

## **Capital Project for Planning the Eastern Shore AREC Equipment Storage Building**

### **JOINT FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE AND BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**February 16, 2016**

The Eastern Shore Agriculture Research and Extension Center (AREC) is located in Painter, Virginia and is part of the university's Extension and Research program which is overseen by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The current Eastern Shore AREC facilities include approximately 39,200 gross square feet of space distributed among 11 buildings with an average age of 50 years-old. The spaces include offices, laboratories, a small auditorium, conference rooms, storage, and workshops.

The AREC's goals include expanding its research program, extension activities, and providing opportunities for students to gain practical experience working on projects on site. To reach these goals, the AREC must invest in modern equipment and the equipment requires dried-in and secure facilities. The AREC's existing facilities are not adequate to appropriately store the equipment and a new structure is required. A project for the Eastern Shore Agriculture Research and Extension Center (AREC) Equipment Storage Building was included on the 2016-2022 Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan approved by the Board of Visitors.

The AREC, working with the college and the university, has developed the specifications for the necessary facilities to house and secure the equipment. The program includes an approximately 9,300 gross square foot, single story structure located on site and adjacent to the AREC's other facilities. The exterior shell of the facility would be a pre-engineered metal building standing on a concrete slab with insulation and heating, but no cooling.

At this time, the university is requesting a planning authorization of \$46,000 to complete bid documents for the project. As with all self-supporting projects, the university has developed a funding plan to provide assurance regarding the financial feasibility of the project. The university, working conjointly with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, has prepared a funding plan of entirely nongeneral fund resources sufficient for this planning project and resources for future construction.

Under the 2006 Management Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the university, the Board of Visitors has the authority to approve the budget, size, scope, and funding of nongeneral fund capital outlay projects. This request is for a \$46,000 planning authorization to complete bid documents for the proposed Eastern Shore AREC Equipment Storage Building project. A subsequent request for construction funding may be submitted after designs are underway and a firm scope and cost are determined.

**RESOLUTION ON CAPITAL PROJECT FOR PLANNING  
THE EASTERN SHORE AREC EQUIPMENT STORAGE BUILDING**

**WHEREAS**, a project for the Eastern Shore Agriculture Research and Extension Center (AREC) Equipment Storage Building was included on the 2016-2022 Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan approved by the Board of Visitors; and,

**WHEREAS**, the project is envisioned as an approximately 9,300 gross square foot, single story structure that will be used as an equipment storage facility located in Painter, Virginia; and,

**WHEREAS**, the facility would provide space which is essential to properly house and secure equipment that will support expanding the AREC's research program and extension activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the AREC desires to move forward with preparing bid documents for the project and is prepared to fund construction if the overall costs are affordable; and,

**WHEREAS**, the cost of preparing bid documents is \$46,000 and the university, working jointly with the AREC, has developed a 100 percent nongeneral fund resource plan to support the planning costs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the university may request a subsequent authorization for construction funding once firm pricing confirms the required project scope is affordable; and,

**WHEREAS**, under the 2006 Management Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the university, the Board of Visitors has authority to approve the budget, size, scope, and funding of nongeneral funded major capital outlay projects;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the university be authorized to move forward with a \$46,000 planning authorization to complete bid documents for the Eastern Shore AREC Equipment Storage Building and to fund the planning with entirely nongeneral fund revenues.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the resolution authorizing Virginia Tech to plan the Eastern Shore AREC Equipment Storage Building be approved.

March 21, 2016