



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, September 23, 2025 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Virtual - Zoom
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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			
Juandiego Wade – Co-Chair	Charlottesville	X			
Donna Comer	Rappahannock	X			
Tony O'Brien	Fluvanna	X			
Bryan Nicol	Orange				
David Lee	Culpeper				
Fitzgerald Barnes	Louisa				
Marie Durrer	Greene				
James Jewett	Madison				
Dr. Jessica Ligon	Nelson				
Ike Broaddus	Fauquier				

VCW-PIEDMONT PWDB MEMBERS	PROGRAM YEAR 2024 (JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025)			
	ATTENDED			
	SEPT 2025	DEC 2025	MAR 2026	JUNE 2026
Annette Hyde - Chair	X			
Cheryl Kirby – Vice Chair	X			
John Baldino	X			
Ray Battani				
Antwon Brinson	X			
Matthew Brown	X			
Carol Coffey	X			
Jane Colony Mills	X			
Dana Cook	X			
Kaki Dimock				
Laura Duckworth	X			
Raye Elliott	X			
Rick Forsythe				
Dawn Hutchison	X			
John Jackson	X			
Clare Lillard				
Beth Lucchesi				
Steven Ray	X			
Eric Robertson				
Jennifer Schmack	X			
Lorne Seay				
Don Shotwell	X			
Gary Spry	X			
Shaun Summerscales				
Jessica Thompson				
Tony Williams				

NAME	ORGANIZATION	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Sarah Morton	PWDB Staff	Marty Bywaters-Baldwin	RGI
Ti-Erra Elam	PWDB Staff	Sara Drebes	RGI
Stephanie McNamara	PWDB Staff	Ryan Yarzebinski	Nelson County Public Schools

Liz Burnett	PWDB Staff	Amanda Roberts	Albemarle County Public Schools
Jason Ford	VCW-P Culpeper	Meghan Maynard	Albemarle County Public Schools
Brookes Sims	VCW-P Charlottesville VA	Diantha McKeel	Albemarle County Board of Supervisors
Jacqueline Washington	VA Works	Katie Delaney	CVPED

- I. **Meeting was called to order at 3:01 PM by Annette Hyde (PWDB)**
- II. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
 - a. No Public Comment
- III. **Provider Presentation**
- IV. **Presenters: Marty Bywaters-Baldwin, Rappahannock Goodwill Industries (RGI), Brookes Sims and Steve Farmer (Charlottesville Center)**
 - a. Workforce metrics are slightly down due to external factors but remain strong.
 - b. **Success story:** Steve Farmer shared his journey through the Charlottesville Ready to Work program as a justice-affected individual, highlighting his increased confidence, awareness of expectations, interview skills, employment outcomes, and future job aspirations.
- V. **Career & Technical Education (CTE) Presentations**
 - a. **Albemarle County Public Schools, presenters: Megan Maynard & Amber Roberts**
 - i. CTE is integrated with career planning, credentials, and work-based learning (WBL).
 - ii. High School Redesign includes Scholar Studios aligned with H3 Pathways (High Wage, High Demand, High Skill).
 - iii. WBL continuum spans K-12 with tiered experiences.
 - iv. Focus on equity and access, including support for special needs and English learners.
 - b. **Nelson County Public Schools, presenter Ryan Yarzebinski**
 - i. CTE programming includes agriculture, horticulture, nurse aide, cosmetology, automotive, carpentry, and more.
 - ii. Highlighted award-winning ag programs and immersive Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs).
 - iii. Success stories: Hayden (show cattle entrepreneur) and Houston (chestnut farming to electrical apprenticeship).
 - iv. Challenges include rural location, funding cuts, and limited business partnerships.
- VI. **Committee Updates:**
 - a. **Business & Education Outreach, presenter: Gary Spry**
 - i. Real Money Real World simulation will be held 9/24 at Cherry Avenue Boys & Girls Club.
 - ii. Upcoming events: Pipeline & Pathways Career Fair (10/7), next committee meeting (10/13).
 - b. **Strategic Planning, presenter: Sarah Morton**
 - i. Preparing for November retreat to align with state strategic plan.
 - ii. Board Retreat Facilitator will be Jane Dittmar (Civil Solutions)
 - c. **Programs Committee, presenter: Raye Elliott**
 - i. New ETPL programs from Rappahannock Center for Education approved by the committee and put forth for Board approval.
 - ii. Focus on metrics, enrollment, and wage outcomes.
 - iii. Sarah Morton thanks John Baldino for his many years of service as the chair of the Programs Committee.
- VII. **Financial Update, presenters: Ti-Erra Elam & Sarah Morton**
 - a. PY24 funds carryforward used while awaiting PY25 allocations.
 - b. Potential federal shutdown may impact funding
 - c. Sarah Morton encouraged board & CLEO members to advocate for these programs among their elected representatives.
- VIII. **Staff & Directors Report**
 - a. **Celebrations, presented by Stephanie McNarmara**
 - i. Monitoring and board certification accepted by the state.
 - ii. Local Plan approved by the state.
 - iii. MOU & IFA are ready for execution.
 - iv. VCWP congratulates & thanks Virginia Talent Awards winners from our region: Quinn-Lynn Bates (Barrier Breaker), Antwon Brinson (Emerging Workforce Leader), Raye Elliott (Second Chance Employer Excellence)
 - b. **Executive Director's Report, presented by Sarah Morton**
 - i. Job-Ready Clothing Closet launched with Atlantic Union Bank. Donations are accepted at select AUB locations. Contact Cheryl Kirby for details.
 - ii. State strategic plan focuses on future-ready talent and work-integrated learning.
 - iii. Federal cuts to WIOA, youth, and vulnerable population programs and the effects were discussed.
 - iv. Branding shift to "Virginia Works" criticized due to cost and timing.

- IX. **Roll Call and Announcement of Quorum, Stephanie McNamara, Annette Hyde, Ann Mallek**
 - a. CLEO Quorum: Achieved
 - b. PWDB Quorum: Achieved

- X. **CLEO Items Requiring Approval**
 - a. **June 2025 Meeting Minutes**
 - i. Motion by Donna Comer
 - ii. Second by Juandiego Wade
 - iii. All in favor – Approved by unanimous vote

 - b. **New Board Members:**
 - i. **Jennifer Schmack**
 - 1. Motion by Ann Mallek
 - 2. Second by Juandiego Wade
 - 3. All in favor – Approved by unanimous vote
 - ii. **Beth Lucchesi**
 - 1. Motion by Ann Mallek
 - 2. Second by Juandiego Wade
 - 3. All in favor – Approved by unanimous vote
 - iii. **Beth & Jennifer were welcomed to the board.**

- XI. **Board Items Requiring Approval**
 - a. **June 2025 Meeting Minutes**
 - i. Motion by Jane Colony Mills
 - ii. Seconded by Dana Cook
 - iii. All in favor

 - b. **New ETPL Programs for approval from Rappahannock Center for Education: Certified Clinical Medical Assistant; Certified Phlebotomy Technician I; Limited Scope Radiologic Technologist**
 - i. Motion by John Baldino
 - ii. Second by Don Shotwell
 - iii. All in favor.

 - c. **Updated VCWP Policies:**
 - i. **Self-Sufficiency Policy (2)**
 - 1. Motion to accept by Steve Ray
 - 2. Second by Antwon Brinson
 - 3. All in favor
 - ii. **Grievance Policy Procedure (35)**
 - 1. Motion to accept by Antwon Brinson
 - 2. Second by Don Shotwell
 - 3. All in favor

- XII. **Announcements**
 - a. **Next Gen Skilled Trades Day: October 4 at PVCC** - Contact Brookes Sims for more information.
 - b. **Board & CLEO Retreat (in-person): November 13**, Hillsdale Conference Center, Noon – 4:30 PM. Lunch is provided. Please be sure the board staff are aware of any dietary restrictions you may have.

- XIII. **Adjournment**
 - a. **CLEO Adjourned: 4:30 PM by Ann Mallek**
 - b. **PWDB Adjourned: 4:30 PM by Annette Hyde**