

High Country Workforce Development Board Meeting
February 12, 2009, 3:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order: by Chairman Tipton at 3:03 PM.

Members Present: Connie Barnette, Jake Blood, Anne Bowlin, Maria Cunningham, Marie Gwyn, Jim Halsey, Jennie Harpold, Fonda Harris, Dwayne Howell, Tom Hughes, Joallen Lowder, Scott Moncrief, Charley Nash, Jayne Phipps-Boger, Bryan Peterson, Sam Ray, Sandra Reese, Eddie Reeves, Earl Tipton, Sherry Wood, Sallie Woodring,

Staff Present: Misty Bishop-Price, Rebecca Bloomquist, Carole Coates, Ruby Greene, Don Sherrill, MaryAnn Urka

Guests: Donna Bean, Dawn Boyer, Vassie Cook, Reni Geiger, John Grice, Dan Meyer, Theresa Reynolds, Ginger Shaffer, Chris Silvers, Marilyn Williams, Pam Wilson

Consideration of December Minutes: Minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Maria Cunningham reported that the committee held its regular teleconference meeting on February 5th, with time dedicated to discussion of economic conditions and recovery. There was agreement to form an ad hoc economic recovery advisory group to provide guidance to the Board.

The Philosophies and Values Statement Workgroup concluded that the current document does not require changes. The current statement will appear in the next issue of the Board Book for consideration by the Board at its April 9th meeting.

Quality Assurance: Scott Moncrief reported on the January 8th committee meeting, at which Julia Rowland, Assistant Director of the ASU Center for Entrepreneurship, shared information about a student design team which was the national winner of the "Juicy Ideas" contest. Moncrief also reported that to date the Board has received two Letters of Intent to Bid for WIA services. He stated that depending on the number of letters received, a streamlined proposal process may be in order.

Youth Council: Marie Gwyn reported that 15 registrants participated in the College Foundation of NC (CFNC) training session offered on December 15th. She also reported that the January 8th meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, and that staff member Misty Bishop-Price is conducting program monitoring. The Board has received \$10,000.00 through a voluntary fund transfer from Region C Workforce Development Board to provide additional needed youth services. The next scheduled Youth Council meeting is March 12th at 3:00 PM.

Presentation: Theresa Reynolds, Senior Vice President of the Piedmont Triad Economic Development Partnership shared the organization's experiences with the development and implementation of the WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) Project.

Reni Geiger, Coordinator of Grants/Career Connections, Goodwill Industries of NWNC, described Goodwill's Career Connections, a workforce development service in communities where Goodwill retail stores have been successful. Goodwill has opened a Career Connections Center in Wilkes County as a partner and affiliate of the Wilkes JobLink Career Center.

Workforce Briefings: Carole Coates provided a regional overview of current unemployment rates and economic conditions. She also shared with members an interactive website by USA Today and Moody's which provides monthly updates on the economy and recovery trends. A link can be found on the Board's website home page, www.highcountrywdb.com under Headlines.

Oath of Office administered to Bryan Peterson and Sallie Woodring by Mr. Tipton.

Tipton read a letter from the North Carolina Division of Workforce Development (NCDWD) announcing that the Board has successfully met the NC Commission on Workforce Development standards for high-performing boards, and will be recognized at the February 25th meeting of the Commission in Raleigh. He also announced that Yancey County Board of Commissioners Chair Walter Savage is the new Chief Elected Official (CEO) of the High Country Workforce Development Consortium, as of the 1/29/09 meeting of the Consortium.

Following a brief economic recovery discussion, Mr. Tipton announced the formation of an ad hoc advisory group to provide guidance to the Board on the stimulus package and regional needs. Vanya Baker, Jake Blood, Anne Bowlin (with Dawn Boyer as a back-up), Linda Cheek, Brian Crutchfield, Joedy Eller, Jim Halsey, Bryan Peterson, Sandy Reese, and Sallie Woodring will be asked to serve in this capacity.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 4:30 PM

The next meeting of the High Country Workforce Development Board will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at 3:00 PM.

**High Country Workforce Development Board
Meeting Attendance
February 12, 2009**

%	Name	Feb. 08	Apr. 08	Jun. 08	Aug. 08	Oct. 08	Dec. 08	Feb. 09
43%	Vanya Baker	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
57%	Barbara Barlow	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	late	Absent	Present
72%	Connie Barnette	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Absent
100%	Jake Blood	Absent	Vacancy	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
72%	Anne Bowlin	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent
0%	John Brubaker (Eff. 8/08)	Present	Present	Present	Vacancy	Present	Present	Present
57%	Maria Cunningham	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent
86%	Marie Gwyn	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
100%	Jim Halsey	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
75%	Fonda Harris	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent
57%	Dwayne Howell	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Absent
33%	Tom Hughes	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present	Absent
67%	Joallen Lowder	Vacancy	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Absent
72%	Scott Moncrief	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
100%	Charley Nash	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
57%	Jayne Phipps-Boger	Absent	phone	Present	Present	Present	Absent	Absent
100%	Bryan Peterson (Eff. 1/09)	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Absent
14%	Doug Pratt	Absent	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
100%	Sam Ray	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
100%	Sandra Reese	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
60%	Stacy Sears	Vacancy	Vacancy	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Present
100%	Sallie Woodring (Eff. 1/09), Susan Pittman through 12/08.	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Absent
100%	Earl Tipton	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
		78%	56%	65%	62%	55%	68%	78%

Youth Council Members Present

Jennie Harpold
Eddie Reeves
Sherry Wood

Legend
Present
Absent
Vacancy