



**Joint Meeting – Greater Roanoke Workforce Development  
Board and CLEO Consortium**  
December 15, 2022 – 11:00 AM  
Virtual Meeting

<b>CLEO Representative</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>CLEO Alternate Representative</b>	<b>Present</b>
Stephen Bennett		Reid Walters	
Gary Larrowe		Billy Martin, Sr.	
Tom Sibold, Jr.	X	David Bryant	
Jason Matyas		Dan Collins	
Ronnie Thompson		Christopher Whitlow	X
Sherman Lea		Joseph Cobb	
Martha Hooker	X	P. Jason Peters	
John Saunders		Jay Taliaferro	

<b>Board Members Private Sector</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Board Members Public Sector</b>	<b>Present</b>
Teresa Hammond		Joseph Brinley	X
Casey Nicely	X	Chuck Simpson	X
Jeremy Adkins	X	Karen Michalski-Karney	X
Sonya Charlow		Abby Hamilton	X
Michael Gardner	X	Cynthia Lawrence	X
Kristina Repass		Debbie Hamrick	X
Emily Smith		Jamie Soltis	
Kristi Mallory	X	Dr. John Rainone	X
Adrienne Ross		Dr. Milan Hayward	X
Richard Mansell	X	Susan Watkins	
Tiffany Worstell		Beth Simms	X
Sharon Pandolfini		Susan Goad	X
Mike Stevens	X	Chris Simmons	X
Jeff Hamley		Amanda Forrester	X
		Jeremy Holmes	X
		John Hull	

<b>GRWDB Staff</b>	<b>Present</b>
Morgan Romeo	X
Leah Gibson	X
Danielle Hart	X
Bobby Welch	X
Toni McLawhorn	X
Madison Wade	X

<b>Guests</b>	<b>Present</b>
Amanda Decker	X
Lea Decosta	X
Kay Pagans	X
Kim Dameron	X
Chris Pope	X

## **Welcome**

Martha Hooker welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

## **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **GRWDB Consent Agenda**

Casey Nicely directed everyone to the GRWDB Consent Agenda for board members only. He asked if anyone wanted to pull any Consent Agenda items for further discussion. There was no further discussion on the Consent Agenda as presented.

**GRWDB Action:** A motion was made by Dr. Rainone to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Joseph Brinley. The motion was carried.

## **Old Business**

Morgan Romeo stated that the Career Quest event held in September went very well and included new participants from Roanoke Catholic Schools. The schools were pleased, and the students learned about careers that they may not have considered before. The SPCA and Carilion Clinic had some of the favorite exhibits.

The next Career Quest event is scheduled for February 14th and 15<sup>th</sup> of 2023 and will be for 10th grade students. This event will focus on registered apprenticeships. The volunteer lists for Board and CLEO members will be given out after the holiday season.

There were no additional comments regarding Career Quest.

## **Director's Report**

Casey asked Morgan to present the Director's Report and directed everyone to the report in the packet.

Morgan began by discussing upcoming grant opportunities, which include:

1. Innovation Grant: The goal of this grant is to expand registered apprenticeships with businesses. We are responsible for enrolling 15 in-school youth in registered apprenticeships. This will begin in the Fall.
2. Morgan congratulated TAP for the Pathways Home Grant that focuses on providing services to non-violent offenders. Our goal is to co-enroll them with WIOA Title I.
3. HRSA Grant: This grant focuses on rural areas for healthcare services and is for Franklin County residents only. We are splitting the grant with three other workforce boards.
4. DOL Nursing Expansion Grant: We are in the process of applying for this grant which will expand the number of nurse educators in the area. We are working with Carilion and George Mason University. This grant will provide \$6 million over 5 years.

Dr. Rainone asked if the DOL Nursing Expansion Grant will include the Highlands. Cynthia Lawrence confirmed that it does include the Highlands and she also stated that it will affect the Go Virginia area.

Cynthia stated this will also include individuals who are already credentialed in their home countries and will provide them services to get credentialed here.

We are in the process of putting together our outside agency funding requests, which are typically due through the month of January. These funds are not as restrictive as the federal grants and they especially help with Career Quest.

Debbie Hamrick stated that page 34 of the packet incorrectly shows no activity for the Franklin County Adult and Career Center (AEC). Leah responded and confirmed that we will be incorporating the Adult Ed numbers for the Franklin Center in future reports.

**GRWDB Action:** A motion was made by Chris Simmons to **approve the Director's Report as presented**. The motion was seconded by Joseph Brinley. The motion was carried.

**Executive Session (Closed)**

**GRWDB Action:** A motion was made by Casey Nicely for the Board to enter closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(29) for the discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. The motion was seconded by Karen Michalski. The motion was carried and members of the public were removed from the virtual meeting and placed in the waiting room.

Closed Session discussion occurred with guests out of the virtual meeting.

**GRWDB Action:** A motion was made by Casey Nicely to end closed session and certify that (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by closed meeting was convened or heard, discussed, or considered during the meeting by the public body.

The motion was seconded by Chuck Simpson. The motion was carried by a roll call vote as recorded below:

Casey Nicely	Yes	Abby Hamilton	Yes
Jeremy Adkins	Yes	Cynthia Lawrence	Yes
Michael Gardner	Yes	Debbie Hamrick	Yes
Kristi Mallory	Yes	Dr. John Rainone	Yes
Richard Mansell	Yes	Dr. Milan Hayward	Yes
Mike Stevens	Yes	Beth Simms	Yes
Joseph Brinley	Yes	Susan Goad	Yes
Chuck Simpson	Yes	Chris Simmons	Yes
Karen Michalski-Karney	Yes	Amanda Forrester	Yes
Jeremy Holmes	Yes		

A motion was made by Casey Nicely to allow the staff to interview the finalist vendors for the RFP for the Regional Web-Based Talent Portal, along with staff to the Roanoke Regional Partnership, and make a final determination to award the contract.

The motion was made by Dr. Milan Hayward and seconded by Karen Michalski-Karney. The motion was carried.

### **New Business**

Morgan noted that we will be adding two members to the Executive Committee, Martha Hooker as the Chair of CLEO and Tom Sibold as the Vice-Chair.

Morgan also noted that there will be two Board appointments to make, which we are unable to do today. The first appointment is Susan Watkins who will be re-appointed as the DARS representative. The second appointment will be Emily Smith who formerly worked for Orvis, and now works for VDOT in Salem.

These appointments will occur at the next CLEO meeting where quorum is met.

Morgan stated that the Governor is looking at restructuring the current workforce system. She will be presenting the current workforce system as well as the proposal. Morgan noted that we have not seen what the bill legislation looks like, nor the cost of the bill legislation. Right now, the formula funds we receive from our programs comes from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS). A new workforce agency is currently being proposed as the Virginia Department of Workforce Development & Advancement (VDWDA). Essentially the new agency will have four new departments: Workforce Development Services, Workforce Policy, Workforce Analytics, and Workforce Grants Management. Registered apprenticeships are being moved from the Department of Labor and Industry into this new agency. Morgan presented the future state of workforce development and noted that one of the biggest changes is the removal of the Department of Labor and Industry. The Department of Labor and Industry will still exist, however, it will no longer have workforce programs. Another big change is that Title II Adult Education and Literacy will move under the Virginia Community College System (VCCS). Morgan presented the current transition timeline for the new workforce system, which includes the launch of the initial phase of the transition in July of 2023, and then six months later they expect the new workforce system to be implemented.

Morgan stated this has been a long time coming and is a good first step. Morgan has questions and comments about the implementation, which includes (1) How will the new structure integrate with our local and regional systems? (2) The timeline is extremely fast. (3) They stated that no jobs will be lost during this transition. (4) Title II to VCCS is a massive change.

Dr. Rainone believes there will be retirements due to the change. He also stated that Adult Ed as part of the Community College System is pretty standard across the country.

Casey asked if the board were to make a statement, would they have more of an impact with an individual statement or get together with other workforce boards?

Martha stated that she agrees the board should make a statement.

Jeremy Holmes stated that they are having several of the planning districts, as one voice, engage with the state agency.

Morgan suggested drafting a summary document of our highlights and thoughts as an internal document for the Board and CLEO as well as the localities and then begin drafting a statement from the Board to send to the Secretary of Labor office and local advocacy groups.

## **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee:

Karen stated that the Finance Committee met and discussed the transfer of \$150,000 from Dislocated Workers to the Adult program. We need more money for the Adult program than we do Dislocated Workers. We have done this in the past.

The Finance Committee recommended moving \$150,000 from Dislocated Workers to the Adult Program.

**GRWDB Action:** The motion is being made by the Finance Committee recommendation to approve the transfer of \$150,000 in WIOA Title I funding from the Dislocated Worker to the Adult program. The motion was seconded by Chuck Simpson. The motion was carried by a roll call vote as recorded below:

Casey Nicely	Yes	Abby Hamilton	Yes
Jeremy Adkins	Yes	Cynthia Lawrence	
Michael Gardner		Debbie Hamrick	Yes
Kristi Mallory		Dr. John Rainone	
Richard Mansell	Yes	Dr. Milan Hayward	
Mike Stevens		Beth Simms	Yes
Joseph Brinley	Yes	Susan Goad	Yes
Chuck Simpson	Yes	Chris Simmons	Yes
Karen Michalski-Karney	Yes	Amanda Forrester	Yes

The Finance Committee also reviewed financial statements for November and stated that there is a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the financial statements as presented.

**GRWDB Action:** A motion to approve the financial statements as presented was made by Casey Nicely and seconded by Joseph Brinley. The motion was carried.

Program Oversight Committee:

Abby Hamilton stated that the Program Oversight Committee reviewed the WIOA Title I programs report through October. The committee also discussed plans for Career Quest 2023. They discussed the new funding opportunities which Morgan discussed earlier in the meeting. They also discussed the implementation of a mobile workforce center. The existing strategic plan document was reviewed as well as the local plan.

## **Other Business**

No additional business was brought in front of the GRWDB and CLEO Consortium.

## **Adjournment**

Casey Nicely adjourned the meeting at 12:39 PM.