

Project Evaluation Subcommittee

April 6, 2021 – 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting Agenda

- **Introduction**
- **Welcome and Introductions – Carl Hershner**
 - **Roll Call**
 - **Statement Reading**
- **RAFT presentation**
- **Public Comments**

I would like to call this virtual meeting of the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Planning Framework Technical Advisory Committee Subcommittee on Project Evaluation to order.

Generally, public bodies are prohibited from meeting electronically under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). However, emergency language approved by the Governor and General Assembly in April allows us to move forward with certain restrictions that I will outline in a moment.

First, let me review how this meeting will work. We want to allow for participation by Subcommittee members, staff, and members of the public who wish to comment. However, it is essential that we are able to manage the conversation effectively.

The meeting will be open for Subcommittee comment at any time. For those members of the public who wish to make a comment, we ask that you please do so in the chat box. Josh Saks will be monitoring the chat box and let us know when someone has submitted a comment. We will address your comments as time allows.

I have to read a lengthy introduction for our virtual meeting. This is long, but is required to be read aloud under Chapter 1289 for all electronic meetings:

Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly, also known as the “Budget Bill,” includes language addressing the ability of public bodies to conduct electronic meetings without the need for a quorum being present in a single physical location (“Electronic Meeting”).

This language was submitted as an amendment by the Governor and approved by the General Assembly at their April 22, 2020 reconvened Session. The Governor subsequently signed the Budget Bill and the Bill was effective as of July 1, 2020.

The Budget Bill allows public bodies to hold Electronic Meetings when the Governor has declared a state of emergency pursuant to § 44-146.17 if:

“(i) the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body or governing board to assemble in a single location;

(ii) the purpose of the meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body...and the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities...” § 4-0.01(g).

The Budget Bill also has language regarding recordings and transcriptions of Electronic Meetings. Please be advised that this meeting **is being recorded. This recording will be available to the public through the SNR website. The comments in the chat room will also be preserved as a public record. Official minutes of this meeting will be drafted and posted in accordance with regular procedures. The minutes will also include the type of electronic communication means by which this meeting is being held, WebEx.**

The Budget Bill does not allow the Subcommittee to hold an Electronic Meeting to discuss or transact business for any purpose. Rather, they may do so as long as the agenda items that the public body plans to take up are: (a) statutorily required or (b) necessary to continue operations and discharge lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities.

It is the Committee's responsibility to determine whether "the nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body or governing board to assemble in a single location."

At the conclusion of my remarks, I will ask for a motion for the Subcommittee to make this determination. If that motion fails, this electronic meeting will end at that point.

The Budget Bill requires compliance with the provisions of § 2.2-3708.2. Therefore, in accordance with § 2.2-3708.2.D.2, public bodies must include a telephone number that may be used to notify the public body of any interruption in the telephonic or video broadcast of the meeting.

In the event that a disruption occurs, participants should contact Josh by phone or text at **804-690-5673**

Additionally, if there is an interruption in the broadcast, the meeting must be suspended until public access is restored.

Those provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act not addressed by the Budget Bill remain in effect.

Before we continue with the business portion of the meeting, I will ask Josh to call the roll for **Subcommittee members and staff. Other participants will be recorded through the chat window.** If you are participating by phone and your name is not called, please call or text Josh at **804-690-5673**

In addition, if at any time you lose connection and are unable to reconnect, please contact Josh at the same number.

TAC Project Evaluation subcommittee

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Dr. Carl Hershner (Chair)	VIMS
Kristen Owen (Vice Chair)	Henrico County
Kimberly Cain	Governor's Office
Shannon Alexander	ANPDC
Kevin DuBois	CNRMA
Whitney Katchmark	HRPDC
Keith Lockwood	USACE
Dr. Cathy McGhee	VTRC
Dr. Karen McGlathery	UVA
Randy Owen/Ben Nettleton	VMRC
Mary-Carson Stiff/Skip Stiles	Wetlands Watch
Erin Sutton	VDEM
Dr. Rob Young	Western Carolina University

Subcommittee Chair/Vice Chair: I will now present a recommended motion, and wait for a board member to request the motion:

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

The Technical Advisory Subcommittee for Project Evaluation certifies that the nature of the declared COVID-19 emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe for the Subcommittee to assemble in a single location and further that the agenda items to be taken up at this meeting are necessary to continue operations and discharge lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities of the Subcommittee.

TAC Project Evaluation subcommittee

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Dr. Carl Hershner (Chair)	VIMS
Kristen Owen (Vice Chair)	Henrico County
Kimberly Cain	Governor's Office
Shannon Alexander	ANPDC
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Erin Sutton	VDEM
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TAC Chair / Subcommittee Chair/Vice Chair:

I want to explain further how we will handle participation by Committee/Subcommittee members, staff, and the public.

- Everyone, except the individual presenting materials for an agenda item, will be muted.
- Once the presentation is completed, the Subcommittee Members, and only Subcommittee members, will be unmuted for discussion, and may indicate their desire to comment by “raising their hand” or commenting in the chat box.
- Josh will assist me with ensuring Subcommittee members are recognized when they have questions or comments.
- Members of the public will be able to ask questions and provide input by utilizing the chat box function. As time allows, we will respond to those questions and comments in the chat function.
- Public Comment will be taken during the last portion of the meeting from those who signed up in advance.

We will now proceed with the business of the Subcommittee as outlined in the agenda.

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