

Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority Board Meeting

Friday, April 21, 2023

10:00AM-12:00PM

Tuckahoe Area Library
1901 Starling Dr.
Henrico, Virginia 23229

Draft Minutes

Call to Order and Introduction:

The Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority (VNECA) Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom DePonty at 10:03 A.M.

The following VNECA Board Members were present: Tom DePonty, Jeff Fox, Dan Stoddard, Scott Kopple, Ken Ball, Rhonnie Smith, Bill Briscoe, Larry Corkey, Rich Diddams, Andrew Hutton, and Eugene Grecheck. An in-person quorum of 9 members was met.

Virtual Participants include Randy Heflin

The following Virginia Energy staff were present: Ryan Welsh

The following guests were present: April Wade (VNEC), Michael Hatfield (Wise County Administrator), Will Payne (DELTA Labs), Chelsea Jenkins (Commerce and Trade), Will Clear (Virginia Department of Energy), Arlen Bolstad (SCC), David Essah (SCC), Christine King (Director GAIN)

The following were there for public comment: Erica Grey (Sierra Club)

Chair DePonty welcomed the board and provided a warm weather safety message on heighten awareness related to high temperatures and UV exposure.

- VNEC provided the following updates
 - Discussion of 2023 legislative session related to nuclear energy.
 - Virginia Innovation Nuclear Hub (VINH) updates
 - receive an update on SMR WG per [HB 894](#)
 - New VNEC members
- Approval of January 30 minutes
- Industry Updates
 - CoaltoNuclear
 - Nuclear Liftoff Report
- 2023 Q3 meeting will be virtual and scheduled during July-August in Richmond. Agenda items include:
 - Virginia Energy Updates
 - VNEC updates on VINH and SMR WG

- Guest Speaker, Will Payne, Managing Partner [Energy DELTA Lab](#), provided the board with updates legislation from the 2023 session that helps the mission of the Lab. A copy of his presentation will be available on the [VNECA website](#).
- Guest Speaker, Christine King, Director Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear (GAIN), provided the board an overview of the programs current activities related to Nuclear. A copy of her presentation will be available on the [VNECA website](#).
- Guest Speakers, Will Clear, Interim Director Virginia Department of Energy and Chelsea Jenkins, Deputy Secretary Commerce and Trade, provided the board with an update to the Virginia Energy Plan. A copy of their presentation will be available on the [VNECA website](#).

Public Comments:

Erica Grey (Virginia Sierra Club) their view on nuclear energy and the 2023 legislative session as it related to nuclear in Virginia.

Michael Hatfield provided thanks to VNECA to the efforts to advance nuclear energy in the state and Southwest Virginia.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.