

APPROVED

THE VIRGINIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

The Virginia Apprenticeship Council (Council) met on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at New Horizons Regional Education Center in Hampton, Virginia. Chairman Darold Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Darold Kemp, Chairman
Dudley Harris
Everett Patterson
Elizabeth Creamer for Chancellor DuBois
Dr. Ashby Kilgore
John Broadway
Arnold Outlaw
Frank Goodwin
Mike Mays
Danny Amos
John Biagus

STAFF PRESENT: Courtney Malveaux, Commissioner, DOLI
Beverley Donati, Division Director
Patricia Morrison, Assistant Division Director
Delores Ferrell, Apprenticeship Representative

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked the New Horizon Educational Center. Executive Director Joe Johnson was thanked and it was noted that Dave Taylor, the Related Instruction Coordinator, would be retiring and this would be his last meeting. The Council members introduced themselves.

Ms. Bev Donati, the Director of the Division of Registered Apprenticeship introduced members of her staff: Trish Morrison and Delores Ferrell. Ms. Donati also introduced Dave Siewert from the Virginia Community College System staff and John McDowell from the Federal Office of Apprenticeship and Jim Walker, formerly from the Federal Office of Apprenticeship.

Chairman Kemp recognized Ray Davenport, former Commissioner for the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, Dr. Jim Hughes of Northrop Grumman Newport News Shipbuilding. Also recognized was Everett Jordan, Educational Director at Northrop Grumman Newport News Shipbuilding.

It was announced that a former Virginia Apprenticeship Council member had passed away, Mr. Raymon Roberts, at age 91.

Mr. Dave Taylor was recognized with a token of appreciation by the Virginia Apprenticeship Council.

Mr. Joseph Johnson of New Horizons formally welcomed the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Danny Amos nominated Mr. Dudley Harris and it was seconded by. The motion carried by roll call vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

There were no comments offered by Council members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On proper motion and second the minutes for the Council meeting held on November 18, 2010 were approved by Council members by roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outstanding Apprentice Awards Committee:

Everett Patterson described the Outstanding Apprentice Award and asked that the committee review the current practices and re-align it and modernize it. Mr. Patterson made a motion that the Award applications not be sought this year, but that the committee and staff review the process and bring recommendations to the full Council at a future meeting. Chairman Kemp seconded the motion and the motion carried by roll call vote.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ad Hoc Subcommittee:

REPORTS:

Virginia Outstanding Apprentice Awards:

Previously reported.

Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni Association (VAAA):

Chairman Kemp reported that he is the outgoing President of the Association and the new President is Norris Williams. Chairman Kemp encouraged all to belong to the VAAA.

Virginia Employment Commission (VEC):

Commissioner Broadway shared that unemployment is down to 6.3% with gradual progress. There are still 250,000 Virginians out of work and looking for work, but the trend is going in the right direction.

Virginia Community College System (VCCS):

The VCCS is currently in the process of hiring a new Apprenticeship Related Instruction Coordinator. The position will be exclusively dedicated to Apprenticeship Related Instruction. Ms. Bev Donati is on the hiring committee. A new database is being created to allow more information such as qualification of courses for college credit. There is an application out for funding for the regional sites that coordinate related instruction.

To encourage the local centers to do an even better job of ensuring completion, a bonus has been added per apprentice based on their completion.

Division of Registered Apprenticeship:

Ms. Donati reported that the Division was fortunate to get an extension on the stimulus grant that went through March. The main thing was to be able to re-allocate funds to cover salaries in the Division. The shortfall was a result of the General Assembly moving to implement an Apprenticeship fee; however this year, General Assembly eliminated the fee and we are now back on track with restored funding. Ms. Donati thanked all who helped with that effort.

Ms. Donati presented statistics about the grant. The Career Readiness Certificate was offered in three different geographical regions identified. 295 assessments were administered with 221 receiving their Certificates which shows a very good pass rate. There is also the availability of on-line tutorials to improve in areas in which they may be weak.

Another project was to assist construction firms who paid for related instruction for their construction workers. While there was not a very large participation in this area, the sponsors who were reimbursed were very pleased with that assistance. And lastly, we were able to have two Apprenticeship Liaisons who worked to introduce and re-introduce the value of apprenticeship to Workforce Investment Boards and front line staff of the One-Stop Centers. We now have a detailed

understanding of the various Boards. The performance measure was to facilitate five On-The-Job Contract opportunities and the Division is on track to do that.

The Division has several grants that are being administered.

The Federal government received the proposed code changes after the Virginia Attorney General had approved them, to then provide concurrence. The Equal Opportunity statute will also be revised and the states will work with that as it relates to apprenticeship.

Some time back, the Council granted the Director the ability to approve exemptions from full-time employment with the instruction to report back to the Council. Ms. Donati guided the Council to their information detailing a School Bus Driver occupation from Augusta County. It was determined that this was an occupation and sponsor who warranted this exemption.

The Apprenticeship division participated in a staff meeting and discussed many of the new regulations, such as the changes in the status of a new sponsor as a provisional sponsor and the Quality Assurance Assessment. Ms. Donati also described the changes in "active sponsor" definition which will cause Virginia's statistics to change, but only due to different data-collecting and reporting features.

Statistics reported are as follows:

In Fiscal Year 2010 there were 3,372 new apprentices. To date in FY 2011, there are 2,968, a decrease of 404. For sponsors, in FY 2010, there were 304 new sponsors. To date in FY 2011 there are 289, a decrease of 15. Ms. Donati also shared that cancellations were down by about a third which helps to show that people are staying in their jobs.

Department of Labor and Industry:

Commissioner Malveaux thanked the new members and the stakeholders who remain involved as well as the staff of the Division. The commitment of those here does bear fruit and the Commissioner indicated that he appreciated how everyone helps those making decisions about future apprentices see the value in it.

He stated that the economy appears to be ticking up, although even if overall numbers decrease, the value of Registered Apprenticeship is also being used in targeted efforts in economic development sectors and geographic areas. There is continued work with agency partners such as Virginia Employment Commission and Virginia Department of Business Assistance. The Commissioner stated that he will be paying some special attention in Danville and is functioning as an emissary to other various programs to emphasize Registered Apprenticeship adding value.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 18, 2011 at Confederate Hills in Richmond. The November meeting will be November 17, 2011 at the same location. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a. m.

Chairman Kemp thanked the Council and all who have participated since 1996 when he received his first appointment to the Council.

Chairman Darold Kemp

Courtney Malveaux, Secretary