

DRAFT

THE VIRGINIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

The Virginia Apprenticeship Council (Council) met on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at Confederate Hills Recreation Center, Richmond, Virginia. Chairman Darold Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Darold Kemp, Chairman
Dudley Harris
Elizabeth Moran for Chancellor DuBois
Sharon Worthy for John Broadway
Mike Mays
Everett Patterson
Frank Goodwin

STAFF PRESENT: Beverley Donati, Division Director
Patricia Morrison, Assistant Division Director
Reba O'Connor, Regulatory Coordinator
Delores Ferrell, Apprenticeship Representative
Crystal Thrower, Apprenticeship Representative
Todd Cook, Apprenticeship Representative
Jim Morris, Photographer/Webmaster
Sharon Sykes, Communication Director

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Chairman Kemp welcomed everyone to the special Council meeting. He thanked Henrico County Public Schools for hosting the meeting and Lisa Clark for the hospitality always shown to the Council. Chairman Kemp thanked Brad Beazley for bringing the "Big Red" Career and Tech Bus from Henrico County Schools. Council members introduced themselves.

Chairman Kemp acknowledged special guests in the audience. Mr. Jim Walker, retired Office of Apprenticeship State Director was greeted; C. Ray Davenport, former Commissioner of Labor and Industry was acknowledged; Dr. Jim Hughes, past Council chair was greeted; the President of the Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni Association, Norris Williams was welcomed.

Registered Apprenticeship Director Bev Donati introduced Trish Morrison, Assistant Director, Delores Ferrell, Todd Cook, Apprenticeship Representatives, Reba O'Connor, Regulatory Coordinator, Sharon Sykes, Communication Director, and Jim Morris, Photographer.

Chairman Kemp then introduced Commissioner Malveaux for the purpose of an introduction.

Commissioner Malveaux thanked the Chairman and the Council for the opportunity to present the awards to these outstanding apprentices today. The Commissioner introduced the guest speaker, Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Mr. James Cheng.

Secretary Cheng thanked Commissioner Malveaux for all he does for the agency and he commended the Registered Apprenticeship program as one of the key cornerstone programs at DOLI. Additionally, Secretary Cheng commended the sponsors in the state that are keys to the success of the program. All of these supporters help to keep the workforce strong and motivated.

Secretary Cheng emphasized the mission of the Administration focus on jobs. Particularly important is having a skilled workforce. Secretary Cheng detailed how they go all over the world and the country recruiting business for the state of Virginia. Many of the companies are looking for the trained, skilled technicians and maintenance workers who have benefitted from vocational or apprenticeship training. Companies are looking for the ready-to-work, trained individual.

He thanked the audience for the invitation to recognize the wonderful apprentices.

The following apprentices were named Outstanding Apprentices – 2012.

LaTonya Pope from Norfolk Naval Shipyard
Gregory Hoefflin from Huntington Ingalls Industries – Newport News Shipyard
Justin Duke from D.E. Kirby Inc.
Nabil Awwad from Mt. Vernon Ladies Association of the Union

Secretary Cheng, Commissioner Malveaux, Chairman Kemp, Outstanding Apprentice Subcommittee Chair Everett Patterson and VAAA Chairman Norris Williams presented the awards and shared accomplishments of each apprentice as nominated by their sponsor.

Dudley Harris, the VAC Vice-Chair acknowledged 3 Virginia organizations that were selected as USDOL, Office of Apprenticeship Trailblazers and Innovators. These organizations were selected from a nationwide pool of superior programs that represent Registered Apprenticeship. Governor McDonnell recognized the three organizations with resolutions from the Commonwealth. They are:

Huntington-Ingalls Newport News Shipbuilding
Norfolk Naval Shipyard
Shenandoah Valley Energy Partnership

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Grant Schmelzer, Executive Director of the Independent Electrical Contractors Chapter in Chesapeake Virginia addressed the Council and brought greetings from the Maryland Apprenticeship Council.

Jim Walker provided some history of the Outstanding Apprentice Awards, and information about Barry Baker, a founder of the Award. Mr. Walker informed the Council of Mr. Baker's passing in March, 2012.

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 August 16, 2012 were approved by Council members by roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reba O'Connor provided an update on the periodic review of the Public Participation Guidelines 16-VAC-20-11. Notice of the periodic review was published in the Virginia Register October 22nd. A public comment period started that day and concluded on November 13th. No comments were received. The Department has concluded its review and recommends that it be approved with no changes. A motion was properly made and seconded and it passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Exemption from Examination Sub-Committee:

Sub-committee Chair John Biagas provided summary information for Sponsor 2008-02R. The sub-committee moved that Sponsor 2008-02R be approved for exemption from licensing examination until December, 2016. A motion was properly made and seconded and it passed by roll call vote.

Outstanding Apprenticeship Awards

Sub-committee Chair Everett Patterson thanked the sub-committee, Dudley Harris and John Biagas for working through the nominee process along with the DOLI staff. Mr. Patterson noted that this was a very competitive group.

REPORTS:

Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni Association (VAAA):

Chairman Norris Williams stated the Alumni Association's support for the Outstanding Apprentice Awards and announced that they group would be having a luncheon afterwards that would recognize them as well as the VAAA Scholarship recipients.

Virginia Employment Commission (VEC):

Sharon Worthy, designee for Commissioner Broadway stated that the VEC is continuing to handle claims and that the state has a contingency plan for sequestration if it were to occur.

Virginia Community College System (VCCS):

Ms. Moran gave details of a new \$1.6 million grant to help Veterans from the Workforce Investment Act. The hopes are that it will be used in partnership. The grants are up to \$250,000 per recipient and there is the hope that Apprenticeship will be part of the grants.

Division of Registered Apprenticeship:

Director Donati stated that next year, in 2013, Virginia will be celebrating its 75th year anniversary of Registered Apprenticeship. The Virginia Apprenticeship Voluntary Act was enacted in 1938. The representatives have been very busy with new registrants and their Quality Assurance Assessments. There are 12,662 apprentices and 1107 certificates have been awarded since July 1. Apprentice cancellation seems to have declined, which is a positive sign for job retention.

Ms. Donati asked that the Council stay tuned for next year's celebration.

Department of Labor and Industry:

Commissioner Malveaux thanked Mr. Kemp for chairing the Council and providing leadership. He also noted his appreciation for the sponsors and the awardees. Commissioner Malveaux emphasized the concept of positive numbers which shows the accuracy of the sponsors and apprentice numbers. He commended Ms. Donati for her leadership in that realm. He also noted the pursuit of advanced manufacturing as a way to create good jobs and a focus of the Division. The Virginia National Guard, Apprenticeship Partnership Initiative continues to be a successful program. He noted that over 900 have been served since the program began several years ago.

Commissioner Malveaux pointed out that DOLI staff is reaching out to sister agencies, Workforce Investment Boards and localities who participate in Job/Career Fairs with apprenticeship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Kemp thanked the Council, the chairs of the sub-committee and the DOLI staff. The next meeting date and location will be announced at a later time. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a. m.

Chairman Darold Kemp

Courtney Malveaux, Secretary