

**NCWorks Commission**

**Business Session  
GTCC – Cameron Campus  
August 10, 2016  
1:30 pm**

**Minutes**

Present:

Chair Jerri Tryon, Jo Ann Honeycutt (for June Atkinson), Josh Arant, Claudia Horn (for Rick Brajer), Shawn Brown, Sherry Carpenter, Mel Chernoff, Korey Coon, Lewis Dishmon, Osceola Elliss, Eric Hall, Susan Jackson, Elk Richardson (for Acting Secretary Kathryn L. Johnston), Marti Matthews, Stu Matthis, Catherine Truitt (for Governor Pat McCrory), Kent Misegades, BJ Murphy, Olalah Njenga, Mike Okun, Joe Rogers, Kevin Sills, Cecilia Holden (for Secretary John Skvarla), Leslie Boney (for President Margaret Spellings), Kim Toler, Chris Watters, Hope Williams, and Jimmie Williamson

Absent: Joe Magno, John Bailey, and Walter Siegenthaler

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Jerri Tryon called the meeting to order. She thanked Dr. Randy Parker, Dr. Ralph Soney, and the Guilford Technical Community College Cameron Campus staff for the hospitality extended to the commission. Ms. Tryon recognized that this was the first meeting hosted outside of Raleigh in her tenure on the commission. Tryon also recognized and welcomed Dr. Jimmie Williamson, president of the NC Community Colleges System to the commission.

Ms. Tryon announced the 2016 NCWorks Partnership Conference October 5-7 in Greensboro and encouraged members to attend. Staff will review the conference agenda and share events of interest with commission members. Additional information and registration forms were included in their folders.

Chair Tryon also asked members to be good stewards of state dollars by promptly sending their RSVPs in for meetings and functions.

**OPENING BUSINESS**

Motion to approve the May 4, 2016 minutes as written, Jerri Tryon. Moved by Lewis Dishmon and seconded by Stu Matthis. Motion carried.

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

Catherine Moga Bryant moderated a panel discussion on the aviation partnership in the Piedmont Triad. Panel members included Kip Blakely, HAECO Americas, Lillian Plummer, Director, Guilford Workforce Development Board, Bob Gantt, Career and Technical Education Director of the Guilford County Schools. The panel discussed their successes and challenges in preparing and training workers in the aviation industry, and fielded questions from commission members.

**Education Cabinet Update**

Catherine Truitt with the Governor's Education Cabinet provided an update on the state's 67% workforce goal as announced in summer of 2015. Since that meeting the cabinet has drafted benchmarks to be used to determine success rates. Those same benchmarks are being converted into metrics and will be shared at the next Education Cabinet meeting in late September. Ms. Truitt shared follow-up data released by the Georgetown University

workforce study noting that 99% of the jobs created since 2010 have gone to students with a postsecondary education, confirming that students without post-secondary education continue to struggle with poverty and finding employment.

### **WORKFORCE UPDATE**

Catherine Moga Bryant provided workforce updates to the commission. The State Unified Plan was approved by USDOL with a minimal amount of modifications. An updated report is due back to the USDOL by September 1, 2016. A link will be provided to the commission if they wish to review the plan. The State Steering Council comprised of workforce development core partners, will continue to discuss identified deficiencies and program integration under WIOA.

Ms. Moga Bryant noted three legislative items of interest to the members.

1. Passed legislation called “Know Before You Go” requiring the state to create a website that provides information on growing occupations, salaries, relevant majors, etc.
2. Industry credentials teachers pilot and bonus program that will provide bonuses to high school teachers whose students earn approved industry certifications or credentials.
3. Youth apprenticeship tuition waivers for youth apprentices enrolled in North Carolina’s Community College system.

She also reminded the members of the commission’s responsibility to annually review and evaluate the State’s workforce programs for efficiency, fiscal accountability, and coordination. Ms. Moga Bryant thanked the agencies for completing the annual review survey and presented the results which included system wide information on: target populations, services provided to individuals and businesses, and outreach strategies to businesses. The Accountability Committee will continue to refine and analyze the annual program review process.

### **ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR MILITARY TRAINING**

Josh Arant reviewed last meeting’s discussion regarding veterans programs and introduced Dr. Lisa Chapman, and Dr. Kim Sepich, from the NC Community Colleges System office, who identified the colleges and universities that provide academic credit for military training and experience, discussed what they are doing moving forward, and fielded several questions from commission members.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Pathways to 67% Committee**

Mr. Eric Hall gave an update on the work of the committee to support the achievement of the 67% goal. Mr. Hall briefly described the NCWorks Career Pathways initiative and recognized a newly certified pathway from Cumberland County in Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology. Mr. Hall also introduced for a vote the specialized NCWorks Career Center criteria. The NCWorks Commission is responsible for providing ongoing oversight of the state-wide NCWorks Career Center system, and as such, approves criteria for the career centers. This specialized center criteria allows for local workforce boards to apply to serve a special need in their communities or a target population such as youth, veterans, or those dislocated from a particular industry sector. A motion to approve the criteria was made, and it was approved by the commission.

### Strategic Planning Committee

Olalah Njenga, Strategic Planning Committee Chair, provided the commission with an update on the new direction of the strategic plan that effectively “book ends” the needs of workers and employees. The committee continues to work towards eliminating blind spots as it works on strategies for encouraging continuity and strengthening existing services. Ms. Njenga discussed the committee’s commitment to providing a meaningful and measurable plan that had a limited number of objectives. Ms. Njenga reminded the commission that the plan would be for a two-year period.

### Business Engagement

Marti Matthews distributed a draft comprehensive menu of business services that was developed by the committee in partnership with a state agency group to highlight the ways that businesses can engage with the workforce system. The committee will work towards reformatting the menu for a business audience.

Ms. Matthews also discussed the Certified Work-Ready Communities initiative. There are currently 18 certified communities in North Carolina and the commission has a goal of 25 by December 2016. The committee plans to convene key stakeholders to discuss progress and how the committee can further support this effort.

Kevin Sills discussed the committee’s work on a standardized communication tool for commission members to introduce NCWorks to businesses. Mr. Sills stated that there is an opportunity for commission members to conduct speaking engagements in their professional networks to promote awareness of the workforce system. This “pocket presentation” is in draft form and will be distributed to the full commission for review. The committee will also survey commission members to identify their various professional groups.

### Accountability Committee

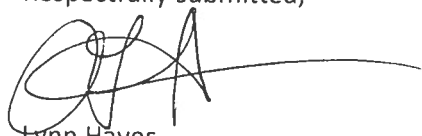
Mr. Kory Coon reported to the commission on behalf of the Accountability Committee chair Joe Magno. Mr. Coon reviewed the charge to the commission following the passing of Senate Bill 538 which requires the NCWorks Commission to “develop performance accountability measures for local workforce development boards consistent with the requirements of Section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.”

Mr. Coon outlined the rationale and the process behind the creation of the board measures before fielding numerous questions from commission members. After significant conversation around this first iteration of the board measures, a request was accepted to change the number of employees considered a “Small Business” from 50 employees to 100 employees. Mr. Coon reminded the commission that when approved, the measures go into effect for the current program year and will be monitored throughout the year. A motion to approve the board measures with the adjusted definition of small business was made, and then approved by the commission.

### NEXT STEPS

Ms. Tryon thanked all the presenters, reminded members of the next meeting date and encouraged those who wanted to attend the NCWorks Partnership conference to do so. There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Hayes

Approved November 9, 2016