



DRAFT MINUTES

Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority Board Meeting

**Virginia Port Authority
600 World Trade Center
Norfolk, VA 23510**

**September 14, 2023
10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Call to Order

Chair Will Fediw called the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA) meeting to order at 10:05 am. Members present: Will Fediw, Chris Gullickson, Bryan Stephens, Ashley McLeod, Howard Shafferman, Jim McArthur, Laura McKay, and Eileen Woll. Board members not present: Jim MacArthur. Members attending virtually: Laura McKay. Staff present included: Al Christopher, Ken Jurman, Ryan Welsh, and Ed Cronin. Guests present include Will Benner, Zach LeMaster, Steve Cook, Charles Paulin, Jordan Jo-Elsa, Orza Ajizadehne, and Jennifer Palestrant.

Virtual Participation

Laura McKay requested to attend the meeting virtually. Ms. McKay notified Chair Will Fediw via email with the reason for this request. The reason for virtual attendance was out of state.

A motion was made to use the newly approved bylaws/policy to allow board member, Laura McKay, to attend virtually. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Approval of July 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The Chair called for a motion to approve the July 13, 2023 Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Update from the Governor's Offshore Wind Coordination Team (OWCT)

Chris Gullickson, a member of the Offshore Wind Coordination Team, provided the board with recently completed actions by the team. The update the status of the Portsmouth Marine Terminal and a scheduled arrival for monopiles in October 2023.

VOWDA 2023 Annual Report

Virginia Energy staff presented the draft Annual Report for the Authority's approval. Edits were suggested for the report sections of recommendations and VOWDA actions.

Chris Gullickson motioned to approve the Annual Report with the expectation Virginia Energy would complete the suggested edits and correct minor format changes. The motion was seconded and was passed unanimously.

Research and Development Subcommittee

Kathy Owens presented on the R&D subcommittee's August 7, 2023 workshop. The workshop concluded on several research organizations to join and recommended the creation of a white paper that provides the Authority further actions to promote the development of offshore wind in the Commonwealth. The created white paper was evaluated and discussed by the Authority.

VOWDA 2023 Work Plan Items

Howard Shafferman provided an update on the PPA research presented in a white paper format. Recommendations were made to change language to be more inclusive to workforce development. Will Fediw and Ashley McLeod motioned to adopt the white paper for VOWDA to be passed up to administrators through Virginia Energy. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Eileen Woll Workforce Update

Eileen Woll presented a SWAT analysis and a preliminary review of recommendations VOWDA can take to address the results of the analysis.

Other Business and Closing Remarks by Board Members

The board reviewed the Central Atlantic Lease Area which visualizes the areas with the highest potential to have offshore wind leases obtained. A work plan of actionable items members of the Authority can take in preparation for the next meeting was discussed.

Public Comment

None

Industry Updates

Will Fediw brought to the attention NOAA's efforts to protect the North Atlantic Wright Whales. He also commended the completion of the new Mid-Atlantic offshore wind lease areas by BOEM and the amount of stakeholder engagement by Virginia businesses and industries.

Adjournment

Chair Will Fediw adjourned the meeting at 11:48 am.