

Counties

- Alamance
- Caswell
- Davidson
- Davie
- Forsyth
- Guilford
- Montgomery
- Randolph
- Rockingham
- Stokes
- Surry
- Yadkin

Municipalities

- Archdale
- Asheboro
- Bermuda Run
- Bethania
- Biscoe
- Boonville
- Burlington
- Candor
- Clemmons
- Cooleemee
- Danbury
- Denton
- Dobson
- East Bend
- Eden
- Elkin
- Elon
- Franklinville
- Gibsonville
- Graham
- Green Level
- Greensboro
- Haw River
- High Point
- Jamestown
- Jonesville
- Kernersville
- King
- Lewisville
- Lexington
- Liberty
- Madison
- Mayodan
- Mebane
- Midway
- Mocksville
- Mount Airy
- Mt. Gilead
- Oak Ridge
- Pilot Mountain
- Pleasant Garden
- Ramseur
- Randleman
- Reidsville
- Rural Hall
- Seagrove
- Sedalia
- Stokesdale
- Stoneville
- Summerfield
- Thomasville
- Tobaccoville
- Trinity
- Troy
- Village of Alamance
- Walkertown
- Wallburg
- Walnut Cove
- Wentworth
- Winston-Salem
- Yadkinville
- Yanceyville



Piedmont Triad Regional Council

Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

12:00 noon

PTRC Headquarters

1398 Carrollton Crossing Drive

Kernersville, NC 27284

Members Present:

- Councilwoman Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro
- Commissioner Kevin Austin, Yadkin County
- Mayor Jimmy Blake, Town of Biscoe
- Mayor Buddy Boggs, Town of Haw River
- Aldерwoman Renee Bryant, City of Randleman
- Councilman Darryl Carter, City of Eden
- Commissioner Fleming El-Amin, Forsyth County
- Mayor Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville
- Chairman Darrell Frye, Randolph County
- Councilman John Larson, City of Winston-Salem
- Councilwoman Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown
- Councilman Rick McCraw, City of King
- Commissioner Mark Richardson, Rockingham County
- Councilman Donald Scarborough, City of High Point
- Councilwoman Ann Schneider, Town of Oak Ridge
- Commissioner Don Truell, Davidson County
- Commissioner Van Tucker, Surry County
- Commissioner Brent Ward, Town of Mocksville
- Mayor Larry Ward, Town of Denton
- Commissioner Steve Yokeley, City of Mount Airy

Members Absent

- Commissioner Eddie Boswell, Alamance County
- Commissioner Alan Branson, Guilford County
- Council Member Jim Butler, City of Burlington
- Commissioner Nathaniel Hall, Caswell County
- Commissioner Wayne Moore, Town of Jonesville
- Commissioner Terry Renegar, Davie County
- Commissioner Dottie Robinson, Montgomery County

Chairman Steve Yokeley welcomed the PTRC Executive Committee and called the meeting to order at 12:05p.m. Mr. Yokeley requested a moment of silence and then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Yokeley welcomed the new Stokes County Delegate, Rick Morris. Mr. Brent Ward introduced the newly elected Davie County commissioner, Benita Finney.

1) Action Item: Request for approval of November 7, 2018 PTRC Executive Committee minutes, Steve Yokeley, PTRC Chairman

- a) There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson.
- b) The motion was seconded by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.
- c) Request for approval of the November 7, 2018 PTRC Executive Committee minutes was approved.

2) Action Item: Request for approval of PTRDC Board Member appointments/reappointments, Jesse Day, Regional Planning Director

- a) We had two County Representative vacancies following the 2018 Elections. John Ferguson of Davie County and Ernest Lankford of Stokes County did not win reelection in their counties. The Davie County seat term ended in December of 2018 so Terry Renegar will be appointed to a new 3 year term to end in January 2022. The Stokes County seat was filled by Commissioner Rick Morris for the remainder of the term which will end in December 2019. Zeb Hanner of Davidson County term ended in January of 2019. He has agreed to serve a new 3 year term ending in January 2022. In addition, Caswell County has appointed a replacement for their County Seat on the Board. Cori Lindsay, Small Business Center/Economic Development in Caswell County will replace David Owen. This term will end in December of 2019.
- b) In our At-Large seats, the City of Mebane has replaced Ed Hook's seat with Council Member Patty Philipps. She will serve the remainder of Ed's term to end in December 2019. We have 1 unfilled At-Large seat that was left vacant by Sharon Conaway, Walnut Cove.
- c) We also still have an open Private Sector/Non-Profit seat.
- d) There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Van Tucker.
- e) The motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming El-Amin.
- f) Request for approval of the PTRDC Board Member appointments and reappointment was approved.

3) Action Item: Request for approval to request the NC Legislature approve \$4.6 million in 2 year funding to support work-based learning activities for nine additional counties (Caswell, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Montgomery, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin) within the Piedmont Triad region, Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) Mr. Matthew Dolge explained that the NC Legislature approved \$3.2 million in funding over 2 years for The Eastern Triad Workforce Initiative (ETWI), for four Piedmont Triad Counties; Alamance, Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham. The funding was designated for the support of costs associated with work-based learning and apprenticeship activities. Costs include training materials, apprenticeship employment compensation and tuition, outreach and awareness efforts. The four counties have existing apprenticeship consortia consisting of employers, community college and K-12 education partners.

- b) Apprenticeships aren't as popular here as they are in other countries. Other states have worked to change this by incentivizing the process by covering education expenses. This helps to offset the large upfront cost to businesses. Unfortunately this hasn't caught on in NC. This funding would defray school costs that businesses aren't use to covering. This will make it more cost effective to employers and we believe they will see the benefit over the long term.
- c) Davie, Rockingham and Surry Counties have existing apprenticeship consortia. For these counties, the focus of this funding would be 3-fold; Continue, Increase and Expand. 1. Continue the collaborative work among partners. 2. Increase exposure of the programs. 3. Expand the programs so that additional populations and employers are included. We would expect to see a 10-15% growth rate in the number of participating companies and a 20-25% growth rate in the number of participants completing training programs and earning credentials for each year of the 24 month funding cycle
- d) Caswell, Davidson, Forsyth, Montgomery, Stokes and Yadkin Counties will benefit from the funds being used to offset employer costs associated with work-based learning activities, such as tuition and wages. Additionally, we plan to provide staff to act as an industry liaison and to help facilitate the details involved in establishing work-based learning programs. Employer interest and participation will be elevated knowing that they have both financial and administrative support for their efforts.
- e) The funds will allow us an opportunity to leverage Federal Workforce funding to provide employer and participant support. This innovative response is an example of the local Workforce Board expanding our scope and addressing all factors that promote a robust economy.
- f) Mr. Mark Richardson asked how the money will be distributed across the counties. Mr. Dolge answered that counties are allocated money based on population. Mr. Richardson added that he suggests flexibility in funding. He would recommend the program to anyone. They are seeing a very positive response in Rockingham County from business and industry people. Mr. Darrell Frye echoed the same positive response in Randolph County. He has found that these programs create excitement in school and industries. It has also enhanced the relationship between the two public school systems and the community college creating a better working relationship.
- g) Ms. Peggy Leight asked what sectors are eligible for apprenticeships. To which Mr. Darrell Frye answered all sectors.
- h) Mr. Dolge stated that they are looking for one company in every county that is willing to participate because that is what will speak to the legislature. Studies show that 80% of people that go through an apprenticeship program stay there for five years. That's the value we have to show. We are excited about this and will be asking for your help as we engage the legislature.
- i) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson.
- j) The motion was seconded by Mr. Darrell Frye.
- k) Request for approval to request the NC Legislature approve \$4.6 million in 2 year funding to support work-based learning activities for nine additional counties in the Piedmont Triad was approved.

4) Action Item: Approval to apply for and accept up to \$1,500,000.00 from Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant and to accept up to required matching funds, Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) Mr. Matthew Dolge explained that the Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) was awarded an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Partnership for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Technical Assistance Grant in October 2018 for \$99,000.00. The purpose of the grant was to study the Workforce needs of Surry and Forsyth Counties and develop a strategic plan to help align talent and jobs to support the growth of the overall economy. This technical assistance grant allowed PTRC to conduct research to identify the gaps between needs of employers and local talent.
- b) The results of this research indicated that Surry County has great potential for growth in the tourism industry, however there is a lack of skilled hospitality and culinary workers. There is currently not a training program in the county. Partnering with Surry Community College, Providence Training Program, and numerous community partners PTRC is working to bring the needed training program to Surry County. Funding is needed to upfit and equip an existing building to serve as a commercial and training kitchen. Additional funding will also be needed to assist in launching the training program.
- c) We have been looking at utilizing a space at Spencer Mills. Mr. Dolge provided a building plan for review. With the viticulture and tourism business so big in Surry County they really lack space. This would help fix that problem too. .
- d) Mr. Darrell Frye asked if the money will be used for construction. Mr. Dolge answered that Providence Kitchen would cover working expense.
- e) Mr. Rick McCraw asked what effect this will have on the Community College's program in Forsyth. Mr. Dolge answered that the idea for Forsyth is completely different. It will be more innovative.
- f) Mr. Darrell Frye asked about the competition with Surry Community College. Mr. Dolge hopes they can work in conjunction not competition. It's also important to remember that each serve different populations. Providence Kitchen employs people while they provide training so people don't have to leave the workforce or lose pay.
- g) The success rate of Providence Kitchen graduates is very high with 70% employed at a living wage when they graduate. Mr. Fleming El-Amin added that he has attended graduations and many graduate as chefs.
- h) Mr. Peggy Leight asked if Providence Kitchen was already working in Surry. Mr. Dolge answered no. They would serve as the preferred caterer for the event space in Spencer Mills to encourage business.
- i) Mr. Mark Richardson asked who will run the program. Mr. Dolge answered PTRC will administer the grant and Providence Kitchen would run the operation.
- j) PTRC would like to apply for the ARC POWER Implementation Grant which opens for applications on February 1, 2019. ARC POWER Implementation Grants are available for up to \$1,500,000.00 with matching funds.
- k) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Buddy Boggs.
- l) The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Austin.
- m) Request for approval to apply for and accept up to \$1,500,000.00 from Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant and to accept up to required matching funds was approved.

5) Executive Director's Report, Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) We hope you will keep a look out for an Opportunity Zone training that we will hold at the end of February or first of March. We are working with the Federal Reserve and EDA to provide this training. Every county has these zones but no one knows how to use them so we will have National level speakers and it will be very informative.

6) New Business

- a) Mr. Kevin Austin gave the Audit Committee Report. All four members of the Audit Committee- Kevin Austin, Steve Yokeley, Jimmy Blake and Darrell Frye along with Robin Shelton, Jarrod Hand and Matthew Dolge met this morning to interview two audit companies. Earlier this year an RFP was sent out and several responses were received. Staff interviewed candidates and narrowed it down to the two interviewed today. One is our current audit company, Cannon & Company and the other was Bernard Robinson & Company. After many questions and much discussion, this committee is ready to make the recommendation to continue with Cannon & Company. This decision was reached because of their familiarity with us and their obvious ability to successfully complete our audit. They have been our auditor for 5 years and are familiar with us and fully capable. The Audit Committee unanimously recommends entering into a three year contract with Cannon & Company.
 - i) Mr. Fleming El-Amin asked the cost? Mr. Austin responded that while Cannon & Company was not the lowest bid, the other company reserved the right to raise their price after the first year. Mr. Frye added that there was a significant difference in the hours allotted.
 - ii) Mr. Rick Morris asked if the organization have term limit. Mr. Jarrod Hand responded that while there are no term limit per say the Federal Government recommends no more than 10 years.
 - iii) Mr. Kevin Austin added that with Robin Shelton retiring and Jarrod Hand filling the role of Finance Director, continuity throughout that change would be beneficial.
 - iv) Mr. Buddy Boggs asked how long it takes to complete the audit. Ms. Robin Shelton responded that it takes about two full weeks.
 - v) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Van Tucker.
 - vi) The motion was seconded by Mr. Fleming El-Amin.
 - vii) The recommendation to continue with Cannon & Company to complete the PTRC audit for the next three years was approved.

7) Around the Region

- a) Mr. Buddy Boggs stated that Alamance County hosted PTRC last week. It was a great turn out and event. Mr. Dolge added that they were a great host and we look forward to coming to each county. It's an excellent chance to see our programming and meet our staff. The Stokes County event is next week.

There being no other business, a motion of adjournment was made by Ms. Peggy Leight and seconded by Mr. Rick McCraw. The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Steve Yokeley, PTRC Chair

Katie Mitchell, Clerk to the Board