

NCWorks Commission

Business Session

Jane S. McKimmon Center

March 2, 2015

(Rescheduled from February 18, 2015)

1:00 pm

Minutes

Present:

Commission Members:

Korey Coon Chair, June Atkinson, Kip Blakely, Ken Boham, Sherry Carpenter, Paul Combs, Lisa Conger, Ron Cummings, MaryBe McMillan, Priscilla Nunn, Bill Ragland, Scott Ralls, Alex Rankin, Jerry Walters and Matthew McKillip (for Aldona Vos)

Absent: Cherie Berry, Bill Daughtridge, Lewis Dishmon, Susan Jackson, Martha Matthews, Mike Okun, John Skvarla, Jerri Tryon

Chairman Coon opened the meeting at 1 pm. He expressed a special thanks to everyone for their flexibility in the rescheduling of this meeting. He reminded members of the attendance requirements of Executive Order 34 adding that this was a new year. Chairman Coon also announced the resignation of member Terry Frank with Frank Door Company. The Chairman thanked Mr. Frank for his service on the commission.

The Chairman noted the attendance of Priscilla Nunn via phone call.

Chairman Coon reminded the members that the commission is responsible for the review and evaluation of partner workforce development plans. As such, staff has developed a form for each agency to complete for their programs which should be sent out to the agency members of the commission in the coming weeks.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Coon called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12 meeting. After a motion by Bill Ragland and a second by Alex Rankin, the minutes were approved as written.

Assistant Secretary's Report

NCWorks Executive Director Will Collins welcomed everyone to the meeting. He also announced the recent appointment of John Skvarla as the new Secretary of Commerce. Secretary Skvarla was unable to join the meeting due to a prior commitment.

NCWorks Executive Director Will Collins reported on the following:

- 1,000 in 100 Initiative
 - Local workforce teams visited 1,106 companies throughout all 100 counties
 - Each local workforce team visited at least 10 companies per county though several teams exceeded that minimum

The Division of Workforce Solutions will continue to receive, analyze, and share feedback during the coming months. Mr. Collins emphasized the collaborative effort among the Department of Commerce, the Community College System, the Department of Public Instruction, economic developers and workforce development boards. Mr. Collins was of the understanding that this initiative was the largest undertaken nationwide to date.

- A new Senate Workforce and Economic Development Committee was recently established. Mr. Collins and Catherine Moga Bryant have already met with Senator Barefoot (R-Franklin, Wake) and the other co-chairs of the Senate committee. They were also asked to provide an overview of the workforce system at the first committee meeting.
- There is a great deal of activity around veterans in the state. As indicated in the Governor's State of the State speech, a new Department for Veterans' Administration has been proposed. While the details are uncertain, the division is fully supportive of this effort.
- WIOA – New Federal Notice of Proposed Rule Making regulations were anticipated in January, however it may be spring before they are released. The division continues to work with DOL on the transition. Division staff is also meeting on a regular basis to discuss the implementation of WIOA and will keep the commission advised.
- President Obama announced a \$100 million grant package for apprenticeship programs across the nation. North Carolina is preparing an application which will be submitted prior to the April 30 deadline. This grant will allow the system to focus \$5 million over five years across the state for a few select pilot programs in IT, biosciences and advanced manufacturing.
- Dr. Pat Mitchell, Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development, and the Division of Workforce Solutions are working on a rural economic grant to benefit veterans' living outside North Carolina's urban centers. This grant, effective July 1, will allow NC to enhance opportunities for veterans' transitioning into careers. Mecklenburg, Wake and Cumberland counties are excluded from receiving grant funds as are 23 metropolitan areas.

Dr. Scott Ralls, President of the NC Community College System provided a workforce development update from the community colleges perspective. Dr. June Atkinson, Superintendent, NC Department of Public Instruction followed with an update of her department's workforce development efforts.

Chairman Coon thanked Mr. Collins, Dr. Ralls and Dr. Atkinson further noting the similarities among the different agency's programs. He also thanked the commission, partner agencies and staff for their time and efforts in developing the strategic plan on which the future work of the commission will be based.

2014-2016 Strategic Action Plan

Kip Blakely, Strategic Planning Task Force Chair expressed his thanks to the task force, commission members, and workforce board directors for their input during the development of the plan titled *Preparing North Carolina's Workforce for Today and Tomorrow, 2014-2016 Strategic Plan*. He was especially pleased with the collaborative efforts of the Department of Public Instruction, the NC Community College System, the community colleges, economic developers and workforce directors who came together as a team to make this happen. Mr. Blakely then provided an overview of the components of the strategic plan inclusive of the four themes:

- System Alignment and Transformation
- Strengthening Customer Services

- Career Pathways
- Accountability

Following a call for comments, President Ralls recommended that the Strategic Plan include language that the proposed State Agency Sub-Committee created under the System Alignment and Transformation Committee be responsible for submitting policy recommendations to the commission for approval.

Chairman Coon acknowledged and thanked Dr. Ralls for his comments. Chairman Coon then asked for a motion to approve the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan. A motion was made by Kip Blakely to approve the plan as written and promptly seconded by Alex Rankin. The 2014-2016 Strategic Plan was approved.

Chairman Coon indicated that with the approval of the Strategic Plan, new committees would be established to align with the four core themes. He directed members to the questionnaire form in their packets and asked that they identify the two committees on which they wished to serve and to return the form to staff by the end of the meeting.

Performance Measures Report

In January 2015, the second annual report titled *Measuring the Performance of North Carolina's Workforce Development System* was finalized and submitted to the Joint Legislative Workforce Development System Reform Oversight Committee of the General Assembly. The creation of these system wide performance measures resulted in improved system collaboration, communication, and partnership. Moving forward, the work of this task force will be transitioned to the Accountability Committee established by the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan.

Presentation on the 1,000 in 100 Initiative in Eastern Carolina

Chairman Coon introduced Tammy Childers, Eastern Carolina Workforce Board Director and congratulated her recent receipt of the "Taking Care of Business Award." Ms. Childers, along with Bobby Merritt, Director of Workforce Development and Industry Training at Lenoir Community College talked about their experience and successes in their area with the 1,000 in 100 initiative. They focused the presentation on how working together as a team with a unified mission to meet the needs of businesses in their area resulted in the success of the project.

Chairman Coon thanked them both for attending the meeting and sharing their experience. He also expressed his appreciation for Mr. Merritt's and Ms. Childers' passion for workforce development.

Scott Ralls reiterated the success of the 1,000 and 100 initiative and noted the importance of the momentum created. Further stating that this was the largest single survey ever conducted in North Carolina and that it was a "big deal in efforts and results." He reiterated an earlier point by saying that the challenges of system identity should be an area of focus moving forward.

NCWorks Career Center Recognition Ceremony

The Chairman then moved to the presentation of certificates for 12 workforce offices who had achieved an integrated services delivery approach and therefore certification as an NCWorks Career Center. Following the presentation, he congratulated each of the recipients. He stated that we have over 50 centers certified to date and look forward to more.

Chairman Coon thanked everyone for the rich discussion and asking for any new or old business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lynn Hayes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lynn Hayes

Approved May 6, 2015

NCWorks Commission

Executive Session

Jane S. McKimmon Center

Wednesday, March 2, 2014

(Rescheduled from February 18, 2015)

10:30 am

Minutes

Present:

Absent

Korey Coon, Chair
Kip Blakely
Paul Combs
MaryBe McMillan
Alex Rankin
Jerry Walters
Bill Ragland

Marti Matthews

Staff: Will Collins, Catherine Moga Bryant, Danny Giddens, Dana Martinez, Janice Ivey and Mical McFarland

Chairman Coon opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Coon called for approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2014 meeting. Alex Rankin made a motion, seconded by Paul Combs to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

NCWorks Report

NCWorks Executive Director Will Collins reported on the following:

- 1,000 in 100 Initiative
 - Local workforce teams visited 1,106 companies throughout all 100 counties
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The Division of Workforce Solutions will continue to receive, analyze, and share feedback during the coming months. Mr. Collins emphasized the collaborative effort among the Department of Commerce, the Community College System, the Department of Public Instruction, economic developers and workforce development boards.

- A new Senate Workforce and Economic Development Committee was recently established. Mr. Collins and Catherine Moga Bryant have already met with State Senator Chad Barefoot (R-Franklin, Wake) and the other co-chairs of the Senate committee. They were also asked to provide an overview of the workforce system at the first committee meeting.

- A recent comment by Senator Jerry Tillman (R-Moore, Randolph) regarding the workforce system “falling under the authority and responsibility of the community college system,” has gained media attention. Division leadership will continue to monitor this situation.
- There is a great deal of activity around veterans in our state. As indicated in the Governor’s State of the State speech, a new Department for Veterans’ Administration has been proposed. While the details remain uncertain, the division is fully supportive of this effort.
- Governor McCrory launched a major initiative during a visit to Camp Lejeune regarding employers and veterans. This initiative is focused on getting employers more engaged in bringing veterans into their workforce.
- WIOA – New Federal Notice of Proposed Rule Making regulations were anticipated in January, however it may be spring before they are released. The division continues to work with DOL on the transition. Division staff is also meeting on a regular basis to discuss the implementation of WIOA and will keep the commission advised.
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- Dr. Pat Mitchell, Assistant Secretary for Rural Economic Development, and the division are working on a rural economic grant to benefit veterans’ living outside North Carolina’s urban centers. This grant, effective July 1, will allow NC to enhance opportunities for veterans’ transitioning into careers. (Mecklenburg, Wake and Cumberland counties are excluded from receiving grant funds as are 23 metropolitan areas.)

Chairman Coon thanked Mr. Collins for his report. He then introduced Department of Public Instruction representatives, Lou Fabrizio, Data, Research and Federal Policy Director and Karl Pond, Enterprise Data Manager, who provided an overview of the P20W longitudinal data-collection system. Jackie Keener, Acting Director of the Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) then reviewed the Common Follow-Up System (CFS). Both the P20W and CFS are data repository systems. The commission was conducting a preliminary investigation into any potential inefficiencies and/or ways to pool resources in operating two parallel data systems.

Chairman Coon expressed his appreciation to Mr. Fabrizio, Mr. Pond and Ms. Keener for their willingness to speak before the Executive Committee about these systems. He felt the information from both systems would be beneficial to the commission with respect to their work.

Task Force Report – Criteria and MOU

Speaking on behalf of Marti Matthews, Mical McFarland reported that the task force had completed the two final assignments as outlined in the workforce reform law. Both the MOU and Criteria final reports had been submitted to the General Assembly by the December 2014 deadline.

Regarding career center certification, there are currently 58 certified NCWorks Career Centers, 8 are in process, and another 7 applications are expected to be submitted. Mr. McFarland also reported that following the commission’s approval of Tier 2 certification for centers with limited staffing and/or only

open part-time, they anticipate 20 or 25 centers will become certified centers. To date 9 applications for Tier 2 certification have been received from 2 workforce boards.

Task Force Report – Performance

Chair Paul Combs stated that the official work of his task force had concluded with the submission of the second annual performance report. The task force felt, based on its assessment of the current data, that North Carolina's jobseekers are generally better off having participated in one of the workforce development programs. Mr. Combs explained that further analysis on the impact of the programs required more data, possibly outside of what is currently available.

Task Force Report – Strategic Plan

Kip Blakely, Chair for the Strategic Plan task force reported that the Strategic Plan was slated for a vote today and the work of his task force has been completed.

Chairman Coon thanked Kip for his leadership in producing a thorough Strategic Plan which will guide the work of the commission moving forward.

He then thanked the four task force leaders for completing the tasks for which they were charged.

Review of the Business Agenda, Membership and Adjournment

After reviewing the business session agenda, he announced that commission member Terry Frank had submitted his resignation citing other commitments. He expressed his appreciation for Mr. Frank's service.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lynn Hayes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Lynn Hayes

Approved May 6, 2015