

NCWorks Commission

Business Session

Jane S. McKimmon Center

November 15, 2017

1:30 pm

Minutes

Present:

Chair Jerri Tryon, Josh Arant, Sherry Carpenter, Mel Chernoff, Secretary Mandy Cohen, Korey Coon, Governor Roy Cooper, Secretary Tony Copeland, Nate Davis, Osceola Elliss, Jeff Frederick, Maureen Little (for Interim President Jennifer Haygood), Susan Jackson, John Kirkman (for Mark Johnson), Joe Magno, Marti Matthews, Ray Mayo, MaryBe McMillan, Olalah Njenga, Mike Okun, Joe Rogers, Stephen Rosenburgh, Elk Richardson (for Secretary Machel Sanders), Stan Sherrill, Walter Siegenthaler, Scott Daugherty (for President Margaret Spellings), Kim Toler, and Chris Watters

Absent: Shawn Brown, Sergi Roura, Pam Townsend, and Hope Williams

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Jerri Tryon presented the commission's many accomplishments over the last couple years, some of which included the NCWorks Commission's 2017-2019 Strategic Plan, the development of criteria for NCWorks Certified Career Pathways and NCWorks Career Centers, local Workforce Development Board performance measures; the commissioning of the 2015 and 2017 Employer Needs Surveys, and the creation of a Menu of Business Services in collaboration with state agencies.

Chair Tryon then welcomed several new appointments, as well as two new designees for the departments of Commerce and Public Instruction:

- o MaryBe McMillan, President, NC State AFL-CIO
- o Nate Davis, Pastor, World Overcomers Church
- o Stan Sherrill, Vice President, Employee and Labor Relations, Duke-Energy
- o Jeff Frederick, President, NC Workforce Board Association
- o Pam Townsend, Senior Vice President, Southeast Regional Manager, WSP
- o Sergi Roura, President, Grifols, North American Facility
- o John Kirkman, Public Instruction (designee for Superintendent Mark Johnson)
- o Napoleon Wallace, Commerce (designee for Secretary Tony Copeland)

New and reappointed members were sworn in by Chief Judge Linda McGee.

OPENING BUSINESS

The commission heard from Governor Cooper about his vision for North Carolina, "where people are better educated, healthier and have more money in their pockets, and where they will have the opportunity to live an abundant and purposeful life." He noted that the "lynchpin of this goal is good paying jobs." Governor Cooper stressed the importance of engaging business leaders, and making sure workforce development efforts are employer-led. Governor Roy Cooper challenged business and workforce development leaders to increase the number of work-based learning opportunities across the state, part of a broader initiative to help North

Carolínians become more job-ready. He noted the furniture academy at Catawba County Community College as a great example of employer-led efforts in the state.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Catherine Moga Bryant provided a short overview of the Career Pathways then introduced Dr. Dion Clark who along with Governor Cooper and Chair Tryon presented certifications to the following four pathways at its meeting bringing the total number of certified pathways to 27 statewide:

1. Healthcare - Southwest Collaborative (Mecklenburg, Gaston, Anson, Cabarrus, Iredell, Lincoln, Rowan, Stanly, and Union counties).
2. Advanced Manufacturing - Eastern Carolina (Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne counties).
3. Advanced Manufacturing - Western Piedmont (Caldwell, Alexander, Burke, and Catawba counties).
4. Transportation & Logistics - TriadWorks (Alamance, Moore, Orange, Randolph, Montgomery, Guilford, Davidson, Surry, Stokes, Rockingham, Caswell, Yadkin, Forsyth, and Davie counties).

PANEL DISCUSSION

The commission heard a panel discussion from the Mountain Area Career Pathways partners. The Mountain Area Workforce Development Board has three Career Pathways certified by the NCWorks Commission in the Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Hospitality & Tourism sectors. The region has the first pathway in the state certified by the NCWorks Commission for the Hospitality & Tourism sector. The region's development of career pathways have been a collaborative effort between employers, educators (K-12, community colleges, and universities) and workforce partners.

GUEST SPEAKER

The commission heard a presentation from Ted Abernathy, Economic Development Policy Advisor to the Southern Governors Association, and the Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC, a consultancy that is currently working in more than a dozen states to develop economic strategies. The presentation highlighted the current state of the economy and workforce in North Carolina, and touched upon strategies to help the state continue to build its talent pipeline.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Governance and System Alignment Committee promotes collaboration, policy alignment, and communication among workforce system agencies and partners. Chair Susan Jackson reported that the committee is reviewing the action items from the WIOA State Unified Plan and will continue to work with the state steering council on the implementation of the plan. In fulfilling its governance role the committee will oversee the career center certification process which is just getting underway and make recommendations for continuous improvement efforts for career centers. The committee also seeks to convene representatives from the different agencies on the commission to discuss alignment and setting a shared vision for the workforce system.

Marti Matthews, Chair, Business Engagement Committee discussed updates regarding their effort to increase awareness through their work on the menu of business services and other joint marketing efforts. The committee is also working with state agencies to create short knowledge-exchange videos that describe the services each agency provides to businesses. In addition, the committee is working with Commerce's Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) on the next iteration of the Employer Needs Survey. The survey portion has

ended and LEAD is currently working on analyzing the data. The committee is continuing to move forward with the soft skills study.

Mel Chernoff, Chair, Performance and Accountability Committee, reported that the committee met with several local workforce development board directors on October 11, 2017 to discuss the proposed changes to the local workforce development board measures. The committee incorporated the workforce development board director suggestions and presented the revised measures today. The committee plans to host a webinar to discuss the measures in January 2018. The measures will be voted on for approval at the next NCWorks Commission meeting on February 14, 2018. In addition, the committee is working with Commerce's Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) to pull together data for the Annual Workforce Development System Report for 2018.

Chris Watters, Chair, Education and Training Committee, discussed the committee's interest in collecting best practices of workforce development efforts across the state, and to develop a report or analysis to share with stakeholders on why these initiatives are successful and how they can be replicated. The committee is also reviewing data provided by Commerce's Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) looking at the supply and demand of the state's workforce, utilizing enrollment and completion data from the UNC system and community colleges. Chair Watters reported that the committee is interested in seeing the data available to begin identifying any mismatches between education and training programs and the needs of N.C. employers, especially on a regional basis.

WORKFORCE WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS

Catherine Moga Bryant provided the workforce update which included:

- The NCWorks Partnership Conference;
- Governor Cooper announced a grant provided by the Department of Commerce to Communities in Schools to prepare at risk youth for graduation and on track for college;
- Governor's proclamations "Employ a Veteran Week" and "Apprenticeship Week";
- DHHS's campaign – "Everybody Works" to create awareness of the untapped pool of talented individuals with disabilities.
- Three statewide activities: State Board of Community Colleges Planning Session working on their next strategic plan; State Board of Post-Secondary Credentials sponsored by the Lt. Governor focusing on credentials for jobs; and UNC President Margaret Spelling's My Future NC Commission, also concentrating on post-secondary credentials.

Ms. Moga Bryant discussed the per diem waiver form and directed members to the replacement pages for their orientation binder. Members who have questions may call her or any commission staff.

In closing Chair Tryon asked that at the next meeting, members who represent or head any of the initiatives mentioned in Ms. Moga Bryant's report be prepared to update the commission at the February meeting.

Chair Tryon called for additional business, there being none, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Hayes

Approved on February 14, 2018