

VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



FINAL MINUTES

Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority
Board Meeting
[Quarterpath Recreation Center](#)
202 Quarterpath Road ~ Williamsburg, VA 23185
June 9, 2022 ~ 10:30 am

Call to Order

Chair Will Fediw called the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA) meeting to order at 10:42 am. Members present: Will Fediw, Chris Gullickson, Mark Mitchell, Laura McKay, Phillip Green and Ashley McLeod. Members absent: Jim McArthur, Hayes Framme, Eileen Woll. Staff present included: John Warren, Al Christopher, Devyn Keller and Lynne Astroth.

Introduction of all present including members, staff and public

Approval of May 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The Chair called for a motion to approve the May 3, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion to accept the minutes, made by Chris Gullickson and seconded by Laura McKay, passed unanimously.

Review Draft Letter of Comment – from VOWDA to BOEM and Virginia Energy Letter of Comment to the State Corporation Commission (SCC).

Al Christopher reviewed the draft Letter of Comment for VOWDA to send to BOEM and the Letter of Comment that Virginia Energy sent to the SCC on May 16, 2022. The members collaborated on updating and refining the outline to the final Letter of Comments. The motion to accept this final Letter of Comments and gives Virginia Energy the ability to fix typos, made by Will Fediw and seconded by Phillip Green, all in favor.

Energy Plan Updates

Al Christopher reviewed the Energy Plan timeline and advised that the Administration formed a team to start working with Virginia Energy to provide their input and to learn what Virginia Energy's recommendations are.

Between July and September, Virginia Energy will do public outreach. They have already started meeting with state and federal agencies, some subject matter experts, and agencies such as the DEQ, SCC, VDOT and several other cabinet level staff. A digital platform called *Consider.it* will be used to collect comments, summarize data and provide reports. Virginia Energy may host one or

more webinars and possibly host in-person listening sessions for small groups. There will also be a portal for submission of comments.

SMART Power Updates

Al Christopher reviewed the SMART Power MOU and provided SMART Power updates. The SMART Power team is working to attract supply chain members, looking to catalog the state regulations and permitting that apply to OSW development, compare what the three states do and work towards making them consistent. This a long term goal as significant change to policy can take a while.

Al, as part of Virginia's working group, will reach out to Dominion, DEQ, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, and others that are directly involved, to provide input on state regulations that impact offshore wind and the supply chain. Point of contacts should be sent directly to Al. North Carolina has provided their regulation to have for reference.

Authority Administration Discussion - VOWDA Mission and Purpose

The members reviewed Code [45.2-1804](#) for the development of VOWDA. Members agreed that the code is still relevant, that the mission is important, and Virginia needs to have a collective voice to the Administration. Recodification and code numbers changed in October 2021. The old code said it's repealed but in actuality it was recodified.

VOWDA Annual Report

The Annual Report can be combined with the annual report from the Division of Offshore Wind and is due October 15, 2022. The report contains what the board has done and recommended. Board members will review recommendations of the 2021 report to see if they are relevant and should be carried over to the 2022. Ashley McLeod and Will Fediw volunteered to collect the board members' comments and work with Al Christopher on the Annual Report. Comments should be submitted to Ashley and Will by August 1st.

Other Business and Closing Remarks by the Chair

- **Will Fediw:**
 - Over the last several years, Virginia Maritime Association, Virginia Port Authority and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) have been working on where safety fairways should be established based on historical data, trade routes, and forecasted industry growth. Working together, the USCG is working on the Port Access Route Study and BOEM is figuring where additional lease areas may be proposed. Also, the VMA, Port, USCG, and Navy are actively exploring the establishment of offshore anchorages for deep-water vessels, given the reduction of open ocean space.
 - An important question to consider while undergoing shared spatial planning is, "how much lease area acreage do we need to meet established renewable energy goals based on current/future turbine technology?"

- **Chris Gullickson:**
 - Continue to make progress on terminal. Resolution in July, improvements of 72 acres of the terminal. Skanska was low bidder on the PMT improvements.
- Next action item: Need to submit letter to BOEM on the call areas.
- Members with terms expiring on June 30, 2022 can continue until new appointments are made.
- Next meeting will be in early September. Virginia Energy will send out a Doodle poll to determine a date that has a quorum. Location to be determined.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, Chair Will Fediw adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.