



PIEDMONT REGION

VCW-PIEDMONT CLEO + PWDB QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

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

VCW-Piedmont CLEO + PWDB Quarterly Meeting Tuesday, March 18, 2025 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Northside Library, Charlottesville Virginia
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VCW-PIEDMONT COUNCIL		PROGRAM YEAR 2024 (JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025)			
COUNCIL MEMBERS		ATTENDED			
QUARTERLY MEETINGS	Location	SEPT 2024	DEC 2024	MAR 2025	JUNE 2025
Ann Mallek – Chair	Albemarle	X	X	X	
Juandiego Wade – Co-Chair	Charlottesville	X	X	X	
Donna Comer	Rappahannock	X	X		
Tony O'Brien	Fluvanna	X	X		
Bryan Nicol	Orange	X		X	
David Lee	Culpeper		X	X	
Fitzgerald Barnes	Louisa				
Marie Durrer	Greene				
James Jewett	Madison		X		
Dr. Jessica Ligon	Nelson				
Ike Broadus	Fauquier	X		X	

VCW-PIEDMONT PWDB MEMBERS	PROGRAM YEAR 2024 (JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025)			
	ATTENDED			
	SEPT 2024	DEC 2024	MAR 2025	JUNE 2025
Annette Hyde - Chair	X	X	X	
Cheryl Kirby – Vice Chair	X	X	X	
John Jackson	X	X		
Dawn Hutchison	X		X	
John Baldino		X	X	
Antwon Brinson		X	X	
Carol Coffey	X	X		
Kaki Dimock	X			
Laura Duckworth	X	X	X	
Eric Robertson		X	X	
James Tsikerdanos	X	X	X	
Judith Cooper				
Clare Lillard		X		
Steven Ray	X	X	X	
Jane Colony Mills	X	X	X	
Kara Chandeysson				
Dana Cooke	X	X	X	
Bryan Rothamel		X	X	
Lorne Seay				
Don Shotwell	X	X	X	
Hunter Johnson				
Gary Spry			X	
Shawn Woodfolk				
Shaun Summerscales	X			
Tony Williams		X		
Raye Elliott		X		
Matt Brown			X	
Rick Forsythe		X	X	
Ray Battani		X		

NAME	ORGANIZATION	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Sarah Morton	PWDB Staff	Marty Bywaters-Baldwin	RGI
Ti-Erra Elam	PWDB Staff	Sara Drebes	RGI
Stephanie McNamara	PWDB Staff	Brookes Sims	VCW-P Charlottesville VA
Liz Burnett	PWDB Staff	Lisa Taylor	Madison County Public Schools
Jason Ford	VCW-P Culpeper	Doug Berry	Madison County Public Schools
Jessica Thompson	Orange County Chamber	Glenn Hannold	Madison County Public Schools
Debra Tuler	TJACE@PVCC		

- I. **Meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Ann Mallek and Annette Hyde**
- II. **Determination and Announcement of Quorum**
 - a. The CLEO participation reached quorum.
 - i. Roll call by Stephanie McNamara
 - b. The PWDB participation reached quorum.
 - i. Roll call by Stephanie McNamara
- III. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
 - a. No Public Comment
- IV. **CLEO Items Requiring Approval**
 - a. **December 2024 Meeting Minutes**
 - i. Juandeigo Wade made a motion that the December 2024 Meeting Minutes be approved as presented; David Lee seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
 - b. **Executive Committee Meeting Updates**
- V. **Board Items Requiring Approval**
 - a. **December 2024 Meeting Minutes**
 - i. Jane Colony Mills made a motion to approve, Cheryl Kirby seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- VI. **Financial Updates**
 - a. **Ti-Erra Elam presented financials as of**
 - i. Locality Funding Update:
 1. Localities are paying in a timely manner.
 2. All funds are current.
 - ii. Grants reviewed.
 - iii. Operating funds reviewed.
 - iv. Ti-Erra noted that this has been a very good fiscal year for VCWP – Budget and programs are aligning.
 - v. Ti-Erra is happy to share the financial sheet from the presentation with anyone who would like to see an easier-to-read version.
 - b. Sarah Morton – Executive Director Updates:
 - i. Acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding Federal funds. VCWP is willing to collaborate among other local organizations to help secure funding.
 - ii. Action for Women's Health (Melinda Gates) grant application discussed: VCWP has made it to 3rd round. Will be notified in August 2025 if \$1M-5M unrestricted funding is received.
- VII. **Partnership Showcase**
 - a. **TJACE@PVCC, presented by Debra Tuler, ESL Specialist**
 - i. Debra can email the presentation to anyone that would like a copy.
 - ii. TJACE has seen a sharp increase in # of students served and are on target to serve 900 this year.
 - iii. Noted increase in measurable skill gains of participants/students (Progress is measured through pre- and post-testing - IE, Reading assessments).
 1. New ways to measure skill gains, including:
 - a. Awarding of GED & high school diplomas.
 - b. Transfer from adult education to post-secondary education.
 - c. Professional certification received.
 - iv. Visual pathway of learners was shared and discussed.
 - v. BRIDGE/Career-focused programming - particularly beneficial for English language learners; other success stories; and learner support at PVCC discussed.
 - vi. New ESL programming supported in 5 counties: Albemarle, Loudoun, Fluvanna, Greene, Nelson
 - b. **Madison County Public Schools Career & Technical Education (CTE), presented by Lisa Taylor, Principal at MCHS; Glenn Hannold, STEM teacher at William Wetsel Middle School; Doug (Chase) Berry, Madison County FFA Advisor**
 - i. Lisa Taylor

1. Madison County is creative on a limited budget in providing CTE to students.
 2. She introduced Chase & Glenn to the board.
 3. Discussed briefly their efforts in creating a working farm within the high school.
- ii. Glenn Hannold
1. Gave an overview of 6th-, 7th-, and 8th-grade STEM classes and topics, including cybersecurity and computer technology; technological design; general technology skills; robotics; programming; etc.
 2. Future: He plans to increase involvement in the First Lego League & more computer programming opportunities.
 3. Questions/Discussion:
 - a. Ann Malleck: Do all students have access to this? Glenn: This is a general elective. There are no prerequisites/necessary qualifications. Glenn finds that the students tend to self-select into the program as they tend to stick with the same elective year after year.
 - b. Laura Duckworth: How are you transitioning STEM education into career opportunities that may not include a college degree? Glenn says each unit highlights career paths which include degree paths as well as skilled trades and non-degree opportunities.
 - c. Gary Spry recognized that Madison County has recently won several awards at Future Business Leaders of America held last weekend in Henrico. Glenn confirms 13 wins.
- iii. Chase Berry
1. Introduces himself as MCHS Class of 2017 and Virginia Tech graduate class of 2021. He began teaching agriculture at Orange County Public Schools and moved to Madison High School.
 2. In his program, topics covered include welding; animals; plants. Future Farmers of America (FFA); small engine repair; and leadership events & experiences.
 3. His curriculum includes a "Workplace Simulator" Model with the Small Engine Repair Class, including positions, interviewing, hands-on training, customer service experiences, and industry certification. He cites the number of hours and small engines his class has been able to repair.
- iv. Sarah Morton thanks the Madison County team for all the work they're doing to create opportunities for students.

VIII. Director's Report – Sarah Morton

- a. Sarah reminds everyone that it is Career Fair Season. The teams are very busy and on the move.
- b. Federal Gov't/funding discussed:
 - i. VCWP is unsure about future funding and are looking to diversify funding streams.
- c. Virginia Works
 - i. This department is thinking about a rebrand. Sarah has pushed back on this, since so much work has been done for VCW brand recognition already.
- d. EO Monitoring:
 - i. Sarah reports that we are in full compliance.
 - ii. Kudos to Stephanie McNamara, who has championed this effort.
 - iii. Sarah thanks the program provider and partners for helping to build economic mobility within low-income housing and at-risk students.
- e. Conferences & Networking
 - i. Lake Anna Power Plant is having an info night the week of March 24.
- f. New Opportunities:
 - i. Sarah asks that board members let her know of other funding streams, creative solutions, and possibilities they see as opportunities in their areas.
- g. Awards
 - i. Sarah will be receiving the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce Woman of Excellence recognition on March 20.

IX. Provider Presentation

- a. **Rappahannock Goodwill Industries, Marty Bywaters-Baldwin Goodwill Industries**
 - i. RGI operates workforce programs on behalf of VCWP and PWFDB
 - ii. Success Story:
 1. Video shown for Steven A's success story – He was able to receive a car and a job through connections made in the program.
 - iii. Numbers YTD
 1. People served and job placements are down in correlating numbers (IE, fewer served means fewer placements).
 2. Enrollment goals have been met for the year for all 3 programs.

- iv. PD10 updates:
 1. February was CTE Month at Green County. It was well received. Students connected with skills and pathways.
 2. Community Outreach continues in areas without a physical location.
 3. Monthly resources and courses are happening all the time.
 4. 127 employers served since July, with 60 hiring events.
- v. PD9 updates:
 1. A big employer closed locally. There are 130 affected workers. Hosted an event to connect employers with career seekers.
 2. ESL externs were hosted with Culpeper Center.
- vi. Questions/Discussion:
 1. David Lee asks about the 20% Reduction in funding that led to the closure of centers on Fridays. Marty: This is a result of job openings and census data.
 2. Sarah Morton emphasizes using “regional” instead of “local” when referring to VCWP programs to create awareness of the large region the workforce development board is serving.

X. PWDB Committee Reports

a. Business and Education Outreach, presented by Gary Spry

- i. Recent Events & Opportunities:
 1. Virtual Statewide Hiring Event was held by Virginia Works on March 5
 2. The Statewide Business Team is re-evaluating how they are serving businesses in the area
 3. FLIPP Inc. is working on FLIPPS Accelerated Clean Energy Reentry (FACER) Programs in Fluvanna and Charlottesville. VCWP can link individuals interested in learning more.
 4. UVA Pipelines & Pathways
 - a. Will be at VCWP on March 27 for Pathways to Success for individuals with criminal history or employment barriers.
 - b. Is hosting a Pathways to Success Job Fair on April 10th from 10am to 2pm at Carver Recreation Center in Charlottesville open to the public.
- ii. Questions/Discussion:
 1. Ann M: How do we find out about the Veterans Resume Writing Workshop? Brookes says it's all on our website, social media, and listservs.
 2. Sarah Morton reminded the board & CLEO about the Virginia Works HIRED funding available for Apprenticeship.

b. Strategic Planning, presented by James Tsikerdanos

- i. Planning session is needed in April due to upcoming federal issues. This is an opportunity for us to step up and show what we can do.

c. WIOA (Programs), presented by John Baldino

- i. John reiterates that a college degree is not necessary to find a good job.
- ii. He gives kudos to Madison Co. Public Schools team for their work teaching applicable skills.
- iii. We need to advertise and grow our outreach to groups that may not hear from us to grow awareness of our services.

XI. Comments

- a. Mark calendars for the next quarterly meeting, June 17, 2025, 3 PM.
 - i. In person - location – TBD

XII. Adjournment

- a. With no further discussion, Ann Mallek adjourned the meeting at 4:33 PM.