

VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Board Meeting
Tuckahoe Henrico Public Library ~ Meeting Room
Henrico, Virginia
June 18, 2019 | 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joan Bondareff called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members Present: Joan Bondareff, Jim McArthur, Art Moye, Hayes Framme, Mark Mitchell, Brian Redmond, Bob Matthias

Members Absent: Laura McKay, Phil Green

Staff: John Warren, Will Payne, Al Christopher, Lynne Astroth, Barbara Simcoe, Brandi Frazier Bestpitch, Robin Jones, Dan Farrell, Evie Christopher, Robert Drewry

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Brian Redmond moved for approval of the March 14, 2019, meeting minutes and Bob Matthias seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

OSW - Opportunity for Corporate Clean Energy Procurement: Caitlin Marquis (Director, Advanced Energy Builders Group) provided an overview of AEE and opportunities for corporate procurement of clean energy, including corporate demand for renewable energy, emerging trends, challenges and solutions. Presentation is available on the VOWDA website, <https://www.vaoffshorewind.org/authority/about/>.

VOWDA Powers and Authorities: At the request of VOWDA, Robert Drewry (Assistant Attorney General and VOWDA counsel) presented an overview and provided members a written summary of powers and authorities granted to VOWDA under Virginia Code §§ 67-1200 through 67-1211. With a better understanding of the Code as to what the Authority can and can't do, members can consider possible actions/plans and what is needed to execute them within the scope of its authorities -- use of public-private partnerships, apply for federal loan guarantees, and execute contracts; request appropriations from the General Assembly to support its function or request statutory modifications so the Authority has a more active role to accomplish what it wants to do.

Title 17 ~ US DOE Loan Program: Chapter 1205 of Title 67 covers VOWDA's authority to apply for and allocate proceeds from guaranteed loans. Sydney Schneir (External Affairs Manager, DOE Loan Program Office) provided an overview of DOE's Loan Guarantee Program that finances commercial-scale renewable energy and efficient energy projects. The three key value propositions DOE's Loan Program Office provides to innovation projects are access to

financing, flexible financing, and a good partner with an in-house team of financial, technical, legal, and environmental experts. Of the remaining solicitation funds, \$3 billion is available for renewable energy. Handouts provided at the meeting are available on the VOWDA website, <https://www.vaoffshorewind.org/authority/about/>.

Offshore Wind Research and Development Funding Opportunities

George Hagerman (ODU Center for Coastal Physical Oceanography) reviewed the seven funding opportunities that ODU is pursuing.

- ▶ DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy -- project development for OSW technology demonstrations: The CVOW demonstration project qualifies and a concept paper was submitted. The focus of the proposal is to gather data to show how much steel is needed for commercial scale monopiles to extend their life and help reduce the cost of energy.
- ▶ National OSW Research and Development Consortium – five proposals under the three research pillars:
 - Array performance and control optimization
 - Cost-reducing turbine support structures for the U.S. market
 - Development of a metocean reference site -- need to develop our own metocean platform and looking at making one of the southern aliquots in the research lease a reference site.
 - Heavy lift vessel alternatives – looking at a process to float a fully assembled turbine with blades already on the rotor.
 - OSW digitization through advanced analytics – considering a possible workshop at the AWEA conference. Even without a workshop, data being collected from all the instrumentation can be used to develop a commercial-scale virtual offshore wind project to deploy in cyberspace in 2023 that would accumulate data that could help Dominion inform its commercial scale development.
- ▶ DOD Office of Economic Adjustment—renewable energy project siting and encroachment study. To address concerns about offshore/onshore wind and solar encroaching on military activities

Paul Olsen (ODU Office of Research) added that ODU is tracking over 12 high value proposals and their deliberative process includes proposal review boards that the VOWDA members are welcome to attend. At a future VOWDA meeting, he will present a slide that summarizes the status of all projects ODU and its academic/industry partners are working on.

George also provided a map representing Virginia’s offshore wind maritime industry innovation systems. The Commonwealth has unique advantages, more than any other state on the East Coast – tremendous maritime industry, two major public port terminals, largest amount of infrastructure suitable for turbine jacket foundation fabrication and installation logistics, manufacturing infrastructure, research leases positioned around the commercial wind energy area, Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel – all providing opportunities to conduct

research that is relevant to the industry. The goal continues to be to show how offshore wind can be a least cost energy supply option within Dominion's publicly regulated generation portfolio.

Handouts provided at the meeting are available on VOWDA website, <https://www.vaoffshorewind.org/authority/about/>.

Marine Safety Training ~ BEI Maritime Training Center

Scott Chierepko [BEI Maritime] showed a brief video about BEI and presented an overview of its proposed state-of-the-art maritime training center to be built in North Carolina. BEI is in investor stage and expects construction to be completed in 2021. BEI will provide a harsh maritime training environment in a controlled indoor facility that will meet training and certification standards for the Coast Guard, the Global Wind Organization and the Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organization. The site will have an 80-room hotel and dining facility. Presentation is available on the VOWDA website, <https://www.vaoffshorewind.org/authority/about/>

VOWDA BUSINESS

VMRC Study [SJ 309]

Al Christopher reviewed the draft letter prepared for VOWDA to send to the VMRC requesting that electric cables be included in the analysis to study the feasibility of creating protection zones for submerged fiber optic cables located along Virginia's shores [SJR 309]. Members' recommendations included to strengthen passive language in paragraph three, encourage cooperation and coordination, and address the issue of deconfliction. Bob Matthias made the motion, seconded by Brian Redmond, for staff to revise the letter per today's discussion and send the letter to VMRC. The motion passed unanimously. The final letter will be available on the VOWDA website, <https://www.vaoffshorewind.org/authority/about/>.

VOWDA Work Plan: Members were provided an updated copy of the 2019 Work Plan that summarized status of tasks since the March meeting. Al Christopher reported that each of the three workgroups met at least once to identify what they want to do and will continue to work to provide deliverables. Joan Bondareff asked that each Workgroup Chair give a report at the next VOWDA meeting.

UPDATES

NC-VA Renewable Energy Task Force: BOEM has proposed a July 23 half-day webinar of the Task Force for BOEM, developers, and states to provide updates, to be followed by an in-person meeting later in the year once agencies have a chance to contemplate BOEM's initiative of deconflicting new areas.

Shell New Energies: Shell, partnering with EDP Renewables, won two large seabed leases last year to develop OSW projects in NE U.S. Based in Boston, Shell is moving people and resources to the region to develop the leases.

NY-NJ Wind Energy Transmission Line: BOEM announced it will publish a Request for Competitive Interest for the development an offshore transmission system that will deliver offshore wind energy to the onshore electric grid.

CVOW: Mark Mitchell [Dominion Energy] reported that onshore work started last week with directional drilling and installation of power cables on the shore side. In early July, Dominion expects to start the directional drilling underneath the beach. A vessel will be positioned offshore and a media event will be planned when the vessel arrives. Second phase of the UXO ordnance surveys on the ocean side should wrap up next week. All is on track for installation of turbines in second quarter of next year. BOEM’s approval of the revised Research Activities Plan is expected soon.

Corps of Engineers Port Study: Paul Olsen [ODU Office of Research] reported that with only a few months before the October 1 deadline, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has not started the study to identify at least three innovative ports for offshore wind. With no funding, they do not plan to do the study. Senator Warner has taken the lead, with support from Senator Kaine, Representative Luria and possibly others, to move this forward. A copy of the letter drafted for their signatures, urging the USACE to start the study and amplifying that the Port of Virginia be considered in the study, should be sent within two weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jon Miles [JMU Office of Wind Energy] shared information and provided the agenda for an upcoming conference hosted by the Virginia Renewable Energy Alliance – LEAD: Leadership in Energy Advancement and Development – to be held at ODU in Norfolk, on June 28.

NEXT MEETING DATE

With all scheduled business concluded, members agreed to convene again on September 12, 2019. Meeting venue to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.