

MINUTES

Southwest Virginia Energy Research and Development Authority

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (Rooms 103-104)
One Partnership Circle, Abingdon, VA 24201

March 12, 2025

~ Draft ~

Authority members present: Mr. Michael Quillen (Chair), Mr. Steve Breeding, Ms. Amanda Cox, Dr. Marcy Hernick, Dr. Mike Karmis (virtual), Mr. Brad Kreps, Mr. Dan Poteet (virtual), and Ms. Lydia Sinemus.

Authority members not present: Dr. Kris Westover (Vice Chair), Mr. Jasen Eige, and Mr. Duane Miller.

Advisors present: Mr. Will Clear and Will Payne

Speakers present: Delegate Israel O'Quinn (Virginia General Assembly), Ms. Allison Mays (Virginia Tech Southwest Center), Tarah Kesterson (Virginia Clean Cities), Simon Glossop (Virginia Department of Energy), and Dr. Richard Bishop (Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research).

On March 12, 2025, the Authority convened a quorum at 10:01 a.m. in person at Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, VA.

Chairman Mike Quillen welcomed Authority members and those from the public joining in person. Mr. Quillen then reviewed the meeting agenda.

Mr. Quillen requested a motion to approve remote participation by Dr. Mike Karmis. The motion to approve was made by Ms. Amanda Cox, seconded by Mr. Steve Breeding and approved unanimously by a voice vote of the Authority.

Mr. Quillen requested a motion to approve the draft minutes from the October 9, 2024 meeting. The motion to approve was made by Mr. Steve Breeding, seconded by Ms. Amanda Cox and approved unanimously by a voice vote of the Authority.

Mr. Quillen opened up the floor to comments from the public in attendance in person and virtually.

Mr. Quillen welcomed Delegate Israel O'Quinn (44th House District) who gave an overview of the recent General Assembly session and discussed energy issues important to Southwest

Virginia. Mr. Quillen then welcomed Tyler Lester, Legislative Assistant to State Senator Todd Pillion (6th Senate District) to offer comments from Senator Pillion.

Mr. Quillen welcomed Allison Mays of the Virginia Tech Southwest Center to present on a recent grant award from the EPA on Brownfield Job Training.

Mr. Quillen welcomed Tarah Kesterson to present on Virginia Clean Cities expanding to Southwest Virginia to focus on working with vehicle fleets, fuel providers, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify community-driven choices that save energy and promote the use of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies in transportation.

Mr. Quillen welcomed Simon Glossop, who recently joined the Virginia Department of Energy as Director of the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank.

Mr. Quillen welcomed back Dr. Richard Bishop to present on the next phase of what was called Evolve Central Appalachia and now is Expand Appalachia CORE-CM, focusing on critical mineral discovery in the region with an ultimate goal of establishing a domestic supply chain.

There being no further business, Mr. Quillen adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.