

High Country Workforce Development Board Meeting

February 10, 2011

MINUTES

Call to Order: by Chairman Peterson at 3:05 PM.

Members Present: Barbara Barlow, Mike Birkmire, Anne Bowlin, Marie Gwyn, Jenny Harpold, Fonda Harris, Dwayne Howell, Clark Hunter, Charley Nash, Bryan Peterson, Jayne Phipps-Boger, Wanda Proffitt, Sam Ray, Julia Rowland, Earl Tipton, Stacy Sears, Don Williams, Sallie Woodring

Staff: Misty Bishop-Price, Rebecca Bloomquist, Carole Coates, Don Sherrill, Adrian Tait, MaryAnn Urka

Guests: John C. Boyd, Sherri Dees, Drew Edwards, John Greene, Theresa Reynolds, Ginger Shaffer, Pam Wilson

Chairman Peterson administered the Oath of Office to Wanda Proffitt.

Consideration of Minutes: The minutes of the December 9, 2010 meeting were approved as submitted.

Information

Youth Council: Marie Gwyn reviewed second quarter service provider reports (pp. 6-13 Board Book), and announced a 2/24/11 visit to Johnson County High School's new aquaculture program (Mountain City, TN).

Adult Services/JobLink: Dwayne Howell reviewed second quarter service provider reports (pp. 14-19 Board Book). Howell also shared the news that the High Country region has received over \$1 million in Incumbent Worker Training Grant funds. over the last seven years, benefitting numerous companies across our seven-county region. JobLink Career Centers are in the process of rechartering. Staff will develop feedback cards and an online survey to assist in measuring JobLink customer satisfaction.

Executive Committee: Chairman Peterson announced Workforce Development Director Carole Coates' retirement, effective June 30, 2011. The Board will participate in the selection for her successor. He also announced the election of Kenny Poteat as the new Chief Elected Official of the Workforce Development Consortium at its January 27th meeting.

Workforce Update: Director Carole Coates explained that staff has developed a draft WDB vision statement, identifying a preferred future, to help guide the Board's next strategic planning process. The draft vision will be presented to the Executive Committee for consideration at its March 10 meeting. Coates also announced that Ken Richardson, Alleghany County Commission Chair, is chairing the NC County Commissioners Association's Building Human Capital Task Force and has requested the involvement of Board staff in this work.

Current Board Initiatives: Board Business Services Coordinator **Adrian Tait** presented an update on the Green Energy Job Training Grant. **Theresa Reynolds**, Senior Consulting Associate, DCA Inc., presented an update on the Future Forward Workforce Alliance's Regional Innovation Grant (RIG). The accompanying "Get NOT Out of Your Life" media campaign **Life** is an outreach tool emphasizing the benefits of education to targeted at-risk populations.

Industry Profiles: Board members **Fonda Harris** and **Bryan Peterson** offered brief **Industry Sector Reports**, introducing Board members to their respective businesses. Both described efforts and initiatives used by their employers to recruit, retain, and advance promising employees.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM.

The next meeting of the High Country Workforce Development Board will be held Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 3:00 PM in the HCCOG Board Room, 468 New Market Blvd., Boone.