# Local Workforce Development Area Designation Application

# I. Point of Contact

Fill in the information below regarding the individual who is completing this application on behalf of the chief local elected official who will serve as the point of contact for future correspondence.

Chief local elected official	Alamance County Commissioners John Paisley, Chair
Contact Name	Heidi York
Title	County Manager
Address	124 West Elm Street Graham, NC 27253
Email Address	Heidi.york@alamance-nc.com
Date of Application	November 2, 2022

# II. Additional Information Regarding Designation/Transfer Request

Is the request for a new Local Area?	□ Yes	🛛 No
Is the request regarding the transfer of county(ies) of an existing Local Area by a unit (or group of units) of local government?	🛛 Yes	□ No

# **III.** Participating Counties

List all counties that will form the reorganized Local Area.

Alamance	Randolph
Caswell	Rockingham
Davidson	Surry
Davie	Stokes
Forsyth	Yadkin

# IV. Adding or Removing a County(ies)

Indicate the names of each county requesting removal from their currently designated Local Area and addition to a reorganized Local Area. Please indicate which Local Area the county is being removed from.

# Alamance County

Alamance County is moving from the Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board Local Area to the Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board Local Area.

# V. Circumstances for the Request

Attach a summary which clearly states the circumstances for the request of transfer of county(ies)/reorganization.

See the attached letter of Intent sent from the Alamance County Board of Commissioners Chair on September 28, 2022 (Attachment #1)

# VI. Impact of the Withdrawal County(ies) to the Withdrawing Area

Attach a summary that clearly states how the proposed transfer of county(ies) will impact those Local Areas from which it is withdrawing, such as impact on service delivery, economic development regions, commuting patterns, availability of educational and training providers, needs and services related to the business and employer community, and other community-based needs.

Additionally, please indicate the impact of the move to the restructured Local Area the county wishes to be included in, if applicable.

Alamance County has been a part of the Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board Local Area for over 20 years. However, with increased need to function regionally to meet the needs of individual and employer customers, Alamance County moving from Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board Local Area and joining the Piedmont Triad Regional WDB Local area is a natural fit. Alamance County currently works with the Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) in many program areas outside of the scope of workforce development (i.e., Senior Services, Planning, etc.) In addition, Alamance County, through Regional Partnership WDB has worked closely with Piedmont Triad Regional WDB on many regional initiatives for many years. Finally, from the standpoint of economic development and prosperity zones, Alamance County aligning with Piedmont Triad Regional WDB falls in line with the State's vision and geographic preference for prosperity zones/area.

# VII. Local Area Designation Criteria

Attach a summary to address each of the specific considerations that follow, as well as any additional information or evidence to support the claims.

1. Impact on service delivery in the proposed reorganized Local Area;

Alamance County joining Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board Local Area will enhance workforce services to both employers and individuals throughout the region. The workforce program will continue with the proven approach of going where the people are to meet their needs. This is a historically successful boots on the ground method, where PTRWDB will continue to provide area citizens with direct access to programming through certified NCWorks Centers, satellite sites, mobile unit programs, and special events to make sure individuals are assisted to a achieve positive outcomes.

Among other resources, PTRWDB houses two mobile outreach vehicles making it possible to take services directly into the community for job fairs, rapid response for business closings, or special events requested through our business solutions webpage.

Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board will maintain a comprehensive Level I NCWorks Career Center currently located in Alamance County.

2. Costs and benefits of a potential reorganization including, availability of educational and training providers (such as institutions of higher education and career and technical education schools in the area), needs and services related to the business and employer community and other community-based needs;

One main cost benefit of this reorganization is the ability to take advantage of "economies of scale". The increased size of the area will allow for a more focused use of limited resources. Workforce allocations have been reduced over the past years and will continue to decrease. A larger area with more resources will allow these limited assets to be programmed toward major initiatives and projects of regional interest rather than duplicative staffing. This cost savings will be seen as funds are put back into the community.

Also, through Regional Partnership WDB, training scholarships via ITA's, WIOA participants have the choice to receive training from a variety of community colleges (or other training providers) in the region. Combining forces will maintain and likely enhance service levels. Plus, the region can establish a uniform ITA policy, providing a level of consistency that may not exist at present.

Commission Policy Statement: CPS 03-2022 Attachment 2 Page 3 of 8 For businesses, employers, and community partners, the reorganization will provide better access to services. While Regional Partnership WDB has two employees dedicated to business engagement, PTRWDB has a team dedicated to business services and economic development. With more team members ready to respond to businesses' needs, services may be delivered in a timelier, and more comprehensive fashion. Moreover, a regional business service team can deliver a consistent level of services to businesses that may not be occurring in the current "siloed" arrangement. Similar to benefits to businesses/employers, and because of economies of scale and resources at the disposal of the PTRWDB, the reorganization should strengthen relationships with partners thereby helping meet needs within the community more comprehensively.

3. Consistency with natural labor market areas and commuting patterns;

Alamance County joining the Piedmont Triad Regional WDB Local Area fits nicely with the natural labor market and commuting patterns. Alamance County is currently included in the Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone and Approximately 47.6% of the county's workforce currently commutes out of Alamance into surrounding counties. See the attached report from the Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD).

LEAD was asked to examine the proposed realignment of workforce development boards and determine if the proposals are consistent with:

- Natural labor market areas and commuting pattern data; and
- Regional economic development areas.

Taken altogether, regional labor market analysis, commuting patterns, and regional economic development structures clearly support the inclusion of Alamance County into the Piedmont Triad Regional WDB. (See Attachment #2)

4. Consistency with regional economic development areas;

As noted in #3 above, Alamance County is currently included in the Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone. Additionally, LEAD was asked to examine the proposed realignment of workforce development boards and determine if the proposals are consistent with:

- Natural labor market areas and commuting pattern data; and
- Regional economic development areas

Taken altogether, regional labor market analysis, commuting patterns, and regional economic development structures clearly support the inclusion of Alamance County into the Piedmont Triad Regional WDB. (See Attachment #2)

It is also worth noting that PTRC recently merged its Workforce and Economic Development Departments. This combination will ensure a more coordinated approach to serving business and will guarantee that conversations focused on talent are happening in the early stages of regional economic development projects. The Workforce and Economic Development Department at PTRC provides consistent updates to the elected officials who make up the COG Board of Delegates. Elected officials are given real time information about workforce issues and economic development initiatives and have a say in the programs.

The Workforce and Economic Development Department also works very closely with PTRC's Development Corporation, which is the COG's non-profit entity. This group is actively engaged in the future of our area's workforce and will provide elected officials with an avenue for direct input into processes through delegate participation.

5. Local backing by county commissioners, municipal elected officials – including mayors and/or city council members, where appropriate – and business or community leaders within the area of the implementation strategies to provide quality services to employers and individuals; backing may be demonstrated by meeting minutes, letters of support, resolutions or a vote of support by a commission, council, or other applicable board; and

Please see the Letter of Intent referenced in Section V – Circumstances for the **Request** of this document. Also, see attached Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022 Alamance County Board of Commissioners' Meeting (Attachment #3) that documents the LOI was voted on by all Commissioners with all (4) supporting the LOI.

November, 2022 Piedmont Triad Regional Job Training Consortium Meeting Minutes that document the approval to accept the Counties of Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph into the Consortium. (Attachment #4) and the Resolution supporting the additional of Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph Counties into the workforce local area, from the Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board (Attachment #5)

Additional support to for Alamance County to join the PTRWDB has been expressed by Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce and Alamance Community College Staff. 6. Local capacity to manage funds, provide oversight of programs, and provide for the proper stewardship of public funds.

It is expected that Alamance County transitioning to Piedmont Triad Regional WDB Local Area will be relatively seamless from the standpoint of funds management. The Piedmont Triad Regional Council serves as the fiscal and administrative agent and has operated WIOA programs for years and understands programs and funding requirements.

# VIII. Signatures of Representatives from each County in the Proposed Reorganized Local Area

The chief local elected official from each county to be named on the Local Area's Consortium Agreement in the proposed Local Area must sign the attached signature sheet to show their approval. If necessary, a separate signature page from each representative may be attached. Additional signature lines may be added as needed.

#### IX. Approvals on Proposed Reorganization of WDB(s) (Optional)

Have the WDB(s) impacted by the transfer of county(ies)/reorganization approved?  $\boxtimes$  Yes  $\Box$  No

If yes, attach Board resolution(s), meeting minutes, or letter of support. If no, explain why not.

*Please see the attached Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board resolution (Attachment #4)* 

#### X. Email the Application

Send the completed application with the attachments to: AssistantSecretary@ncworks.gov. The subject line of the email should contain "Local Area Designation."

#### **Summary of Attachments**

- Attachment #1 Letter of Intent WDB Transition 9-28-2022
- Attachment #2 LEAD's Labor Market Report
- Attachment #3 Alamance County BOC Meeting Minutes 9-19-2022
- Attachment #4 PTR Job Training Consortium Meeting Minutes 11-2-2022
- Attachment #5 PTRWDB's Supporting Resolution

# Signatures of Representatives from each County in the Proposed Reorganized Local Area

Chair, Davidson County Board of Commissioners	Sign Above Steve Shell	9/27/2022
County/Municipality Name, Title	Sign Above Insert Name	Date

# Additional Supporting Approvals on Proposed Reorganization of Existing Local Area and/or WDBs (OPTIONAL)

County/Municipality		Date
Name or Board		
Name, Title	Sign Above	
	Insert Name	
County/Municipality		Date
Name or Board		
Name, Title	Sign Above	
	Insert Name	

# Signatures of Representatives from each County in the Proposed

# **Reorganized Local Area**

<u></u>		2
Chair, Alamance	1 halle	Date
County Board of	pllll	11/21/202
Commissioners	Sign Above	
	John Paisley	
Caswell County	DocuSigned by:	Date
Commissioner	IVathand Nall	11/15/2022
	033EF74457Sign Above	
	Nate Hall	
Davie County	DocuSigned by;	Date
Commissioner	timy Kenegar	
commissioner	695047A711Sign Above	11/28/2022
	Terry Renegar	Data
Forsyth County	10 PO A	Date
Commissioner	flery 47tm	11/2/2020
	Sign Above	17010000
	Fleming El-Amin	
Chair, Randolph		Date
County Board of	1) jenuel 120	
Commissioners	Sign Above	11/1/2022
	Darrell Frye	
Rockingham County		Date
Commissioner	m BFR. L. I	
Commissioner	Sign Above	11/2/2022
	Mark Richardson	
2 0		D
Surry County		Date
Commissioner	Van Tucker	11/28/2022
	5CC16A095 Stign Above	11/20/2022
	Van Tucker	
Stokes County	Vil m 7	Date
Commissioner	Thick Mours	11210000
	Sign Above	11/7/2022
	Rick Morris	
Yadkin County		Date
Commissioner	and	
Commissioner		11/2/2022
	Sign Above	
	Kevin Austin	



# Additional Supporting Approvals on Proposed Reorganization of Existing Local Area and/or WDBs (OPTIONAL)

County/Municipality		Date
Name or Board		
Name, Title	Sign Above	
	Insert Name	
County/Municipality		Date
Name or Board		
Name, Title	Sign Above	
	Insert Name	

# Additional Supporting Approvals on Proposed Reorganization of Existing Local Area and/or WDBs (OPTIONAL)

Piedmont Triad		Date
Regional WDB,	Down W. Joole	
Chair	Sign Above	11-7-22
	Darren Poole	11 100
County/Municipality		Date
Name or Board		
Name, Title	Sign Above	
	Insert Name	

Attachment #1

# Alamance County

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 10 Northwest Court Square Graham, North Carolina 27253 Tel. (336) 212-7022 john.paisley@alamance-nc.com

John P. Paisley, Jr. Chairman

September 28, 2022

Tom Rabon Chair, NCWorks Commission c/o North Carolina Department of Commerce 4301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4301

Sent via email to NCWorksCommission@commerce.nc.gov

Dear Chair Rabon:

On behalf of Alamance County, I write to express our intention to transition from our current local workforce area for the purposes of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. We propose to join the Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments Workforce Development Board. We have consulted with leaders of Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments and they agree to this realignment. We will seek the transfer of our county and the redesignation of this area by Governor Cooper. Our goal is to make the new local area effective on July 1, 2023. This was a unanimous decision of the Alamance County Board of County Commissioners.

To help inform this decision, I have consulted with my fellow County Commissioners and workforce board members, and leaders involved in education, workforce and economic development in my community, including the Chamber of Commerce and Alamance Community College. We are in agreement that this transition will best serve the needs of our community. It is our hope that the current workforce center in Alamance County will remain open and that the current staff will be given an opportunity to transition with this new alignment.

I have also communicated with the appropriate local elected officials and area stakeholders in the other counties involved, and there is consensus on this course of action. We believe that this new area will follow the guiding principles for alignment, established by the NCWorks Commission earlier this year.

We look forward to collaborating with the Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Goverment, the NCWorks Commission and the North Carolina Department of Commerce on the process of transitioning to a new local area, as we seek to strengthen workforce and economic development.

Thank you for your consideration and for your partnership.

Sincerely, John Paisley

Chairman Alamance County Board of Commissioners

CC: Dr. Annie Izod, NCWorks Commission Chet Mottershead, N.C. Division of Workforce Solutions



# **Assessing WDB Realignment**

# **Based on Labor Market Commuting & Regional Economic Development**

The Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) was asked to examine the proposed realignment of workforce development boards and determine if the proposals are consistent with:

- Natural labor market areas and commuting pattern data; and
- Regional economic development areas.

For this analysis, LEAD utilized US Census LEHD data on employment commuting in two ways: (1) as the core input to a methodology for partitioning the state into interconnected labor market regions; and (2) to assess the level of commuting of each proposed county to its new workforce development board.

Specifically, LEAD was asked to review the alignment of the following counties to the proposed workforce development boards:

- 1. Orange: Joining Capital Area
- 2. Alamance: Joining Piedmont Triad
- 3. Randolph: Joining Piedmont Triad
- 4. Davidson: Joining Piedmont Triad
- 5. Montgomery: Joining Mid-Carolina
- 6. Moore: Joining Mid-Carolina

#### LABOR MARKETS & COMMUTING

#### Interconnected Labor Markets

LEAD developed a methodology in 2014 to define the state's labor markets based on a clustering algorithm that mimics and updates the <u>USDA's Commuting Zones</u>. This work assesses commuting between two counties/regions in both directions – as opposed to an MSA definition that only considers commuting from suburban/rural counties to a central urban hub. LEAD's Interconnected Labor Market research was <u>updated in 2021</u> using the latest Census LEHD data (2019, which is still the most current).

The maps below visualize the interconnected labor markets of the state using this methodology. The color of the region reflects the strength of the commuting relationship – i.e. the percent of private sector workers living and working in the region for their primary job. The darkest colors in the Triangle and Charlotte reflect a strong regional labor market comprised of those counties. The lighter shades suggest that the labor market region is weakly connected and commuting relationships may be torn between multiple regions. For instance, Lee County isn't connected to any other county because there is solid commuting both north and east towards the Triangle, southeast towards Fayetteville, and southwest toward Pinehurst. For Randolph and Montgomery Counties, data shows a connection to each other, but a very weak one – reflecting the same divided commuting to other regions as Lee.

#### Interconnected Labor Markets Map



#### <u>Analysis</u>

- **Orange, Alamance, and Davidson**: The proposed WDB alignments conform well to the regions identified in the interconnected markets for Orange, Alamance, and Davidson Counties.
- **Randolph**: Randolph County connects most-closely with Montgomery County, but that relationship is the weakest in the state. So, aligning to the Piedmont Triad Regional Partnership (PTRP) is not completely objectionable using just this analysis.
- Montgomery and Moore: Montgomery and Moore Counties are also loosely connected to other counties outside of their proposed WDB region (to Randolph and Richmond respectively).

The following county-to-county commuting data provides further information to help assess whether the proposed realignment is supported by commuting data.

#### County-to County Commuting Within the New Workforce Development Board Region

LEAD utilized Census LEHD origin-destination data to identify commuting patterns from 2019 (latest available). The following tables illustrate the number and percentage of the 6 study county residents who work in counties located in the new proposed WDB region, along with a total for the region. For instance, 9,210 workers that live in Orange County work in Orange County. This represents 27.1% of the total workers living in Orange. In total, 49.0% of workers living in Orange County (16,549) worked in the New Capital Area WDB Region. Additional tables are included to show the top five counties that resident workers commute to work outside of the proposed region. In this assessment, only private sector, primary employment was utilized in the analysis of commuting.

#### Table 1 – Orange County Residents Working in the Proposed New Capital Area WDB Region

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Orange County	9,210	27.1%
Wake County	4,920	14.5%
Chatham County	1,658	4.9%
Johnston County	716	2.1%
Lee County	145	0.4%
New Capital Area Region Total	16,649	49.0%

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Durham County	5,464	16.1%
Alamance County	3,843	11.3%
Guilford County	976	2.9%
Mecklenburg County	691	2.0%
Person County	498	1.5%
Rest of NC	5,887	17.3%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019.

Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

# Table 2 - Alamance County Residents Working in the Proposed New Piedmont Triad WDB Region

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Alamance County	25,092	47.6%
Caswell County	1,260	2.4%
Rockingham County	1,226	2.3%
Forsyth County	1,142	2.2%
Randolph County	980	1.9%
Davidson County	437	0.8%
Stokes County	126	0.2%
Davie County	96	0.2%
Yadkin County	77	0.1%
Surry County	50	0.1%
New Piedmont Triad Regional Council Total	30,486	57.8%

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Guilford County	7,727	14.7%
Orange County	2,289	4.3%
Wake County	2,112	4.0%
Durham County	1,187	2.3%
Mecklenburg County	1,001	1.9%
Rest of NC	7,910	15.0%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019. Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

#### Table 3 - Randolph County Residents Working in the Proposed New Piedmont Triad WDB Region

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Randolph County	18,818	49.7%
Davidson County	3,114	8.2%
Forsyth County	1,245	3.3%
Alamance County	681	1.8%
Rockingham County	317	0.8%
Davie County	211	0.6%
Stokes County	182	0.5%
Yadkin County	119	0.3%
Surry County	86	0.2%
Caswell County	74	0.2%
New Piedmont Triad Regional Council Total	24,847	65.7%

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Guilford County	5,050	13.3%
Chatham County	870	2.3%
Montgomery County	618	1.6%
Moore County	584	1.5%
Wake County	573	1.5%
Rest of NC	5,304	14.0%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019. Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Davidson County	16,374	45.7%
Forsyth County	3,665	10.2%
Randolph County	2,671	7.5%
Davie County	520	1.5%
Alamance County	308	0.9%
Stokes County	294	0.8%
Surry County	285	0.8%
Yadkin County	210	0.6%
Rockingham County	206	0.6%
Caswell County	52	0.1%
New Piedmont Triad Regional Council Total	24,858	68.7%

#### Table 4 - Davidson County Residents Working in the Proposed New Piedmont Triad WDB Region

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Guilford County	3,649	10.2%
Rowan County	1,048	2.9%
Mecklenburg County	758	2.1%
Wake County	510	1.4%
Iredell County	463	1.3%
Rest of NC	4,778	13.3%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019. Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

#### Table 5 - Montgomery County Residents Working in the Proposed New Mid-Carolina WDB Region

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Montgomery County	2,474	37.1%
Moore County	578	8.7%
Harnett County	94	1.4%
Cumberland County	56	0.8%
Sampson County	5	0.1%
New Mid-Carolina Region Total	3,207	48.1%

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Stanly County	599	9.0%
Randolph County	555	8.3%
Richmond County	317	4.8%
Guilford County	190	2.9%
Mecklenburg County	130	2.0%
Rest of NC	1,665	25.0%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019. Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

#### Table 6 - Moore County Residents Working in the Proposed New Mid-Carolina WDB Region

County Working In	Resident Workers*	% of County's Resident Workers*
Moore County	14,016	47.1%
Cumberland County	1,190	4.0%
Harnett County	1,044	3.5%
Montgomery County	661	2.2%
Sampson County	94	0.3%
New Mid-Carolina Region Total	17,005	57.2%

Top 5 Counties Residents Commute to Outside of the Proposed Region		
Richmond County	1,861	6.3%
Lee County	1,459	4.9%
Hoke County	1,362	4.6%
Wake County	820	2.8%
Scotland County	656	2.2%
Rest of NC	6,574	22.1%

\* County residents working in North Carolina in the private sector at their primary job, 2019. Source: US Census Bureau LEHD

#### <u>Analysis</u>

• Orange, Davidson, Randolph: County-to-county commuting data also generally supports the inclusion of Orange, Davidson, Randolph Counties in their respective proposed WDB – with over a 1,000 commuting from those counties to at least two others in the region. The new proposed Piedmont Triad Regional WDB area supplied over 65% of Randolph County workers' private sector, primary jobs in North Carolina in 2019 and 69% of Davidson's. However, in all three instances, the external county with the highest commuters is not a part of the proposed WDB region.

- Alamance: The data is supportive of the proposed alignment for Alamance but less definitively. The three external counties that provided the most jobs to the workers are outside of the Piedmont Triad Regional WDB area. However, commuters are heading in different directions (Guilford to the west and Orange and Wake to the east). Using just external commuting as a guide, argument could be made that Alamance County can be included in a number of existing WDB regions.
- Montgomery and Moore: The county-to-county commuting does not provide as much clarity for Montgomery and Moore Counties. The proposed Mid-Carolina WDB region provided less than half of Montgomery County workers' private sector, primary jobs in North Carolina. Seven of the top eight external counties that Montgomery County residents worked in were outside of the proposed region. In Moore, the top three external counties where residents worked in 2019 are not a part of Mid-Carolina.

#### **REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Prosperity Zones**

In 2014, the state legislature created eight Prosperity Zones to better serve local communities, businesses, and residents for economic development, workforce development, transportation, and environmental quality issues. The Department of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina use Prosperity Zones to assign regional staff supporting workforce and economic development.

As the map below illustrates, the proposed board alignment generally conforms to the Prosperity Zones of the state. The county that does not conform to this geography is one that is not being considered for realignment, Harnett County.



#### Prosperity Zone Map

#### **Regional Economic Development Corporations**

Prosperity Zones replaced state funding for regional economic development corporations. Without state funding, some entities dissolved while some expanded to include greater geographic footprints. The private entities still in existence primarily market their region to businesses and talent and play a supporting role in recruitment and expansion projects to varying degrees.

In the Triangle, <u>Research Triangle Regional Partnership</u> (RTRP) markets a 14-county region that includes the entire proposed Capital Area WDB. Additional counties in the region include Harnett, Person, Granville, Warren, Franklin, Nash, Wilson, and Vance (although Vance is not an official RTRP member). In the Triad, the <u>Piedmont Triad Partnership</u> servers a 12-county region that includes the entire newly proposed Piedmont Triad Regional WDB area plus Guilford and Montgomery Counties. <u>North Carolina's Southeast</u> markets a 20-county area from Anson to Craven – including Moore and Montgomery (which appears to be a member of two regional partnerships according to their websites). Except for Harnett County, all Mid-Carolina WDB counties are included in the North Carolina's Southeast.

#### <u>Analysis</u>

- Both geographies of the state's Prosperity Zones and private regional economic development organizations support the inclusion of the proposed counties to their respective workforce development boards.
- The only possible exception is Montgomery County, which appears to be torn between aligning with the Piedmont Triad or the Southeast.

#### SUMMARY

Taken altogether, regional labor market analysis, commuting patterns, and regional economic development structures clearly support the inclusion of Orange County into the Capital Area WDB, and Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph into the Piedmont Triad Regional Partnership WDB. Regional economic development structures also support the inclusion of Moore and Montgomery into the Mid-Carolina WDB. However, neither Moore or Montgomery County has a strong labor market connection to another county or region, reflecting the fact that residents tend to commute in multiple directions. Commuting data is inconclusive as to whether Mid-Carolina is the appropriate workforce development board region for these two counties.

#### Attachment #3

#### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALAMANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR ALAMANCE COUNTY HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

#### Call to Order - Vice Chair Carter

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Paisley Jr	Chairman	Absent	
Steve Carter	Vice Chairman	Present	
Pamela Tyler Thompson	Commissioner	Present	
William T Lashley	Commissioner	Present	
Craig Turner	Commissioner	Present	

#### Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance - Vice Chair Carter

#### Recognition of Sheriff Terry Johnson's 50 Years of Service in Law Enforcement

Vice-Chair Carter, Commissioners Turner, Thompson and Lashley presented Sheriff Terry Johnson with the county's Cone of the Long Leaf Pine Award in recognition of Sheriff Johnson's 50th year of service in law enforcement.

#### **RECOGNITION OF THE JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY**

Vice- Chair Carter recognized Corporal Chad Laws, Alamance County Sheriff's Office to introduce the 2022 Junior Police Academy Graduates. Each graduate gave their name, middle school and shared what they had learned during the program.

The Commissioners thanked the Junior Police Academy Graduates for attending the meeting.

#### Approval of the Agenda

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
<b>MOVER:</b>	William T Lashley, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Craig Turner, Commissioner
AYES:	Steve Carter, Pamela Tyler Thompson, William T Lashley, Craig Turner
<b>ABSENT:</b>	John Paisley Jr

#### **Public Comments**

(Citizens may address the Board for no more than 3 minutes per speaker.)

Carlos Valera, English as a Second Language (ESL) Newcomer's Specialist for Alamance-Burlington School System, introduced student Evelyn Gomez. Miss Gomez read a proclamation in Spanish in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

#### **Consent Agenda**

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
<b>MOVER:</b>	William T Lashley, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Craig Turner, Commissioner
AYES:	Steve Carter, Pamela Tyler Thompson, William T Lashley, Craig Turner
ABSENT:	John Paisley Jr

#### Appointments/Reappointments

Public Transit Advisory Commission (PTAC) - Peter Murphy

#### Local Emergency Planning Committee - Jonathan Hodges

#### Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - Greg Holland

### <u>Grant Application Request - Alamance Parks & Recreation - Brian Baker, Director of</u> <u>Alamance Parks & Recreation</u>

**<u>Resolution Designating Official Banking Depositories of Alamance County</u>** A copy of this resolution is set forth hereafter.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Alamance County Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Sep 6, 2022 9:30 AM

#### Approval of Closed Session Minutes - September 6, 2022

#### **Public Hearings**

#### <u>3647 : Public Hearing Economic Development Incentives: SteriTek - David Putnam,</u> <u>Alamance Chamber</u>

Commissioner Lashley, seconded by Commissioner Turner, moved to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Lashley said he wanted to hear the presentation from the company before the public hearing. County Manager York suggested closing the public hearing and letting the company speak first. Commissioner Lashley, seconded by Commissioner Turner moved to close the public hearing. That motion carried unanimously.

David Putnam, Alamance Chamber, introduced Larry Nichols, CEO of Steri-Tek, to share information about the company. Mr. Nichols stated that Steri-Tek was an electronic beam radiation sterilization company. The company had been in business for 6 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years. Mr. Nichols indicated that the growth of the company has created a need for more facilities. Due to the demand for sterilization services in the southeast area, Mr. Nichols said they had been looking at this area, Alabama and Florida. Mr. Nichols appreciated Alamance County's location to Research Triangle Park. He noted that one of their major customers Thermo Fisher is opening a facility here which will be a partnership to start the business.

Mr. Nichols discussed the use of the radiation technology. The radiation machines were inside a concrete bunker that was completely safe with no radiation leaking. Mr. Nichols explained that only 10 acres was needed for the facility, but planned to purchase 85 acres to make a business park for medical device companies.

Commissioner Thompson asked about employment qualifications and internship programs. Mr. Nichols responded they would be looking to hire engineers, quality members, shipping/receiving, and operators. He said they do have an internship program at their other location.

Commissioner Lashley inquired about the type of property and equipment they would place into the new facility. Mr. Nichols answered that they would build 3 concrete bunkers and accelerators for each bunker. Commissioner Lashley asked to review the employment breakdown again. Mr. Nichols reiterated they would have about 6 engineers, 10 quality operators, 3 or 4 shipping/receiving staff, office staff, accountants, and a receptionist. Commissioner Lashley confirmed whether they planned to start with 50 employees. Mr. Nichols responded that they planned to start with 50 employees and eventually increase that to about 150 employees. Commissioner Lashley asked if they had petitioned the State of North Carolina for an incentive and what was their response. Mr. Nichols answered the state had offered a workforce grant in the amount of \$95,000. Commissioner Lashley asked if they had talked to the City of Burlington and what was being asked of Burlington. Mr. Nichols responded that he would present to them the next day. Mr. Bishop answered Steri-Tek would receive a combination of road construction assistance and a percentage of the performance grant.

Commissioner Turner asked if they would utilize the airport facility or if they were truck-based. Mr. Nichols answered that they were truck-based.

Mr. Putnam did a brief presentation on Steri-Tek. It was predicted that Steri-Tek would assume operations by the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024. The average annual wage was \$56,800 with a capital investment of \$71,000,000. Mr. Putnam reviewed the proposed state package, which was estimated at \$3 million: sales tax exemption on machinery and equipment purchases (\$2,389,500); One NC Grant (\$95,000); utility fund (\$300,000); NC Department of Transportation road improvements (\$175,000); and the North Carolina Community College System was offering (\$85,000) for a customized training program.

The proposed local package was estimated at \$3.2 million: Alamance Chamber economic development award (\$25,000); city upfront incentives (\$700,000); a city grant (\$710,000 or 1%); and a county grant (\$1,775,000 or 2.5%).

Mr. Putnam requested a motion to approve an economic incentive agreement valued at a maximum of \$1,775,000 at 2.50% of the \$71,100,000 capital investment) to be awarded as a cash grant over a 5-year performance period for Project Wavelength.

Commissioner Lashely, seconded by Commissioner Turner moved to open public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. The following speakers wished to be heard from the floor:

Sheriff Johnson asked a question about how dangerous the radiation was if something happened to one of the bunkers. Mr. Nichols answered that when you turn it off the radiation is off and there was no residual radiation.

Alice Wesselman, Maple Ave, Burlington resident, shared she was environmental engineer and had much experience with the EO processes. She commented that many of her colleagues had died from exposure. Ms. Wesselman expressed concern about the 10 trucks that would be entering and leaving. She mentioned that the current interchanges were inadequate. She inquired about the impact to the power structure since her community already experiences a lot of outages.

John Mazeres, Maple Ave, Burlington, asked about the 85 acres and the build out in that area. He expressed his concerns about traffic and the total amount of traffic over 10-15 year period. Mr. Mazeres mentioned that it was not clear whether there was going to be 50 jobs at the end of 5-years or 150 jobs.

Henry Vines, Snow Camp resident, requested that the Board not approve the incentives. Mr. Vines said Alamance County was the perfect place for the company to expand into. He questioned why they have to pay people to come here. Mr. Vines mentioned that existing jobs cannot be filled. Mr. Vines expressed concerns with traffic on Anthony Road. He asked whether the location was within Burlington City limits or in the county. He continued that if the location was in the county then that would fall under the county's Heavy Industrial Development Ordinance.

Shawn Francis, Village of Alamance, expressed concerns with traffic going through the Village of Alamance.

Sammy Moser, Maple Ave, Burlington, thanked Sheriff Johnson for his dedication and all of his law enforcement staff. Mr. Moser thanked Larry Nichols, SteriTek and commended him for what his company was doing. Mr. Moser expressed concern about future taxes and what the county will be in 30-40 years if corporations keep coming into the county and not paying their fair share of taxes. He sought confirmation as to whether a traffic study had been completed. Mr. Moser asked if the City of Burlington had already offered the \$710,000. Mr. Putnam said they were still in negotiations and Burlington's public hearing was the following day. Mr. Moser requested the Board vote "No" on the incentives.

No other speakers wished to be heard from the floor. Commissioner Lashley, seconded by Commissioner Turner moved to close the public hearing. The motion carried without opposition.

#### **Presentations/Other Business**

#### Approval of Economic Incentive Grant Agreement- Steri-Tek

Commissioner Turner asked if anyone had looked into the Tucker St Extension. Peter Bishop, Economic Development Director for the City of Burlington, answered that they had been revisiting the Tucker Street extension project concerning NC Hwy 62 and Tucker Street. It was recognized that there was a problem with those interchanges.

Vice-Chair Carter asked if this development was within the city limits of Burlington. Mr. Bishop responded that it was within the extraterritorial jurisdiction area. The agreement would annex the property into Burlington's city limits. It would become the City of Burlington's property.

Commissioner Turner asked if there was a process that ensured that Steri-Tek met its requirements. Mr. Bishop said they would draw up a contract to ensure Steri-Tek met those requirements to get paid. County Manager York added that it was an annual contract, and they had to provide proof of employment and investment.

Commissioner Lashley said he hoped the Board was listening carefully to what the City of Burlington had not done, road construction, and performance impact analysis. He reminded them of the Snow Camp situation and what had happened. Commissioner Lashley stated he would not jump into this if they had not done the traffic impact analysis for the City of Burlington. He said traffic could be a problem, as stated by many of the citizens who spoke during the public hearing. Commissioner Lashley was proud that Steri-Tek was looking at the county. He said Alamance County had the best tax rate in the state. The labor costs were competitive to anyone else in the state, significant educational resources, and the location was perfect for their business. All of this was worth a lot more than \$1.8 million.

Commissioner Turner stated he did not like incentives for the reason stated, but he did like \$71 million in investment with the possibility of creating a long overdue commerce park in Burlington. Commissioner Turner said this was cutting edge that would connect to the work that will be done at the ACC Biotechnology Center of Excellence.

Vice-Chair Carter said he heard many comments about the traffic in that area, which concerned him. Mr. Bishop mentioned that the project would be required to go through a traffic study

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during the development level on that parcel individually and on the future parcels on the map. He said they typically do not have traffic impact analysis on noncommitted projects.

Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, moved to approve the economic development grant agreement. That motion failed 2-2, with Commissioners Turner and Thompson voting in favor of the motion. Vice Chair Carter and Commissioner Lashley opposed the motion.

Vice-Chair Carter moved to amend Commissioner Turner's motion to make the final decision contingent upon a satisfactory traffic study.

Mr. Bishop advised that a traffic analysis would be performed as they go through the technical review process. Mr. Bishop assured the Board that this traffic study would happen. County Manager York advised that the traffic study would occur whether Vice-Chair Carter amended his motion.

Vice-Chair Carter withdrew his motion. He asked Commissioner Turner to repeat his previous motion to approve the economic development incentives agreement. Commissioner Thompson seconded that motion. That motion carried 3-1, with Commissioner Lashley opposing the motion. \*County Attorney Stevens advised the Board that they could not vote on that same exact motion again (The original motion had failed 2-2). He suggested amending the motion in some way or having a different Commissioner make the motion.

Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, moved to approve the economic development agreement for a total of \$1,774,000. That motion carried 3-1, with Commissioner Lashley opposing the motion.

#### 3644 : Public Safety Training Center Update

Dr. Algie Gatewood, President of Alamance Community College, ACC, mentioned that ACC would receive a \$2.5 million grant in biotechnology that will be used for the Biotechnology Center of Excellence Building. He introduced Tom Hartman, ACC Vice-President of Administrative Services, who shared that he had already presented this information to the Oversight Committee. Mr. Hartman displayed a Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) map and described each department's location. Mr. Hartman said they were waiting for the geotechnical report they would receive later in October or the first of November. He reviewed ACC's commitment to the project and gave an update on the project budget.

Chris Verdeck, ACC Director of Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET), said the impact of the training center was going to be huge for the county due to the amount of training that would be brought into Alamance County. He said he had letters from 5 law enforcement agencies that would commit to using the new facility should it be built. Mr. Verdeck explained the benefits of using an indoor range compared to an outdoor range. He noted that an outdoor range would limit their nighttime qualifications, weather impact, and the environmental impact of shooting into berms.

Gary Saunders, ACC Vice-President of Workforce Development, informed the Board that they trained around 773 students in the program. He indicated that the new facility in Green Level could bring other agencies into the county for specialized training. The current facilities were

limited in space.

Sheriff Terry Johnson, spoke of the benefits of having an indoor shooting range. He reiterated that one of the cons of an outdoor range was the weather. Sheriff Johnson emphasized that the weather would not be a problem with indoor shooting ranges. Sheriff Johnson talked to agencies outside the county about the program and state agencies that would join by sending people to the program. This would be great economically for Alamance County and Green Level. Sheriff Johnson said they had promised Green Level that the range would be indoor to keep the noise down.

Commissioner Turner said the primary reason the Public Safety Training Center was being built was for the students in the basic officer leadership program. Dr. Gatewood added that ACC was the institute in the county that provided BLET. Commissioner Turner asked whether the number of enrollments would increase. Dr. Gatewood responded that it would. He said Mr. Saunders was conservative in his numbers. They expected the numbers to far exceed the numbers estimated. Dr. Gatewood explained that the Public Safety Training Center would be a regional center that would draw people from Alamance County and surrounding counties, especially if they had an indoor firing range.

Commissioner Turner asked if outside agencies using the firing range would generate revenues. Dr. Gatewood responded that it would generate full-time equivalency (FTE), which would equate to gains for the college. Mr. Verdeck further explained that they had the largest BLET program in the state. He stated that people came from all over the place to recruit cadets and send their officers to the academy. Mr. Verdeck said the indoor range would bring in agencies from other areas, bringing in revenues.

Commissioner Thompson asked whether NC Wildlife, SBI, or the State Highway Patrol were going to stop going where they go currently and start going to the Public Safety Training Center here. Mr. Verdeck responded yes, this gave them a central location.

Commissioner Lashley asked if any of the facilities in the surrounding counties offered this type of gun range. Mr. Verdeck was not sure, but Randolph, Orange, and Greensboro, did not. Winston-Salem does have a gun range.

#### 3652 : Realignment of Workforce Development Board - County Manager York

County Manager York reminded the Board that this was a continuation discussion from the last two Board meetings. The Board had been asked by the NC Department of Commerce to consider a realignment of the current Workforce Development Board. They recommended the county leave Regional Consolidated Services and join Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC). County Manager York advised that if the Board was ready to make a decision, the next step would be to submit a letter of intent effective July 1, 2023.

Vice Chair Carter, seconded by Commissioner Lashley, moved to accept the realignment and join Piedmont Triad Regional Council. The motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Turner asked if they could include in the letter the Board's desire to keep the local career center open and the Alamance County employees at the center employed. County Manager York agreed to include that in the letter of intent.

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<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Steve Carter, Vice Chairman
<b>SECONDER:</b>	William T Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Steve Carter, Pamela Tyler Thompson, William T Lashley, Craig Turner
ABSENT:	John Paisley Jr

#### 3650 : Approval of New Position & Budget Amendment-SRO - Sheriff Terry Johnson

Sheriff Terry Johnson explained that Burlington Christian Academy (BCA) had wanted a school resource officer (SRO) at their school. BCA would pay for this annually and negotiate the salary each year for the officer. He asked the Board to allow his office to take on the SRO and approve the new position.

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Craig Turner, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	William T Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Steve Carter, Pamela Tyler Thompson, William T Lashley, Craig Turner
<b>ABSENT:</b>	John Paisley Jr

#### 3643 : Detention Center Contract Approval - Sheriff Terry Johnson

Sheriff Terry Johnson shared that his office was having problems with individuals serving food to the inmates in the jail. He indicated that his office is looking to end the contract with the current vendor within 90 days and sign a new contract with a new vendor. He requested that the Board allow his office to terminate the contract with the current vendor and enter into a new contract with a new vendor. County Attorney Stevens added that this would authorize the county manager to enter and sign a competitive agreement with a new vendor once the current vendor contract is canceled.

<b>RESULT:</b>	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
<b>MOVER:</b>	Pamela Tyler Thompson, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	William T Lashley, Commissioner
AYES:	Steve Carter, Pamela Tyler Thompson, William T Lashley, Craig Turner
<b>ABSENT:</b>	John Paisley Jr

#### **County Manager's Report**

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County Manager York reminded the Board that they had discussed purchasing property at 1128 S. Main Street, Graham in February. This property was the former bank building that will house the new location for the Board of Elections. County Manager York said that since she was not here, it was unclear whether a vote took place in an open meeting authorizing the purchase and designating the source of the funds for the purchase. The contract was signed on February 23, 2022, with a purchase price of \$931,932.38 from the capital funds' designated fund balance. County Manager York asked the Board for a vote for the record.

Vice-Chair Carter, seconded by Commissioner Lashley, moved to authorize the expenditure of \$931,932.38 from the county's designated fund balance for capital funds to purchase property located at 1128 S. Main Street, Graham, NC 27253. The motion carried without opposition.

#### **Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Turner mentioned getting the Library Committee appointments on the next meeting agenda.

Commissioner Thompson shared that she, Vice-Chair Carter, and Krista Knight had visited Surry County and met with their Opioid Response Team. She noted they were doing such great work because they had a team. She has invited them to Alamance County. Commissioner Thompson announced that she had another visit scheduled for Harnett County along with Tony LoGiudice to look at and discuss their Veteran's Court. She stressed the importance of looking at the complete wrap-around services of a diversion center.

Vice Chair Carter said the Surry County program was very interesting. He shared that he had the opportunity to tour the airport recently. He asked County Manager York to schedule Dan Danieley, Executive Director of Burlington-Alamance Airport, to give a presentation.

#### **County Attorney's Report**

#### Closed Session: NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) and (5)

County Attorney Stevens asked that the Board move into Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body. The attorney will advise the Board on ongoing legal matters, including NAACP et al. v. Alamance County et al.

Also under North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(5), the Board will instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the potential purchase of the property located at 780 Plantation Drive, Burlington, which is owned by Alamance Industrial Park, for potential use by Alamance County Emergency Services.

County Attorney Stevens did not anticipate any action after this closed session.

Commissioner Lashley, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, moved to enter closed session at 9:25pm. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned to open session at 9:53 pm.

#### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Lashley, seconded by Commissioner Turner, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried without opposition.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 PM

John Paisley, Jr., Chairman Alamance County Board of Commissioners

# **Regular Meeting**

Monday, September 19, 2022

6:30 PM

Tory M. Frink Clerk to Board

#### Attachment #4



# **Piedmont Triad Regional Job Training Consortium**

# **Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

#### Member Present:

Mark Richardson – Chief Local Elected Official (CLEO) Fleming El-Amin Kevin Austin John Larson

#### Members Absent:

Terry Renegar Rick Morris Van Tucker Nathaniel Hall

Mark Richardson called the Piedmont Triad Regional Job Training Consortium meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

1) Realignment Presentation: Jenni Harris and Chet Mottershead, NC Department of Commerce

- i. Chet presented information on the current workforce development boards and the importance of realignment to lower the number of workforce boards and ease the burden for company's wanting to engage.
- ii. Jenni Harris highlighted the data researched leading to the state's recommendation to realign. Most important were commute patterns across county lines.

2) Workforce and Economic Development Fiscal Update: Jarrod Hand, Financial Director

- i. WIOA funds are on a two-year funding cycle and our goal is to expend 70% of our funding in the first year.
- ii. Typically, we receive 10-15% of funds in July, with the remaining funding coming in October.
- iii. All counties are allowed to allocate 10% of funding to administration. Allocations from the state have been lowered each year, due to a low unemployment rate.
- iv. With realignment, we are able to allocate funds that were previously used as admin to other projects.

3) Workforce and Economic Development Strategic Update: Jessica Raby, Workforce and Economic Development Assistant Director

- i. Workforce and Economic Development has merged at PTRC and this allows us to make the most effective use of our resources and partnerships.
- ii. Mobile Unit Fleet Large Mobile Unit and our Mini Mobile Unit are equipped with Wi-Fi and allows us to go to areas not close to our Career Centers, when needed, to provide services like FAFSA workshops.
- iii. Talent attraction NCTriad.com leveraged with funds outside of WIOA.
- iv. Institute for Emerging Issues Partnership with NC State. We identified a cohort of 5 individuals from Rockingham, Forsyth, Caswell, and Surry counties, as well as our staff member, Exodus Moon to complete a robust workforce development

# **Local Area**

Counties Caswell Davie Forsyth Rockingham Stokes Surry Yadkin

Consortium Members

Mark Richardson Rockingham

Nathaniel Hall Caswell

Terry Renegar Davie

Fleming El-Amin Forsyth

> Rick Morris Stokes

Van Tucker Surry

Kevin Austin Yadkin

John Larson City of Winston-Salem

# Local Area

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#### <u>Consortium</u> <u>Members</u>

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> Rick Morris Stokes

Van Tucker Surry

Kevin Austin Yadkin

John Larson City of Winston-Salem curriculum. Upon completion, the cohort members will receive the designation of Certified Workforce Development Professionals.

v. Carolina Across 100 – Partnership with NC Impact, focused on opportunity youth. Our project's priority will be strengthening the connection between Youth and the places where they live. Exposing Youth not only to work opportunities but also the quality of life pieces of their communities.

4) Request for approval to accept the counties of Alamance, Davidson and Randolph as members of the Northwest Piedmont Job Training Consortium
5) Request for approval to change the name of the Northwest Piedmont Job Training

Consortium to Piedmont Triad Regional Job Training Consortium 6) Roll Call Vote:

- i. There being no further questions, a motion was made by Fleming El-Amin to approve.
- ii. The motion was seconded by Kevin Austin.
- iii. Items 4 and 5 above were approved, by the members present. Due to a lack of quorum the items will be presented for electronic vote for those who were absent

7) There being no further business, motion was made to adjourn.

- 8) Request for electronic vote was sent via email November 3rd.
  - i. Items 4 and 5 were approved by those voting electronically November 8th.

#### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** & NC WORKS COMMISSION'S EFFORTS TO REALIGN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Commerce, North Carolina Works Commission's Governance and Alignment Committee is considering consolidation of the state's local workforce development areas; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Works Commission's efforts consider realignment of local workforce boards by prosperity zones or some other configuration that will likely result in a reduction in the number of workforce development boards in North Carolina, but not a reduction in quality or production of workforce development boards in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, The Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area includes Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area was designated by the North Carolina Division of Workforce Solutions based on factors such as common community growth patterns anchored by metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, shared labor pools, commuting patterns, coordinated economic development strategies, regional alignment with state and federal programs and services, and empowered to carry out programs and services that are of mutual interests to member governments within the seven-county local area; and

WHEREAS, the Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area is the designated planning and administrative area to receive funds from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin counties and charged with the oversight and implementation of these programs and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments is a federally recognized regional Economic Development District (EDD) that coordinates with the workforce system and shares the same local and community decision makers; and

**WHEREAS,** the Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments serves as the fiscal agent and/or administrative entity for WIOA funding and programs; and

**WHEREAS,** realignment of the Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area serves the best interest of Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph Counties; and

WHEREAS, realignment of the Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area to the Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone does reflect the labor market areas, commuting patterns, and local economic connections that are required for local workforce areas by federal law; and

WHEREAS, Alamance, Davidson, Randolph Counties, in alignment with Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Surry, Stokes, and Yadkin Counties represent a functional economic region that promotes collaboration and regionalism; and

WHEREAS, realignment to the Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone will create connection and will likely increase participation by Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph Counties business leaders, government, and citizens in the workforce development board activities and services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board hereby approves the realignment of the Piedmont Triad Regional Local Workforce Development Area as a part of the Piedmont Triad Prosperity Zone to include Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph Counties.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board commends the North Carolina Department of Commerce and North Carolina Works Commission's approach to seek collaboration with workforce development boards, Councils of Governments, local elected officials, and economic development representatives.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Chairmen of the Alamance, Davidson, and Randolph County Board of Commissioners, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, and the Chairperson of the North Carolina Works Commission.

Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2022.

ATTEST:

Shameka McCain, Clerk

PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Darren Poole, Chair