

**Piedmont Workforce Development Board (PWDB) Meeting
Business and Education Outreach Committee
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.**



Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81639090476?pwd=6iEOBq1arfJA1aJAnZQUwbTZOYa1Wq.1>

I. Opening- Chair Gary Spry

- a. Call to order: 1:30 p.m.

II. Discussion

- a. Director's Updates – Sarah Morton announced the state's update to Virginia Works and the efforts to help address the talent gap in Virginia. Apprenticeships are being highlighted as a strategy to help get job seekers trained and equipped to transition into the workforce.
- b. Talent Supply Connector Grant Update – Morris White went over the Talent Supply Coalition meetings and the feedback received from the business owners and educators. The meetings focused on cross-sector collaboration, solution-based discussions, youth engagement, workforce barriers, and data-driven insights. Morris White also presented the key highlights of the meetings, which included panel discussions and networking amongst the business owners and organizations.
- c. Business Service and Outreach Update -Jason Ford reviewed the Virginia State Police presentation at the most recent state business services team meeting. The presentation highlighted their Pathway to Trooper program to help address the staff shortage in Virginia. Jason Ford continued by discussing that the state averages about 20 attendees at the meetings, which is helping the Business Services Team meet the state-mandated requirements.
- d. Community and Education Update—Brookes Sims presented the recent efforts to finish the work-based learning academy at William Monroe High School, which will prepare students for their career fair, college decisions, and post-graduation decisions. Also, Brookes Sims presented our Piedmont Virginia Community College partnership that provides English as a Second Language classes at the Virginia Career Works Piedmont campus.

III. Adjournment: 2:29 p.m.

Gary Spry-**Chair**

Clare Lillard- Present

Carol Coffey- Present

Bryan Rothamel- Present

Annette Hyde- Present

Shawn Woodfolk- Absent

Jane Colony Mills- Present

Shaun Summerscales- Absent

Guest: Jason Ford- Present

Guest: Brookes Sims- Present

Guest: Morris White- Present

Board Staff: Sarah Morton- Present

Board Staff: Ti-Erra Elam- Present