

VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Board Meeting
Cultural Arts Center of Glen Allen
2880 Mountain Rd., Glen Allen, VA 23060
December 9, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m.

DRAFT

Call to Order

Chair Joan Bondareff called the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA) to order at 10:08 a.m. Members present: Joan Bondareff, Art Moyer, Chris Gullickson, Mark Mitchell, Laura McKay, John Warren, and Grant Kronenberg (AG/Counsel). Members absent: Jim McArthur, Hayes Framme, and Phil Green. Staff present included: Jennifer Palestrant, Jordan Burns, Ken Jurman, Erik B. Olson, Lynne Astroth, and Evie Christopher.

Approval of October 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Following a motion by Art Moyer, seconded by Mark Mitchell, the board approved the October 27, 2021 meeting minutes unanimously.

Presentations:

- **Demonstration of WindSite**
 - Jerry Cronin with the Open Seas Technology Hub and ODU gave an overview and demonstration of the forthcoming WindSite tool. WindSite will be going live in the near future.
 - The project has been supported by the Department of Defense and is seeking funding to continue work into the next year. The project has gone through the DOD Clearinghouse to ensure all stakeholders in DOD are engaged.
 - The tool currently integrates the MARCO data portal and is exploring potential to integrate supply chain siting – would require other funding.

- **Discussion on the Build Back Better Regional Challenge Grant**
 - Steve Kalland from the North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center presented on the Center’s activities and the Build Back Better Regional Challenge Grant.
 - The maximum award for Phase 1 is \$500,000, and the Center requested just under that amount. They will find out if their application was successful in the near future. The grant is focused on offshore wind economic development and thereby job creation, supply chain development, and disadvantaged communities and meant as a “pull” to help attract more of the supply chain to this part of the East Coast.
 - The Chair requested to keep VOWDA posted and offered assistance, if necessary.

- Jennifer Palestrant supplemented this presentation with an update on Virginia plans for its share of potential grant funding – focusing on helping Virginia businesses prepare to pivot to and/or benefit from OSW development in-state.
- **Updates on Infrastructure and Build Back Better**
 - Chair Joan Bondareff shared updates on the current status of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law implementation (now titles the “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, IIJA”) and the Build Back Better (BBB) package being considered in Congress. Many details on the IIJA implementation and BBB legislative details are still up in the air. The Senate has yet to enact the BBB package, while agencies are issuing guidance on the IIJA.
 - Paul Olsen with Old Dominion University presented Chair Bondareff a coin of excellence for her participation in a December 7, 2021, Society of American Military Engineers conference hosted by ODU.

Offshore Wind Stakeholder Updates

- **Marine Fisheries Stakeholder Engagement, Laura McKay, DEQ**
 - Laura McKay with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality provided updates via a presentation on ongoing fisheries stakeholder engagement, engagement with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and upcoming or potential research opportunities/requests.
 - The Board discussed the limited engagement of commercial fishers and organizations like RODA (Responsible Offshore Development Alliance) despite the positive engagement of the Marine Resources Commission as well as the general support of recreational fishers.
- **CVOW and Commercial Wind Area, Mark Mitchell, Dominion Energy**
 - G.T. Hollett with Dominion Energy presented to the Board on the commercial CVOW project, recent filing with the SCC, and upcoming project milestones. A key discussion was the favorable comparison of the estimated \$87 MWH cost of CVOW with other offshore wind projects in the United States. The Board Chair commented that engaging local businesses will be critical going forward since the major CVOW contracts were awarded to international companies.
- **Ashley McLeod, Avangrid Renewables**
 - Ashley McLeod with Avangrid Renewables presented to the Board on the Kitty Hawk project.
 - The project has faced NIMBY (Not in my backyard) challenges, but nothing out of the ordinary. The company is aware of upcoming BOEM lease sales in the Carolinas. BOEM is targeting February 2022 for the next meeting of the Central Atlantic task force.

VOWDA - Dominion's SCC Filing

- The Board discussed upcoming SCC meetings and the need for VOWDA to be prepared if it is planning to appear in proceedings. Board members noted that the policy landscape with the Virginia Clean Economy Act is clearer than in previous engagements and the Board is better prepared to discuss how hurricanes impact turbine performance. We have better data on storms from the smaller CVOW project on the research lease.

Conflict of Interest Filing and Training – Overview/Reminder

- Board members were encouraged to complete their Conflict of Interest Filing and Training. An email will be coming to all Board members January 1, 2022 regarding the financial filing and will be due by February 1, 2022.

2022 Quarterly Meeting Dates

- Board members were informed that VOWDA is looking to schedule three Board meetings next year.

Public Comments

- The Board heard and answered questions from VCU journalism student, Destiny Ricks, on offshore wind project completion and potential competition with other energy sources.
- The Board heard from Paul Olsen with ODU on potential offshore wind concerns from engineers attending the ODU conference, above, including: site preparation and NEPA processes, workforce development, cyberattack preparation, subsea infrastructure preparation, and local content requirement and engagement with suppliers.

Other Business and Closing Remarks by the Chair

- The Board discussed an ongoing agenda item on ongoing map development and SCC preparation if VOWDA decides to engage as well as giving assignments based on action items in annual report.
- Three meetings will be scheduled in 2022 (tentatively March, September and December). Staff will be contacting Board members to poll for specific meeting dates.
- Jennifer Palestrant presented outgoing members, Bondareff and Moye, with thank you letters from Governor Northam, as well as, BOEM letters and a new BOEM coin to all VOWDA members for their work on renewable energy.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, Chair Bondareff entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion made by Art Moye and seconded by Chris Gullickson, was unanimously agreed to by members. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.