

APPROVED

VIRGINIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MINUTES Thursday, June 23, 2005

The Virginia Apprenticeship Council (Council) met Thursday, June 23, 2005, at Hermitage Technical Center, 8301 Hungary Spring Road, Richmond, Virginia 23228. Chairman Barry Baker called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

COUNCIL MEMEBERS PRESENT: Barry W. Baker, Chairman
Dudley Harris
Earl Dickerson
Gloria Westerman for Dr. Glen DuBois
Kathy Dolan Marshall for Ms. Delores Esser
Dr. Steven Staples
Susan Tansey

STAFF PRESENT: C. Ray Davenport, Commissioner, DOLI
Beverley Donati, Division Director
Ellen Marie Hess, DOLI Attorney
Bill Diamond, Assistant Attorney General
DOLI Regional Apprenticeship Representative s

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Barry W. Baker called the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Virginia Apprenticeship Council to order. The presence of a quorum was established.

Chairman Baker expressed the Council's appreciation to Henrico County Public Schools and Mr. Vic Sorrell, principal of Hermitage Technical Center, for hosting the meeting. Mr. Sorrell welcomed everyone and invited those in attendance to tour the facilities following the meeting. He also announced that the refreshments were prepared by students at the Technical Center's Summer Academy.

Council members introduced themselves. Ms. Donati introduced DOLI staff members present. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship Training, State Director Jim Walker introduced himself and BAT Apprenticeship Representatives. Chairman Baker introduced Dr. Rose Johnson, Vice Chancellor, VCCS, Workforce Development.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment offered.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

No comments were offered by Council members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On proper motion and second, the minutes from the March 17, 2005 Council meeting were approved unanimously by role call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Donati reviewed the following correspondence: A response from CAEL (Council for Adult Experiential Learning) thanking the council for support of this initiative; a FOIA request resulting in a request for an investigation of a sponsor's program (staff will report the findings at the September meeting); and the results of a Congressional survey of ABC. Ms. Donati advised the Council that ABC voluntarily de-registered as Virginia sponsors in 1999.

OLD BUSINESS:

Williams Steel Erection Company, Inc:

Ms. Hess reviewed for Council the remedial plan that was negotiated with Williams Steel Erection and the Department of Labor and Industry at their request and approved by Council effective August 2004, to allow Williams Steel to operate an apprenticeship program while providing heightened scrutiny by the Council to ensure that the program would be operated according to the laws and regulations governing apprenticeship. To date, there are no registered apprentices and the company has missed every reporting date. Williams Steel Erection has been notified that the company is in default and that staff will bring this to the attention of the Council to request an IFF and de-registration if proper under the regulations.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Dickerson:

“The Council has been advised that Williams Steel Erection Company, Inc. has had no apprentices since its reinstatement, and this may be grounds for de-registration pursuant to 16VAC 20-20-60B. Staff shall advise Williams Steel of its rights to an informal conference on this matter, giving Williams Steel 15 days from the date of the staff letter to make such a request. If no such request is made, Williams Steel shall be advised that it may also make a written or oral presentation related to the proposed matter of the de-registration of the apprenticeship program to the Council at its next meeting.”

Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by role call vote.

Chairman Baker instructed staff to proceed with the letter.

Chairman Baker asked if there were any additional questions. Chairman Baker thanked Mr. Diamond and Ms. Hess for their assistance. Mr. Diamond and Ms. Hess then left the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Standing Subcommittees:

a. Ad Hoc Subcommittee:

Mr. Harris reported that the Subcommittee met on June 21, 2005. Mr. Walker, Ms. Westerman, Mr. Harris and Ms. Donati were in attendance. Ms. Westerman reviewed with the Subcommittee the proposed changes in delivery of related instruction and the Guidelines FY 2006. Mr. Harris then asked Ms. Westerman to summarize the plan for the Council.

Ms. Westerman presented Apprenticeship Related Instruction Program Guidelines FY 2006 to the Council members. She reported that all 16 current Apprenticeship Related Instruction Coordinators had been presented with the new plan. There would be six or seven business and industry liaisons. They would function as brokers to ensure that as many providers of related instruction as possible would be identified in each region. That could include tech centers, community colleges and on-site. The purpose is to expand the opportunity to business and industry, tie Registered Apprenticeship into economic development, and to present a stronger focus on business assistance and economic development. She emphasized that Registered Apprenticeship is a key business service. The regions will follow the VCCS Workforce Development Regions. DOLI and VCCS have been working together assure that we are open to new strategies. The plan will be phased in for the FY 2006. Ms. Westerman referred Council to the handouts provided. Ms. Westerman also discussed the proposed database that would be on-line. Sponsors would be able to view their company's information only. DOLI currently shares apprenticeship data with the VCCS. The VCCS database is being developed by a Christopher Newport University subsidiary.

b. Exemption from Examination Subcommittee:

Mr. Dickerson reported that the subcommittee had reviewed six requests for exemption from examination renewal. All met the requirements for exemption. Mr. Dickerson offered the following motion:

"I move that the following sponsors' request for exemption from licensing examination be extended until June 23, 2009: Sponsors: 2000-02R; 2001-06R; 2001-08R; 2001-010R; 2001-11R; and 2001-15R.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker. The motion carried unanimously by role call vote.

c. Update Perkins Funding:

Dr. Staples reported that Perkins funding appears to stay at the same level or drop a bit this year. It will probably dwindle over the next few years but will stay as a consistent categorical funding stream in the future.

d. Request for New Program Approval:

Ms. Donati introduced a request for Council approval to apprentice Trade and Industrial Teachers (D.O.T. Code 091.221-010). The request is from Henrico County Public Schools. The Work Processes were distributed to Council members. Mr. Mac Beaton, Director of Career and Technical Education, reviewed the reason for this request. When T & I teachers are hired they are masters in their field but have no experience in teaching. They understand the importance of apprenticeship and this is a wonderful way to assist new teachers in becoming successful teachers. It is a three year program and will be an expectation of employment. Apprentice teachers will be hired at pay grade 27 and pay raises will be tied to performance level. Mr. Beaton is working with Henrico's HR to add a value added credential at completion.

Dr. Staples moved approval of this program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitaker. The motion carried unanimously by role call vote.

Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni:

Mr. Harris reported that the Alumni hosted a reception at the VOSH Conference in Portsmouth. The next alumni association event will be a golf tournament following the Council meeting on Wednesday, September 14th at the Crossings. The proceeds will go towards scholarships or gifts for the 2005 Outstanding Apprentices and to start a scholarship fund. Mr. Harris requested assistance in getting hole sponsors and teams. Mr. Harris announced that Council attire would be different for the September meeting. Mr. Harris reminded everyone that there is a link to VAAA's website from the DOLI website and membership applications are available through that link. www.doli.virginia.gov.

The alumni's secretary/treasurer, Merry Beth Hall, has taken a position with a national association and the alumni's post office box address will be changing in the future.

REPORTS:

Virginia Community College System:

Ms. Westerman reported that the VCCS audit department had conducted eight apprenticeship related instruction site audits and that she will give a complete report of the auditor's findings in September.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship Training:

Mr. Walker addressed the Council. Greetings were extended from the USDOL national and regional offices. Mr. Walker related that Virginia's Apprenticeship Program runs well. He enforced his support for the proposed re-organization of related instruction. He announced

that as BAT State Directors retire in SAC states, there will be no replacement staff from BAT. He reported that the DOLI office and his office work closely together to stay abreast of changes. He stated that Virginia had high integrity in the apprenticeship program in comparison to some other states.

Division of Registered Apprenticeship:

Ms. Donati thanked the Council for approving the Industry and Technical Teacher apprenticeship program. The trade will be submitted to BAT for national approval. She reported that Whitney Perez had already been to Roanoke to train with Connie Perry. The position in Manassas has not been filled to date. The agency is aggressively advertising and hopes to fill the position in the near future. Ms. Donati briefly described the workshop at the VOSH Conference conducted by Karla Rodriguez, Ann-Marie Mendez, and Lloyd Bolton entitled "Breaking Down Barriers in the Hispanic Community." The two sessions were well attended and well received. This workshop was also presented to DOLI staff at the annual DOLI Safety Conference held in Williamsburg. All apprenticeship division staff members have Spanish/English dictionaries to assist with translation in the field. She announced a new DOLI Compliance Health and Safety Officer Apprenticeship program. Ms. Donati reported she attended the Southern States Apprenticeship Conference and that the SSAC is scheduled to be held in Virginia in 2005. She announced that this would be Council member, Susan Tansey's last meeting. Ms. Donati thanked Ms. Tansey for her support during her term on the Council. Ms. Donati emphasized the working relationship between BAT, VCCS, and DOLI and the overreaching goal of serving our sponsors and apprentices.

Department of Labor and Industry:

Commissioner Davenport addressed the Council. He began by thanking the Council for approving the Industrial and Technical Teacher apprenticeship and offered his assistance to Henrico County and Mr. Beaton. The Commissioner described the rationale for developing the Health and Safety Compliance Officer registered apprenticeship program. Currently there are six apprentices registered. He thanked all those involved in developing the program including Ms. Westerman and Mr. Walker. DOLI plans to soon have a registered apprenticeship program for Industrial Hygienists. Commissioner Davenport reported on the Governor's Construction Taskforce. He recognized Dr. Rose Johnson, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development, VCCS and thanked her for her work as co-chairman of the Taskforce. Council members Darold Kemp and Dudley Harris are both active taskforce members. Commissioner Davenport briefly reported to the Council about the work of the Council on Virginia's Future and the Strategic Plan being developed to help provide for continuity and standardization. One goal is to make the budget easier to read. He urged all present to follow the process and to be prepared to continue their support of Registered Apprenticeship in the future. The Commissioner drew attention to the Annual Report and offered to answer any questions. He ended by thanking the members for all of their commitment and support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The chairman thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 14, 2005 at JSRCC, North Run Office Park in Richmond. Chairman Baker thanked Ms. Tansey on behalf of the Council for her service. Those in attendance were invited to tour the facility immediately following the meeting,

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Barry W. Baker, Chair

C. Ray Davenport, Secretary