



Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Hybrid Location: Prince George's Community College in the Dukes Student Center

Zoom Meeting – [Click Here to View the Recording](#)

Attendees

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Brad Frome, Chair^ | 17. Kari Pompilii^ |
| 2. Brian Courtien^ | 18. Margaret Shrager^ |
| 3. David Diaz^ | 19. Mary Manzoni^ |
| 4. Dawn D Carter^ | 20. Natalie Mitchell^ |
| 5. Dawnn Leary^ | 21. Omar McIntosh^ |
| 6. Delania Ware^ | 22. Pamela Smith^ |
| 7. Dr. Falecia Williams^ | 23. Patrick Combs* |
| 8. Dr. Mia Riley^ | 24. Rebecca Webster* |
| 9. Dr. Tamika S. Hood* | 25. Samuel DeVonish^ |
| 10. Erica LeMon^ | 26. Senator James “Jim” C. Rosapepe^ |
| 11. Ericka Stevens* | 27. Synkeithia Holly^ |
| 12. Erika Bailey^ | 28. Stacey Butler^ |
| 13. Ingrid Watson^ | 29. Tara Williams^ |
| 14. Jacqueline Moore^ | 30. Terrelina Sims^ |
| 15. Jeffrey Dufresne* | 31. Walter L. Simmons* |
| 16. Jeffrey Swilley* | |

*Board Staff ^Board Members

Welcome

Brad Frome

Brad Frome commenced the meeting at **9:02** am.

Roll Call & Speaker Introductions

Dr. Tamika S. Hood

The meeting began with a roll call of attendees, including elected officials, staff, and new board members. Dr. Tamika Hood introduced the new members and discussed the nomination process for future board positions.

Host Presentation

Dr. DeAndre Jones

Dr. Jones highlighted the college's commitment to workforce development and organization partnerships. Dr. Jones also mentioned two ongoing projects that he and Mrs. Williams are working on for the county residents.

Perkins Overview

Kendrick N. Kenney

Mr. Kendrick N. Kenney discussed the impactful use of the Perkins Grant to enhance Career Technical Education (CTE) programs at the college. Mr. Kenney explained that the grant supports program and professional development, equipment upgrades, and student services aimed at career aspirations and recruitment. Mr. Kenney highlighted the importance of purchasing industry-standard equipment and integrating virtual and augmented reality into the curriculum. He also noted the significance of collaborating with industry partners to provide students with essential training and tools. Additionally, he emphasized the grant's support for special populations, including women in nontraditional fields and students with disabilities. Mr. Kenney concluded by listing approved CTE programs eligible for Perkins funding, such as culinary arts, cybersecurity, early childhood education, computer engineering, and small business management.

Approval of Minutes

Brad Frome

Brad Frome presented the minutes of the meeting on December 4, 2024.

A motion to approve minutes made by Ingrid Watson; seconded by Brian Courtien and carried unanimously.

Chairman's Report

Brad Frome

Brad Frome warmly welcomed the three new Board Members to the Board during the meeting.

Directors Report

Walter L. Simmons

Walter L. Simmons addressed the current challenges surrounding federal spending, particularly noting the failure of the reauthorization act to secure approval last December. He emphasized the consequences of this failure, including the removal of funding for youth programs and the Senior Community Service Employment Program and a 5% cut in federal funding. Walter L. Simmons also raised concerns about the possibility of a government shutdown due to ongoing internal budget disagreements, which could increase demand for services in the upcoming weeks. Considering these challenges, Walter L. Simmons noted a transition from quarterly to monthly invoicing as part of their preparations. Additionally, Walter L. Simmons highlighted that they are actively seeking federal grants despite the prevailing uncertainties in federal funding.

NEW BUSINESS

Mid-Year Budget Review & Approval

Jeffrey Dufresne

Jeffrey Dufresne presented a mid-year budget proposal. The proposal included several adjustments to reflect a more conservative approach prompted by uncertainty from the previous year. Key adjustments included:

Total Budget Increase: The total budget increased from \$588,000 to \$804,050, with a significant portion of the increase coming from the financial board's budget.

Grant Budget Adjustments:

- **WIOA Adult Grant:** Reduced from \$3.8 million to \$2.5 million.
- **Dislocated Worker Grant:** Reduced from \$2.5 million to \$1.7 million.
- **Youth Grant:** Reduced by \$297,100.
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant:** IUPAT modified to include only \$130,000 of their initially planned programming plus \$100,000 for a mobile job center. KRA requested a \$29,979 reduction in August; based on performance, another \$130,000 would be removed from their contract, and EPG would use increased funding to continue programming despite WIOA cuts.

A motion to approve carrying the remaining funds into the next year was made by Ingrid Watson, seconded by Dawnn Leary. The motion was carried unanimously.

Budget Spending Report

Jeffrey Dufresne presented a detailed report on spending against the approved budget, noting that the spending was in line with expectations:

Overall Budget: 46% of the \$804,050 budget had been spent.

Grant Spending:

- **Adult Grant:** 39% of the budget had been spent.
- **Dislocated Worker Grant:** 48% of the budget had been spent.
- **Youth Grant:** 38% of the budget had been spent.
- **Summer Youth Connections:** 89% of the budget had been spent.
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):** 29% of the budget had been spent.
- **Blueprint for Maryland's Future:** 27% of the budget had been spent.

Jeffrey Dufresne confirmed that any unspent funds would be carried over to the next year, ensuring no risk of forfeiting funds. The expected annual appropriation for the next year is between \$6.7 million and \$6.8 million.

Closing

Discussion on Prince George's County Economic Trends

Walter L. Simmons led a discussion on the economic trends in Prince George's County and proposed potential solutions:

Impact of Hispanic Population on School Performance: Walter L. Simmons highlighted the impact of the large Hispanic population on school system performance and suggested increasing parental involvement and collaborating with the University of Maryland.

Workforce Housing Development: A suggestion was made to focus on workforce housing development to address local economic issues.

Tax Structure: Walter L. Simmons noted the county's heavy reliance on property taxes and the need for a more favorable corporate tax structure.

Meeting Adjournment

Brad Frome

Margaret Shrager made a motion to conclude the meeting, which was seconded by Kari Pompilii. The motion was carried unanimously.

Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Location- Luminis Health Doctors Hospital-8118 Good Luck Road Lanham Md. 20706



<https://pgcajc.com/workforce-board/>