

## Minutes of the State Apprenticeship Advisory Council Meeting

Date: April, 19, 2006; 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Place: Fort Myers, Florida

**Members Present:**

Bonnie Marmor, Chairperson  
James Nolan  
Al Herndon  
Donna Beasley  
Jerry Thomas  
Lori Blake  
Arnold Pruitt  
Cindy Johnson

**Members Absent:**

John Spinella  
Henry Gonzalez

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by brief welcoming and introductory comments by the Chair.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Herndon that the Minutes from the January 19, 2006 meeting of the Council be approved as submitted. Motion unanimously passed.

Special guests were introduced to include the Tri-County Apprenticeship Academy Board of Directors, the Department of Education staff and the U. S. Department of Labor representative for Florida.

**Follow-up discussions for items from the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting included:**

- Affirmative Action Contacts—after a discussion among the Council members it was the Chair's decision to have a list of contacts and associations (that deal with gender specific groups) placed on the Apprenticeship web site. These contacts will assist local apprenticeship sponsors in the promotion of apprenticeship and recruitment of apprentices with local affirmative action organizations.
- Veterans' Transition Project—Mr. Islitzer reported that a brochure is being developed to promote apprenticeship as an option for persons mustering out of the regular military, the National Guard and the Reserve. A draft will be ready by the July meeting of the Council.
- Apprenticeship Sponsor/Educational Partner Matrix—the Chair reported that the matrix is no longer needed or being advocated.

The Chair asked if there were any other follow-up items in addition to those mentioned or any other carry-over issues from the prior Council meeting. None were mentioned.

**Web Based Data System Update:**

Ms. Hatch presented a thorough and detailed PowerPoint presentation on the current status of the apprenticeship web based data system. Her 18-page handout is appended to these Minutes. It is still anticipated the system will “go live” in January 2007. The issue related to the use and acceptance of electronic signatures is unresolved to date.

**Workforce Education Public Awareness & Recruitment Campaign:**

Ms. Cordill used a PowerPoint presentation to explain the mission and goals of the PR/recruitment effort. She discussed the uses of “Better Than Ever” media kits, billboards, a variety of brochures and other recruitment tools targeting school districts, community colleges and the business-industry community. The PowerPoint handout is appended to these Minutes.

**Florida reBuilds Update/Phase I:**

Ms. Cordill continued with her PowerPoint presentation that showed changes to the current Florida reBuilds initiative. The Chair noted that additional construction related training programs are now eligible for Florida reBuilds funding and that the length of training programs are flexible. This handout is appended to these Minutes.

**Legislative Update:**

Ms. Cordill presented a legislative update including a discussion of several items in Senate (only) proviso language common to apprenticeship, school districts and community colleges. The proviso addresses the use of competitive grants for school districts and community colleges to enhance apprenticeship training with priority given to rural communities in which minorities constitutes a majority of the population. Several other bills of interest were briefly mentioned. This handout is included in the Florida reBuilds handout which is appended to these Minutes.

**Apprenticeship Day Observations:**

Mr. Herndon asserted that legislators need to hear about the proper funding of apprenticeship and be made aware of the stories of how significantly apprenticeship opportunities change the lives of their constituents. A general discussion concluded that Apprenticeship Day seemed to reach casual non-legislative persons rather than legislators or legislative staffers. It was suggested that perhaps a more personal approach after the session in local districts would be more effective.

**DOE Apprenticeship Rules Review and Recommendations:**

Mr. Campora provided a 22-page handout entitled “Project Rules Update Phase One.” He explained the rules are under the old Department of Labor and Employment Security and need amendments to make them DOE rules. Phase One is the “clean-up phase.” Every rule must tie to a statute. The Council’s Rules and Regulations committee is to determine the timeline for the changes. Phase Two will be Council recommendations to the DOE regarding the apprenticeship rules. The Phase One handout is appended to these Minutes.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Rules and Regulations Committee**—Ms. Blake reporting:

It was explained a sub-committee will present a report to the Rules Committee concerning recommended changes to the existing apprenticeship rules. The group discussed the advisability of putting the recommended changes on the web for reaction and input. If the recommended changes are put on the web site, the Chair recommended it be done within 30 days so as not to impede the process. Responders should e-mail their input to Ms. Blake.

### **Public Awareness and Marketing Committee**—Mr. Nolan reporting:

It was noted that a variety of useful apprenticeship promotional information in the form of brochures can be downloaded and printed from the internet. Mr. Nolan will send the web site information to the Council. He further reported that ‘Career Voyages’ brochures and videos can be downloaded to CDs.

It was moved by Mr. Nolan and seconded by Mr. Thomas that four weeks prior to the next Council meeting the next host of the Council meeting provide a list of names and businesses to the Council of persons in that region who would be honored at the Council meeting and presented with a “meritorious service” certificate from the Council recognizing their outstanding contributions to apprenticeship. Motion unanimously passed. The process of determining those to receive the certificates and the preparation of each certificate was determined.

### **Program Expansion and Development Committee**—Mr. Pruitt reporting for Mr. Spinella:

Concerning affirmative action contacts it was recommended that a web page be established and put on-line that details affirmative action contact information by region for all regions of the state. The recommendation was unanimously accepted.

The committee suggested the Council consider tasking apprenticeship reps with the responsibility to conduct outreach to military Transition Assistance Programs in their areas. Prior to this, central staff should contact the Agency for the Workforce Innovation veterans’ rep to coordinate this effort. It was recommended to the Council that apprenticeship representation be pursued with the Transition Assistance Programs statewide. No decision on this item by the Council.

### Chair clarification of the use of ATR time in committee work:

The Chair recognized the use of sub-committees to accomplish the objectives of the committee. It was suggested that conference calls be used to check the progress of the sub-committees and committees. The Chair clarified that ATRs are available on a limited basis to help the committees with whom they work but that they do not have much

discretionary time to become deeply involved with the workings of the committees. It was requested that, if a committee has need for additional ATR support, contact should be made with Steve Campora to discuss the possibility.

**Council Round Table:**

Mr. Sullivan asked how far they could go on background checks and how they could approach it. He gave a legal review to Steve. It was recommended that Mr. Daniel Woodring (DOE General Counsel) be contacted prior to the next meeting to give an opinion. No further discussion of this item.

Mr. Herndon asked if, by the next meeting, someone familiar with child labor laws could report on persons less than 18 years of age on a construction site.

Ms. Blake asked the outcome of the federal apprenticeship compliance review. Mr. Campora reported favorable results with the final report yet to be received.

A motion by Mr. Nolan about supporting a journeyman license was tabled for a future discussion.

At the Chair's prerogative, the Minutes will henceforth follow the recommendations for minutes in "Roberts Rules of Order."

The next Council meeting will be held in conjunction with the FACTE Conference and will be on July 13<sup>th</sup> at a place and time to be determined.

The meeting was concluded at 3:30 p.m.

Appended handouts will be electronically available on the DOE Apprenticeship web site.

Minutes Submitted by  
David Islitzer and Joe Daly  
ATR Support Staff to the Council