

High Country Workforce Development Board Meeting

April 8, 2010

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Barbara Barlow, Mike Birkmire, Jake Blood, Skip Green, Marie Gwyn, Jim Halsey, Jennie Harpold, Fonda Harris, Joallen Lowder, Scott Moncrief, Charley Nash, Bryan Peterson, Jayne Phipps-Boger, Sandy Reese, Truman Robbins, Julia Rowland, Earl Tipton, Sallie Woodring

Staff: Oliver Adams, Carole Coates, Misty Bishop-Price, Rebecca Bloomquist, Ruby Greene, Kathleen McFadden, Don Sherrill, MaryAnn Urka, Judy Winebarger

Guests: Charles Anderson, Robert Branch, David Cox, Sherri Dees, Joyce Glenn, John Greene, Belinda Henson, Donna Kelly, Steve Noblitt, Rep. Shirley Randleman (District 94, NC House), Ginger Shaffer, Pam Wilson
Mike Birkmire, NC Vocational Rehabilitation Services, was sworn in as the new Mitchell County Board representative.

Consideration of December Minutes: The minutes of the December 10, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted. No declarations of conflict of interest were reported for today's agenda. It was noted that the February 11, 2010 Board meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

Committee Reports

JobLink Continuous Improvement: Jim Halsey reported on the March 11 meeting's discussion of committee goals and data analysis, JobLink Center websites, and center-based social media communications.

Executive: Halsey reported on the April 1 Executive Committee workgroup meeting with HCCOG Executive Director Rick Herndon, to discuss Board participation in the WDB Director succession process. Agreement on a process was reached, pending approval of the HCCOG Advisory Committee at its April meeting.

Adult Services: Scott Moncrief referenced pages 9-12 of the February 2010 Board Book, for notes of the January 14th meeting, with mid-year reports. During the first quarter of 2010, Rapid Response assistance was provided to Compucredit and Martin Marietta.

Business Services: Presented by Sandy Reese for Dwayne Howell, who announced that a workgroup has been established to follow up on the January Regional Community Partners Business Team meeting. The workgroup will meet April 22, 2010.

Finance: Charley Nash reported that at the committee's meeting held earlier today, local WIA fiscal policies and procedures were presented by staff member Don Sherrill.

Youth Council: Marie Gwyn reported that 184 youth received SYEP services during Summer 2009. Of this number, 67 youth earned Career Readiness Certification (CRC).

Information

Board staff member Rebecca Bloomquist noted that May is Workforce Development Professionals Month, and introduced a number of workforce development professionals, each of whom provided brief explanations of their particular field of work.

Jim Halsey moved to adopt the resolution on page 6, April 2010 Board Book, honoring local area workforce development professionals. Unanimously carried.

Carole Coates summarized elements of the WDB's Program Year 2010 WIA Plan submission. She announced that a brief public forum would be held immediately following the Board meeting to provide additional opportunity for public comment on the plan.

Coates reported that implementation of the \$250,000.00 DOL Regional Innovation Grant (RIG), which is a joint venture of the High Country, Western Piedmont, and Region C Workforce Development Boards (Future Forward Workforce Alliance), is now underway. The grant will include an updated analysis of in-demand career fields and will lay the groundwork for a public literacy and lifelong learning campaign.

A competitive ARRA Energy Sector Partnership Grant, also known as Green Is Gold for NC, was awarded in January 2010 to the Future Forward Workforce Alliance (FFWA). However, the NC Division of Workforce Development has

placed implementation on hold pending development of statewide implementation mechanisms. This grant will provide \$1.85 million dollars, over a period of three years, to the 15-county consortium. The majority of grant funds will be used to train eligible individuals in energy-efficient and renewable energy career paths.

Coates also provided an update on Board public communications initiatives, with a hands-on demonstration of the Board, Recovery, and Facebook websites.

Chair/Member Comments

Earl Tipton announced the appointment of Bryan Peterson, Jayne Phipps-Boger, and Sam Ray to the Nominating Committee. He also announced the planned June retirement of Ruby Greene, Adult and Dislocated Worker Systems Manager to the Board.

Scott Moncrief informed members that the final report on the skills gap and employer needs was just released, and is available on the NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) website.

(<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/statesuperintendent/office/commissions>)

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn offered by Jim Halsey and seconded by Bryan Peterson at 4:14 PM.

The next meeting of the High Country Workforce Development Board will be held Thursday, June 10, 2010, at 3:00 PM in the HCCOG Board Room, 468 New Market Blvd., Boone.

**High Country Workforce Development Board
Meeting Attendance
April 8, 2010**

%	Name	Apr. 09	Jun. 09	Aug. 09	Oct. 09	Dec. 09	Feb. 2010 Canceled	Apr. 10
100%	Barbara Barlow							
67%	Jake Blood							
67%	Anne Bowlin							
60%	David Edwards (6/09-) John Brubaker (8/08-5/09)							
67%	Skip Greene (9/09-) Doug Pratt through 4/09)							
100%	Marie Gwyn							
67%	Jim Halsey							
50%	Fonda Harris							
33%	Dwayne Howell							
33%	Joallen Lowder							
83%	Scott Moncrief							
	Jane Moore (7/09-4/10)							
100%	Charley Nash							
83%	Jayne Phipps-Boger							
67%	Bryan Peterson							
83%	Sam Ray							
50%	Sandra Reese							
100%	Truman Robbins (7/09-) Tom Hughes (6/08-6/09)							
72%	Stacy Sears							
100%	Mike Birkmire (2/10 -) Jim Stout (10/09-12/09) Connie Barnette (7/05-9/09)							
67%	Earl Tipton							
	Kendra Walsh-eller (7/09- 3/10) Maria Cunningham (7/07-6/09)							
100%	Sallie Woodring (1/09-)							
		57%	48%	87%	83%	66%		76%

Youth Council Members Present

Jennie Harpold

Julia Rowland

LEGEND

Present
Absent
Vacant