

High Country Workforce Development Board Meeting

October 15, 2009

MINUTES

Call to Order: by Chairman Tipton at 3:00 PM.

Members Present: Barbara Barlow, Jake Blood, Anne Bowlin, David Edwards, Skip Greene, Marie Gwyn, Jennie Harpold, Dwayne Howell, Carl Jenkins, Joallen Lowder, Scott Moncrief, Jane Moore, Charley Nash, Suzanne Owens, Bryan Peterson, Jayne Phipps-Boger, Sam Ray, Truman Robbins, Julia Rowland, Stacy Sears, Jim Stout, Earl Tipton, Sallie Woodring

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

Guests Present: Vassie Cooke, Calvin Dull, John Greene, Patrick McKemie, Ginger Shaffer

Consideration of August Minutes: August 13, 2009 minutes were approved as submitted. No declarations of conflict of interest were reported. A tour of the new facility followed.

Committee Reports

Executive: Mr. Tipton introduced Skip Greene and administered the Oath of Office. He also thanked resigning Board member Connie Barnette for her dedicated service as a Board member from 2005-2009.

Finance: Charley Nash reported on the overview of WIA funding and financial management reviewed by the committee at its August 21, 2009 meeting. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2010, at 9:30 AM.

JobLink Continuous Improvement Committee: On behalf of Jim Halsey, who was absent, Carole Coates announced the first meeting on November 12th at 2:00 PM.

Youth Council: Marie Gwyn announced that Wilkes Get REAL participant Teresa Mejia-Santos was selected as a winner of the 2008 Governor's Outstanding Youth Participant award. 183 participants were served through the ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program. Career Readiness Certificates (CRC) were earned by 57 of those served. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Program Year 2009 WIA youth services providers have been sent to Avery, Mitchell, Watauga and Yancey Counties in the form of "Request for Intent to Bid" letters.

Business Services: Dwayne Howell reported that the committee will hold its first meeting on November 12th at 9:30 AM. Oliver Adams was introduced as the Board's new Business Services Coordinator.

Adult Services: Scott Moncrief reported that complete details of the September 10th meeting can be found in the Board Book. Four incumbent worker grant applications were received, with one withdrawal. A second draft local incumbent worker policy has been distributed, with committee comment by October 21st.

Information

Coates congratulated local area WIA service providers on the region's meeting of federal measures. She noted that information on achievement of PY 2008 progress toward local goals established by the Board as part of its Strategic Plan appears on page 20 of the current Board Book. All three community colleges have now received ARRA "12 in 6" grant funding.

Misty Bishop-Price reported on results and challenges of the implementation across the region of a Summer Youth Employment program under the American Recovery and reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Ginger Shaffer and John Greene reported on the experience of implementing WIA/ARRA for their respective organizations. On-the-job (OJT) training contracts are in place with many area employers and to date 10 ARRA customers have transitioned into full-time employment.

Chair and Member Comments: Mr. Tipton thanked Board members for their continuing participation. Scott Moncrief offered information on the "JOBS" (Joining Our Businesses and Schools) Project, commenting on its potential future impact on workforce preparation.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn offered by Sam Ray. Seconded by Bryan Peterson at 4:01 PM.

The next meeting of the High Country Workforce Development Board will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2009, at 3:00 PM in the COG Board Room, 468 New Market Blvd., Boone.