



PIEDMONT REGION

## VCW-PIEDMONT COUNCIL AND BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Serving Albemarle ~ Charlottesville ~ Culpeper ~ Fauquier ~ Fluvanna ~ Greene ~ Louisa ~ Madison ~  
Nelson ~ Orange ~ Rappahannock

|                                                                                                          |                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VCW-Piedmont Council &amp; Board Quarterly Meeting</b><br>Tuesday, June 16, 2026<br>3:00 PM – 4:30 PM | In-Person at<br>Albemarle CiderWorks<br>2545 Rural Ridge Ln, North Garden, VA 22959 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| VCW-PIEDMONT COUNCIL      |                 | PROGRAM YEAR 2025 (JULY 2025 – JUNE 2026) |          |          |           |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| COUNCIL MEMBERS           |                 | ATTENDED                                  |          |          |           |
| QUARTERLY MEETINGS        | Location        | SEPT 2025                                 | DEC 2025 | MAR 2026 | JUNE 2026 |
| Ann Mallek – Chair        | Albemarle       | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Juandiego Wade – Co-Chair | Charlottesville | X                                         | X        | X        |           |
| Donna Comer               | Rappahannock    | X                                         |          |          |           |
| Tony O'Brien              | Fluvanna        | X                                         | X        |          |           |
| Bryan Nicol               | Orange          |                                           | X        |          |           |
| David Lee                 | Culpeper        |                                           |          |          | X         |
| Fitzgerald Barnes         | Louisa          |                                           |          |          |           |
| Marie Durrer              | Greene          |                                           |          |          |           |
| James Jewett              | Madison         |                                           |          |          |           |
| Dr. Jessica Ligon         | Nelson          |                                           |          |          |           |
| Ike Broaddus              | Fauquier        |                                           | X        |          |           |
| Steve Catalano            | Greene          |                                           |          |          |           |
| Cameron Lenahan           | Nelson          |                                           |          | X        |           |

| VCW-PIEDMONT BOARD MEMBERS | PROGRAM YEAR 2025 (JULY 2025 – JUNE 2026) |          |          |           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                            | ATTENDED                                  |          |          |           |
|                            | SEPT 2025                                 | DEC 2025 | MAR 2026 | JUNE 2026 |
| Annette Hyde - Chair       | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Cheryl Kirby – Vice Chair  | X                                         | X        |          | X         |
| John Baldino               | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Ray Battani                |                                           |          |          |           |
| Antwon Brinson             | X                                         | X        |          |           |
| Matthew Brown              | X                                         | X        | X        |           |
| Carol Coffey               | X                                         |          | X        | X         |
| Jane Colony Mills          | X                                         | X        | X        |           |
| Dana Cook                  | X                                         |          | X        | X         |
| Kaki Dimock                |                                           |          |          |           |
| Laura Duckworth            | X                                         | X        |          |           |
| Raye Elliott               | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Rick Forsythe              |                                           |          |          |           |
| Dawn Hutchison             | X                                         | X        |          | X         |
| John Jackson               | X                                         | X        |          | X         |
| Clare Lillard              |                                           | X        | X        |           |
| Beth Lucchesi              |                                           | X        |          |           |
| Steven Ray                 | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Eric Robertson             |                                           |          |          |           |
| Jennifer Schmack           | X                                         | X        |          |           |
| Shawn Woodfolk             |                                           |          |          |           |
| Lorne Seay                 |                                           |          |          |           |
| Don Shotwell               | X                                         |          |          |           |
| Gary Spry                  | X                                         | X        | X        | X         |
| Shaun Summerscales         |                                           |          |          |           |
| Jessica Thompson           |                                           |          |          |           |
| Tony Williams              |                                           |          |          |           |

|                       | SEPT 2025    | DEC 2025               | MAR 2026              | JUN 2026 |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Jacqueline Washington | X            | X                      |                       | X        |
| Lisa Taylor           |              | X                      |                       |          |
| Ameer Shakeel         |              |                        |                       |          |
| David Newsome         |              |                        | X                     | X        |
| Leon Henry            |              |                        |                       | X        |
| NAME                  | ORGANIZATION | NAME                   | ORGANIZATION          |          |
| Sarah Morton          | Board Staff  | Jason Ford             | VCW-P Culpeper        |          |
| Ti-Erra Elam          | Board Staff  | Marty Bywaters-Baldwin | RGI                   |          |
| Stephanie McNamara    | Board Staff  | Brookes Sims           | VCW-P Charlottesville |          |
| Liz Burnett           | Board Staff  | Katharine Dulaney      | CVPED                 |          |
|                       |              | Shannon Holland        | GO Virginia           |          |
|                       |              |                        |                       |          |

- I. **Meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM by Annette Hyde (Board) & Ann Mallek (Council)**
  - a. Chair Mallek welcomed attendees and thanked them for participating.
- II. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
  - a. No Public Comment
- III. **Regional Partner Updates:**
  - a. **Virginia Works**, Jacqueline Washington, Area Manager
    - i. Reported on workforce activity in the Charlottesville office and regional collaboration with PD9 and PD10.
    - ii. Staffing Updates Reviewed:
      1. 2 Career navigators and Wagner-Peyser staff
      2. Deputy Manager, Don Shotwell
      3. JVSG staff, Levi Madison, is currently in training but will be doing veteran outreach soon.
      4. Agriculture/foreign labor representative, Ricardo Ortiz
      5. Reemployment specialists, Anne McNeil and Carolyn Kennedy
      6. Rapid Response Support, Gregory Vaughan
    - iii. 1st Quarter Highlights:
      1. 623 job seekers served in-person; 285 remote
      2. 56 individuals obtained employment
      3. 125 employers served
    - iv. Promoted the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), noting potential employer savings of up to \$9,800 per eligible hire and can be made part of your hiring process.
    - v. Discussion: Confirmed no disruptions in foreign labor workforce placement.
  - b. **GO Virginia**, Shannon Holland, Director GO Virginia Region 9
    - i. Provided overview of GO Virginia's mission and regional work.
    - ii. Key updates:
      1. Continued focus on talent development across five target sectors
      2. GO TEC middle school career pathways initiative
      3. AI Mobile Training Unit (2,000+ trained in two years)
      4. 35 grants awarded since 2016
      5. Engagement with 166 regional organizations
    - iii. Discussed regional wage growth and ongoing conversations around affordable housing and cost of living challenges.
  - c. **Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development**, Katharine Dulaney, Director of Talent Development
    - i. Reviewed regional economic development efforts and strategy.
    - ii. Key highlights:
      1. Nearly \$40 billion in regional investment
      2. Major FY2026 projects: AstraZeneca, Tenaska, L3Harris
      3. Bioscience and National Security sectors each contributing ~\$1.2B in impact
    - iii. Noted challenges regarding job creation vs. capital investment, particularly with data centers.
    - iv. Emphasized the Innovation Corridor Strategic Roadmap.
- IV. **Provider Presentation, Marty Bywaters-Baldwin, Rappahannock Goodwill Industries (RGI)**
  - a. Shared success story of a workforce participant gaining employment through a library partnership.
  - b. Reported:
    - i. Overall service numbers down ~8% year-over-year
    - ii. Transportation and access barriers impacting participation
    - iii. Increased repeat customers
    - iv. Hiring remains strong in healthcare but slower hiring timelines
  - c. WIOA enrollment remains on track across all 11 localities.

- d. **Planning District 10 (PD10) Update** – Brookes Sims, Charlottesville Center Manager
    - i. 2,500 individuals served in-center; 1,200 through outreach
    - ii. Rural outreach expanded through libraries
    - iii. Key activities:
      - 1. Reentry job fair (20 job seekers, 10 employers)
      - 2. Fluvanna job fair (91 job seekers, 21 employers)
      - 3. 56 hiring events YTD
    - iv. Upcoming initiatives:
      - 1. Expanded library presence
      - 2. Skills Builder partnership with PVCC
      - 3. Dream Builders program collaboration
    - v. Recognition: Marty notes that Brookes Sims named Virginia Works Frontline Champion at the Virginia Workforce Symposium in April 2026.
  - e. **PD9 Update** – Jason Ford, Culpeper Center Manager
    - i. Highlighted outreach and employer engagement programs:
      - 1. Pathways Academy for high school students
      - 2. “Skill Up” workforce training for employers
    - ii. Noted:
      - 1. Increased demand for one-on-one services
      - 2. 25% of clients enrolled in WIOA case management
      - 3. Multiple regional business closures impacting workforce trends
    - iii. Anticipated increase in demand for part-time employment supports.
- V. Financial & Grant Updates, Ti-Erra Elam and Sarah Morton**
- a. PY25 funding had been reduced by approximately \$133,000; services adjusted accordingly as centers moved to open 4 days a week instead of 5.
  - b. Local funding and partnerships helped offset federal reductions.
  - c. VAULT (incumbent worker training/IWT) grant funding is pending use by regional businesses
    - i. This grant is reimbursement-based for employee training.
    - ii. Workforce training investment is underway – 15 individuals at Chemung (Culpeper) have completed training. Reimbursement is contingent upon certification.
  - d. PY26 projected funding is the highest in recent years. The Notice of Obligation (NOO) has not yet been received.
    - i. Centers will move to be open 5 days a week
    - ii. Sarah states that this increase is tied to performance outcomes and credits the work being done in our region.
- VI. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum, Stephanie McNamara**
- a. **No quorum present for either the Board or Council.**
  - b. Attendance reflected at top of document.
  - c. All items requiring approval were deferred to a future meeting.
- VII. Items Requiring Approval - All items postponed due to lack of quorum:**
- a. **Council Items**
    - i. Previous Meeting Minutes
    - ii. Chair and Vice-Chair Updates
    - iii. New Board Member Nomination
    - iv. Budget Approval
    - v. Executive Committee Highlights
  - b. **PWDB Items**
    - i. Previous Meeting Minutes
    - ii. Board Chair and Vice-Chair Updates
    - iii. Financial Procedure Policy
    - iv. Credit Card Usage Policy
- VIII. Director’s Highlights, Sarah Morton**
- a. **Presented PY2025 Annual Report:**
    - i. Emphasized strong program outcomes and regional reach
    - ii. Report will be shared with local, state, and federal stakeholders
  - b. **Noted advocacy efforts:** Upcoming visit to Capitol Hill to support WIOA funding
  - c. **Discussed:**
    - i. Branding concerns with proposed state rebrand
    - ii. Need for business services and apprenticeship resources
  - d. **VCWP has been selected to train 2026 Governor's Fellows Program (17-20 participants)**
- IX. Committee Reports**

- a. **Governance & Leadership Committee** – Steven Ray
  - i. Focus on board member recruitment and engagement
  - ii. Emphasis on improving onboarding and relationships
  - iii. Annual report will support orientation efforts
- b. **Programs Committee** – Raye Elliott
  - i. Monitoring reports submitted to the state
  - ii. Updates on:
    - 1. Registered Apprenticeship requirements
    - 2. ETPL system changes and state oversight
- c. **Business & Education Outreach** – Gary Spry
  - i. No formal report
  - ii. Highlighted partnership for Fatherhood Initiative event coming up at Tonsler Park in Charlottesville (June 17)

**X. Additional Discussion:**

- a. Advocacy strategies discussed, including coordinated messaging with local governments. Ann Mallek offered to be a resource.
- b. Continued concerns about state-level rebranding requirements and workforce system alignment.

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. **Council Adjourned: 4:45 PM by Ann Mallek**
- b. **Board Adjourned: 4:45 PM by Annette Hyde**