeting.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

21 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion and  
22 a second.

23 All in favor say "aye."

24 (All affirm)

25 MR. SORRELL: All right. Vice Chairman

1     Morefield.

2             DELEGATE MOREFIELD:  Aye.

3             MR. SORRELL:  Delegate Adams.

4             DELEGATE ADAMS:  Aye.

5             MR. SORRELL:  Mr. Blevins.

6             MR. BLEVINS:  Aye.

7             MR. SORRELL:  Delegate Byron.

8             DELEGATE BYRON:  Yes.

9             MR. SORRELL:  Ms. Hensley.

10            MS. HENSLEY:  Aye.

11            MR. SORRELL:  Senator Lucas.

12            SENATOR LUCAS:  Aye.  (by phone)

13            MR. SORRELL:  Delegate Marshall.

14            DELEGATE MARSHALL:  Aye.

15            MR. SORRELL:  Mr. Miles.

16            MR. MILES:  Aye.

17            MR. SORRELL:  And Mr. Shelton.

18            MR. SHELTON:  Aye.

19            DELEGATE MOREFIELD:  Okay.  We will now

20     go into recess for roughly about an hour.

21            (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

22            DELEGATE MOREFIELD:  We will now go back

23     to the Executive Committee meeting.

24            And on the agenda, we go back to the --

25     we believe that we have Staff recommendations.



1 MR. SORRELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
2 I'll read the options and we will have two  
3 different motions. One -- and I'll read the  
4 first one.

5 As provided on page 81 of your Staff  
6 reports, Decision Options, provide the  
7 contractually required 120-day termination  
8 notice to conclude the contract and take no  
9 further action.

10 That is the first portion of the motion.

11 Does someone want to make that motion?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'll make it.

13 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. We have a  
14 motion to adopt the staff recommendation.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'll second it.

16 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion to  
17 approve Staff recommendations, and a second.

18 All in favor say "aye."

19 (All affirm)I

20 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed?

21 (Negative response)

22 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. Now we have  
23 another Staff recommendation.

24 Okay. And then the other motion was to  
25 develop a -- to redesign the Virginia program

1 in cooperation with partners and the  
2 secretary's office in insuring that it is a  
3 program that -- that -- (indiscernible) for the  
4 Southern Virginia program. I sort of muddled  
5 through that, I guess. but work together to  
6 develop -- redesign investment in the southern  
7 region.

8 Okay. We have a Staff recommendation.  
9 Do we have motion to approve the Staff  
10 recommendation.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I so move.

12 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Do we have a second?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

14 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion to  
15 approve Staff recommendations.

16 All in favor say "aye."

17 (All affirm)

18 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed?

19 (Negative response)

20 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Moving on to the  
21 electronic meeting policy.

22 State code was updated and went into  
23 effect as of September 1st. That allowed the  
24 ability in meeting -- in remote meetings with  
25 policy or procedures for Commission members,

1 and also the option for all virtual meetings  
2 that are outside of a State of Emergency  
3 (indiscernible).

4 During the height of the pandemic we  
5 could have all virtual meetings. That ended  
6 when the emergency declaration went away.

7 In order for us to utilize  
8 (indiscernible) amend our electronic policy to  
9 permit that. And that is what this is. That  
10 is what this addresses. And I'll just note  
11 that in that general overview part, you will  
12 notice that the key part of it is that it is  
13 the Commission's policy or strong preference  
14 that when you have a full Commission meeting  
15 like this, we have a committee meeting usually  
16 adjacent to that. It is our preference to  
17 insure that both are in-person meetings if at  
18 all possible.

19 (Indiscernible).

20 That is when it will be an ideal  
21 situation to utilize, perhaps all-virtual. Pay  
22 attention to the process and when you can  
23 utilize it.

24 There is a provision where if it is more  
25 than 60 miles to the meeting location -- but

1 again, I wanted to make sure that we were  
2 following along with what the state code states  
3 and that we were current in that we can utilize  
4 these new policies.

5 I would be happy to review those more in  
6 detail with individual members.

7 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. Do we have  
8 any questions?

9 DELEGATE ADAMS: So do I understand that  
10 we have set our next meeting a week before  
11 Assembly starts?

12 MR. SORRELL: We have not set it yet.  
13 That is a point that we need to discuss.

14 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. Any questions  
15 regarding the Staff recommendations on  
16 electronic media policy?

17 (Negative response)

18 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All right. If there  
19 are no questions, do we have a motion to  
20 approve Staff recommendations to update the  
21 electronic meeting policy?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

24 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. We have a  
25 motion to accept the Staff recommendation and a

1 second.

2 All in favor say "aye."

3 (All affirm)

4 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed.

5 (Negative response)

6 Okay. Andy.

7 MR. SORRELL: Now, as Delegate Marshall  
8 mentioned -- we get to the holidays and things  
9 like that. And before our next meeting, it's  
10 been -- historically we have had our meetings  
11 directly before the General Assembly starts.

12 It starts a little bit earlier this year.  
13 A complication -- we wanted to propose that we  
14 set the meeting date for January, so that we  
15 can get started at that location, and make sure  
16 we have enough time to give our applicants to  
17 work on their applications.

18 So we would be looking at Tuesday,  
19 January 3rd and Wednesday, January 4th, so  
20 directly after New Year's, but ideally we would  
21 do it the following week. However, that  
22 doesn't give us much time.

23 Generally, the legislatures haven't even  
24 set the meeting.

25 So that will mitigate, which I would

1 propose some time that week, whether it be  
2 Tuesday or Wednesday.

3 DELEGATE MARSHALL: My suggestion is that  
4 normally we have a meeting that Monday and  
5 Tuesday for a session.

6 MR. SORRELL: And that was initially what  
7 we had planned to do. However, one of the  
8 conditions we have is (indiscernible) that  
9 oftentimes there are legislative meetings that  
10 happen immediately before the Full Commission  
11 meeting. Oftentimes legislative tasks get in  
12 the way of a Full Commission Meeting and things  
13 like that.

14 We want to be careful with doing it  
15 immediately before.

16 That was the only point.

17 SENATOR RUFF: Chairman, I would also  
18 point out that because we are now moving into  
19 the new building, we will have to unpack all  
20 that stuff, so that's a busy few days.

21 Why don't we do it Wednesday or Thursday,  
22 to give you-all some time and not be pushing  
23 right up against New Year's Day. I think that  
24 would be better. The 4th and 5th would be  
25 better. Okay.

1 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion.

2 Any questions or discussions?

3 (Negative response)

4 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion to  
5 set the next meeting date for January 4th. So  
6 do we have a second?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

8 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: We have a motion to  
9 set the date for the 4th and 5th, and a second.

10 All in favor say "aye."

11 (All affirm)

12 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: All opposed?

13 (Negative response)

14 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: Okay. And now we  
15 would go to public comments.

16 (Negative response)

17 DELEGATE MOREFIELD: There are no public  
18 comments.

19 Before we adjourn, we would like for all  
20 the committee meeting members to meet on the  
21 front porch of the mansion for a photo.

22 And let's try to be back here in fifteen  
23 minutes.

24 (End of proceedings.)

25

1 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AT LARGE, to wit:

2 I, Caroline Lane, Court Reporter, Notary  
3 Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at  
4 Large, and whose commission expires February 28,  
5 2023, do certify that the aforementioned appeared  
6 before me, that the foregoing is a true, correct,  
7 and full transcript of the proceedings adduced.

8 I further certify that I am neither  
9 related to nor associated with any counsel or party  
10 to this proceeding, nor otherwise interested in the  
11 event thereof.

12 Given under my hand at Roanoke, Virginia,  
13 this 22nd day of November, 2022.

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Caroline Lane, Notary Public

19

Notary Registration No. 238126

20

Commonwealth of Virginia at Large

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<hr/> <b>1</b> <hr/> <b>120-day</b> 9:7 <hr/> <b>5</b> <hr/> <b>5/3/22</b> 4:8 <hr/> <b>8</b> <hr/> <b>81</b> 9:5 <hr/> <b>A</b> <hr/> <b>accept</b> 4:5 <b>accepted</b> 7:15 <b>action</b> 9:9 <b>Adams</b> 3:9,10 8:3,4 <b>adopt</b> 9:14 <b>affirm</b> 4:16 5:21 7:24 <b>agenda</b> 8:24 <b>Andy</b> 6:12 <b>approve</b> 4:7,10,14 9:17 <b>aye</b> 4:15 5:20 6:22 7:23 8:2,4,6,10,12,14,16,18 9:18 <hr/> <b>B</b> <hr/> <b>back</b> 5:5 6:10 8:22,24 <b>beem</b> 5:8 <b>Blevins</b> 3:11,12 8:5,6 <b>brought</b> 5:6 <b>business</b> 4:4 7:14,17 <b>Byron</b> 3:13,14 5:18 8:7,8 <hr/> <b>C</b> <hr/> <b>call</b> 3:3,5 <b>certification</b> 7:13 <b>Chair</b> 4:25 <b>chairman</b> 4:6,20 5:11,16 7:25 9:1	<b>closed</b> 6:7,9,13,21 7:9,10,18 <b>commission</b> 4:21 5:9,17 7:4,11 <b>committee</b> 5:8 7:2 8:23 <b>conclude</b> 9:8 <b>conclusion</b> 7:10 <b>Congratulations</b> 5:24 <b>consent</b> 7:16 <b>contract</b> 6:17 9:8 <b>contracting</b> 6:15 <b>contractually</b> 9:7 <b>couple</b> 5:4,5 <b>customary</b> 7:1 <hr/> <b>D</b> <hr/> <b>decades</b> 5:4,5 <b>Decision</b> 9:6 <b>Delegate</b> 3:3,6,8,9,10,13,14,17,18,21,22,24 4:3,9,13,17,19,22,23 5:2,3,15,18,19,22,24 6:8,11,20,24 7:1,12,21 8:2,3,4,7,8,13,14,19,22 9:13,16,20,22 <b>develop</b> 9:25 <b>discussed</b> 7:18 <b>discussion</b> 5:25 6:7,9,14,16 <hr/> <b>E</b> <hr/> <b>elect</b> 5:16 <b>election</b> 4:5 <b>Executive</b> 7:2 8:23 <hr/> <b>F</b> <hr/> <b>favor</b> 4:15 5:20 6:22 7:23 9:18 <b>Frank</b> 4:25 <b>funds</b> 6:15 <hr/> <b>G</b> <hr/> <b>great</b> 5:9	<hr/> <b>H</b> <hr/> <b>heard</b> 7:18 <b>held</b> 7:9 <b>Hensley</b> 3:15,16 8:9,10 <b>hour</b> 8:20 <hr/> <b>I</b> <hr/> <b>identified</b> 7:17 <b>including</b> 6:15 7:5 <b>indiscernible</b> 6:14,17,18 <b>Invest</b> 6:1,17 <hr/> <b>J</b> <hr/> <b>job</b> 5:9 <hr/> <b>K</b> <hr/> <b>Kilgore</b> 3:17,18 <b>knowledge</b> 7:14 <hr/> <b>L</b> <hr/> <b>lawfully</b> 7:15 <b>Lucas</b> 3:19 8:11,12 <hr/> <b>M</b> <hr/> <b>make</b> 4:7 5:12 9:11,12 <b>Marshall</b> 3:21,22 4:22,23 5:3 6:8,11 8:13,14 <b>matter</b> 6:7 <b>matters</b> 7:17 <b>meeting</b> 7:11,15,19 8:23 <b>member's</b> 7:14 <b>members</b> 7:3,5 <b>Miles</b> 3:23,24 8:15,16 <b>minutes</b> 4:8 <b>Morefield</b> 3:3,7,8 4:3,9,13,17,19 5:2,15,19,22,24 6:20,24 7:1,12,21
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