

APPROVED AS CORRECTED
6.18.15

**THE VIRGINIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL
MINUTES**

The Virginia Apprenticeship Council met on Thursday, March 19, 2015, at New Horizons Regional Education Center, Hampton, Virginia.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Darold Kemp, Chairman
Dr. Robert Benson
John Biagas
Danny Brookman
Steven Foster
Dudley Harris
Ellen Marie Hess
Terry Kelly
Michael Mays
Elizabeth Moran for Dr. Glen DuBois
Ray Davenport, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Beverley Donati, Division Director
Delores Ferrell, Apprenticeship Consultant

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Darold Kemp called the meeting to order at 9:54 a.m. Chairman Kemp welcomed everyone. Council members introduced themselves. Chairman Kemp welcomed the two new Council members, Danny Brookman and Ellen Marie Hess.

Chairman Kemp acknowledged in the audience Mrs. Doris Crouse-Mays, President of the Virginia AFL-CIO, Mr. Everett Jordan, The Apprentice School, Mr. John McDowell, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, and Mr. Gary Duff with the Virginia Alumni Association.

Registered Apprenticeship Director, Beverley Donati introduced Delores Ferrell, Apprenticeship Consultant.

Chairman Kemp introduced Mr. Peter Mercier, Related Instruction Coordinator and thanked New Horizons Regional Education Center for their hospitality and hosting the Council meeting. Mr. Mercier welcomed the Council and guests to New Horizons.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Nadine Garvin with Tidewater Community College, Apprenticeship Office, began by saying she was present to offer on behalf of TCC, continued support to the Department of Labor and Industry, the Apprenticeship Council and the sponsors. She continued by addressing the concerns about the changes taking place to the ARI management roles.

Mr. Wesley Smith with John Tyler and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Colleges, Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA), offered continued support and assistance to the Department of Labor and the consultants in the upcoming transition.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

No comments offered by Council members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On proper motion and second the minutes for the Council meeting held on September 18, 2014, were approved by Council members by roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subcommittee Report

Mr. Dudley Harris, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee - reported that the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee reviewed the By-Laws for the Council with no changes recommended.

A motion was properly made and seconded and passed by roll call vote.

Request for Exemption from Examination

Mr. John Biagas, Chairman of the Exemption from Examination Subcommittee –Sponsor 2010-02R was granted approval for exemption from licensing examination on September 10, 2010. Earlier this year, the sponsor contacted the state office to explain that due to an employee leaving and reshuffling of duties, they missed their deadline and did not request renewal. This sponsor has been registered since 1953. Upon reviewing the submitted information, the subcommittee moves that the request for renewal be granted exemption from licensing examination until March 30, 2019.

A motion was properly made and seconded and passed by roll call vote.

Request for Volunteers for Subcommittees

Chairman Kemp asked for volunteers for the subcommittees.

The current Ad Hoc Subcommittee - Mr. Harris, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Mays.

The current Exemption from Examination Subcommittee - Mr. Biagas, Mr. Mays and Mr. Amos.

Mr. Danny Brookman volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Subcommittee. Steven Foster volunteered for the Exemption from Examination Subcommittee.

As of this meeting the Ad Hoc Subcommittee will consist of Mr. Harris as chairman, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Mays and Mr. Brookman.

As of this meeting the Exemption from Examination Subcommittee will consist of Mr. Biagas as chairman, Mr. Mays and Mr. Foster.

REPORTS:

Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni Association (VAAA):

Mr. Gary Duff reported for Mr. Norris Williams that Tim Gardner has been elected as the new Treasurer for the Virginia Alumni Association as Dr. Jim Hughes is retiring. The 2015 membership drive is currently underway. Four scholarships, \$1000.00 each, will be awarded for 2015 and applications will be mailed out in April/May. The 2015 golf tournament will be held on September 24th at The Hollows.

Virginia Employment Commission (VEC):

Ms. Ellen Marie Hess reported she attended the NASWA (National Association of State Workforce Agencies) Winter Policy Forum. The keynote speaker was the Deputy Secretary of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Deputy Secretary shared the administration's commitment to apprenticeship stating that starting wages can exceed \$50,000.00 in an apprenticeship job and that the government investment in apprenticeship gets a 28 to 1 return.

Virginia Community College System (VCCS):

Ms. Elizabeth Moran reported that Director Bev Donati met with Mr. Randy Stamper and Ms. Moran to discuss the transfer of the Apprenticeship Related Instruction program over to DOLI. Currently waiting on the MOU and once that is received they will move forward to transfer records and provide any assistance needed.

Division of Registered Apprenticeship:

Director Donati reported that USDOL announced a \$100 million American Apprenticeship Initiative grant with the purpose of increasing the number of apprentices in the United States especially to companies using H-1B nonimmigrant Visa program to hire foreign workers. Approximately sixty two percent of the workers are in the IT field. Known at this time are four areas of the state that have banded together to submit proposals. Submission date – April 30th.

Approximately twenty five grants awarded in the 50 states, DC and Guam –

- 2.5 million = 300 new apprentices over the five year grant life
- 3-4 million = 600 new apprentices over the five year grant life
- 5 million = 1,000 new apprentices over the five year grant life

During the General Assembly two bills were introduced to move the administration of Related Instruction from the Virginia Community College System to the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry. Both bills passed and will take effect July 1, 2015.

Two performance measures for the Division of Registered Apprenticeship –

1. Increase the number of certificates issued, including the Virginia National Guard minus the US Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAPS)-Navy.
2. Double the number of apprentices over the next ~~five~~ **two** years.

Program numbers effective March 18, 2015 –

Number of Active Apprentices – 14,058

Number of Completions – 1,015 plus USMAPS = 2,348
Number Served – 16,406 since July 1, 2014
Number of Sponsors – 2,225
Number of New or Reactivated Sponsors – 192

Questions/Remarks from Council:

Mr. Biagas asked if attempting to double apprentices, what resources will be available. Director Donati turned the response over to Commissioner Davenport. Commissioner Davenport reported that there will be some resources reallocated that will come from ARI but by no means enough and that has been shared with the Administration. There is no anticipation that US DOL will be contributing any funding.

Dr. Benson commented in regards to increasing the number of completers and best practices used that they recently partnered with graduate students at VCU who had a Capstone project to conduct. During this project an assessment was conducted on a reading program regarding the school system. Dr. Benson stated this may be a helpful tool to gather the data needed and offered his assistance.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY:

Commissioner Davenport began by thanking the Council and welcoming the new members to the Council.

Commissioner Davenport reported that the recent Newport News Shipbuilding graduation was a wonderful event and an example to all as to the value of Registered Apprenticeship. He thanked Everett Jordan for his continued support of Registered Apprenticeship.

In late January a Virginia Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) article was circulated in the Capitol Connections magazine and Commissioner Davenport recommended that all take time to read. The article can be found on the David Bailey and Associates website. This is a very positive article on VOSH and listed a number of elite companies where VOSH has jurisdiction.

Commissioner Davenport reported that it was a very successful legislative session.

Summary:

SB 896, Child Labor Laws, appeal procedures clarifies the procedures and rules relating to agency actions to prosecute violations of child labor statutes.

VPP started through Federal OSHA but moved down where state programs could participate and Virginia began the program in the mid 90's. This program is more of a consultation program versus a compliance program and Federal OSHA was looking at putting more money into compliance and rolling back the VPP program. We in the State of Virginia decided to look at how to preserve this program and suggested to the Governor's Office that this would be a good piece of legislation to go forward and codified in the State statute. Passed by both the House and the Senate.

There was an OSHA reporting requirement that codified an OSHA final rule that requires employers to report any overnight hospitalization, also an amputation or loss of an eye is required to be reported. That was updated in our statute and will be updated in our regulations.

ARI did pass and currently working on an MOU. DOLI will be working with VCCS and the Department of Planning and Budget regarding this transition. This change is effective July 1, 2015.

Senator Wexton's bill did not pass. This bill was asking the Division of Registered Apprenticeship/DOLI to develop an online portal in order for people to have access to apprenticeship opportunities.

The budget process could have been better but overall held our own.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Kemp announced the following Council meeting dates:

June 18, 2015
September 17, 2015

Location for meetings to be determined.

Mr. Joe Johnson, Executive Director, New Horizons Regional Education Center, thanked the Council for selecting New Horizons as their meeting place. He explained that New Horizons is comprised of six school divisions and is the largest and oldest regional center in Virginia. New Horizons has two campuses, one in Hampton and one in Newport News. The Newport News campus is the location for the new special education facility and once complete will allow them to expand their CTE programs on that campus.

Chairman Kemp thanked the Council, Director Donati and her staff and all in attendance. Meeting adjourned 10:56 a.m.

Mr. Darold Kemp, Chairman

Mr. Ray Davenport, Secretary