

**VIRGINIA TOBACCO INDEMNIFICATION
AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION COMMISSION**

701 East Franklin Street, Suite 501
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Sheraton Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center
Roanoke, Virginia

CRANE-SNEAD & ASSOCIATES, INC.
4914 Fitzhugh Avenue, Suite 203
Henrico, Virginia 23230
Tel. No. (804) 355-4335

1 **APPEARANCES:**

2

3 The Honorable Frank M. Ruff, Chairman

4 Ms. Linda P. DiYorio, Vice Chairman

5 Ms. Gayle F. Barts

6 Mr. Burgess "Butch" H. Hamlett, III

7 The Honorable Joseph P. Johnson, Jr.

8 The Honorable Donald W. Merricks

9 Mr. Kenneth O. Reynolds

10 The Honorable William M. Stanley, Jr.

11 Ms. Cindy M. Thomas

12 Mr. Gary D. Walker

13 The Honorable Thomas C. Wright, Jr.

14

15 COMMISSION STAFF:

16 Mr. Timothy S. Pfohl, Interim Executive Director and Grants
17 Program Administration Manager

18 Mr. Ned Stephenson, Deputy Executive Director

19 Ms. Stephanie S. Kim - Director of Finance

20 Ms. Sara G. Williams - Grants Program Administrator,
21 Southwest Virginia

22 Ms. Sarah K. Capps - Grants Program Administrator,
23 Southside Virginia

24 Ms. Carolyn Bringman - Performance Data Analyst

25 Ms. Stacey Richardson - Executive Assistant

1 **APPEARANCES (Cont'd)**

2

3 SENIOR ADVISOR:

4 Mr. Neal Noyes

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 SENATOR RUFF: Good morning, everyone. I'll call
2 the meeting of the Education Committee to order, and I'll ask
3 Mr. Pfohl to call the roll.

4 MR. PFOHL: Ms. Barts?

5 MS. BARTS: Here.

6 MR. PFOHL: Ms. DiYorio?

7 MS. DIYORIO: Here.

8 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Hamlett?

9 MR. HAMLETT: Here.

10 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Harwood, we were notified he
11 wasn't available today.

12 Delegate Johnson?

13 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Here.

14 MR. PFOHL: Delegate Merricks?

15 DELEGATE MERRICKS: Here.

16 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Reynolds?

17 MR. REYNOLDS: Here.

18 MR. PFOHL: Senator Ruff?

19 SENATOR RUFF: Here.

20 MR. PFOHL: Senator Stanley?

21 SENATOR STANLEY: (No response.)

22 MR. PFOHL: Ms. Thomas?

23 MS. THOMAS: Here.

24 MR. PFOHL: Mr. Walker?

25 MR. WALKER: Here.

1 MR. PFOHL: Delegate Wright?

2 DELEGATE WRIGHT: (No response.)

3 MR. PFOHL: You have a quorum, sir.

4 MR. RUFF: The Minutes from the May meeting were
5 published on the website. I'm sure all of you saw them and
6 read them. Is there a motion?

7 DELEGATE JOHNSON: So moved.

8 SENATOR RUFF: There's a motion and a second.
9 All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)
10 All right, the Minutes are approved.

11 All right, we'll move into the Tobacco Four-Year College
12 Scholarship Program. Mr. Stephenson.

13 MR. STEPHENSON: On the table before you there is
14 a single sheet that is entitled Scholarship Rules (4-year). This
15 is a set of basic rules under which your 4-year Scholarship
16 Program operates, and this particular set of rules is for 2014
17 and 15, and they are unchanged from the previous year, except
18 for the total amount of the award found in the middle of the
19 page. I invite your attention to the total amount of the award.
20 That amount for both Southside and Southwest is five percent
21 more than it was the previous year. I'm placing this before the
22 Committee and asking that you consider approving both these
23 guidelines or rules for the 2014-15 years, also an award of the
24 amount before you. For the record, Southwest is
25 \$2,117,784.00, and Southside is \$4,713,779.00, Mr.

1 Chairman.

2 SENATOR RUFF: I would assume your calculations
3 are not round numbers.

4 MR. STEPHENSON: Five percent gives you a ragged
5 number.

6 SENATOR RUFF: Any discussion on that?

7 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Do you need a motion? If
8 so, I so move.

9 SENATOR RUFF: Before you make that motion we'll
10 round it up one dollar.

11 MR. STEPHENSON: Absolutely, I'll put in the
12 dollar.

13 SENATOR RUFF: The motion is, well, is there a
14 second?

15 DELEGATE MERRICKS: I'll second it.

16 SENATOR RUFF: So it's been moved and seconded.
17 Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.)
18 Opposed? (No response.)

19 MR. STEPHENSON: Next in this same area, Mr.
20 Chairman, is a little bit of a housekeeping matter, but I need to
21 ask for the approval of the Committee and the Commission to do
22 this. A couple of years ago, you may remember, we stopped
23 making loans to students and in place of that we offered them
24 an incentive to return to the region and go to work, that is the
25 cash incentive. We set up a mechanism within the

1 Commission's books to hold the monies needed to pay those
2 students that returned, and basically we're holding back
3 approximately 30 percent of the scholarship award amount to
4 be used for those that return to the region, but we don't know
5 how many are going to return. We'll have to adjust that
6 number up and down as we have experience with it. For the
7 initial year we are proposing that we take the unused
8 scholarship money from the 2012-13 year and place that in an
9 account in your books to stand ready to pay those students that
10 do return to work to the region.

11 I have a motion that is a little complicated to try to get the
12 bookkeeping in order. I'm inviting a motion to approve a new
13 grant, 2789, for \$1.78 million in favor of the Southwest Higher
14 Ed Center for the tobacco region scholarship program. This
15 grant is to be funded by a transfer of the unused balances from
16 the 2012-2013 scholarship program, Grant Numbers 2447 and
17 2448. This is simply to hold the unused money on your books
18 until it's needed for the incentive payment for those that return.

19 DELEGATE JOHNSON: May I ask a question?
20 What amount of money are we talking about?

21 MR. STEPHENSON: It's 1.78 million that has
22 already been approved for scholarships and was not used for
23 scholarships, the unused amount for a closed scholarship
24 program. We're simply asking you to hold that money on your
25 books for use for the payments that you have already approved

1 for returning students.

2 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Another question. That
3 money was not used, or that was not set up to take care of that
4 in the beginning?

5 MR. STEPHENSON: It was not. We knew this was
6 coming, and now is the time to do it.

7 DELEGATE JOHNSON: How will that affect
8 applicants for these years that we're talking about?

9 MR. STEPHENSON: It will not affect the applicants
10 except for those that return to the region to work, and they are
11 entitled to that money by simply presenting themselves and
12 their work record, and you have promised they will receive that
13 money.

14 DELEGATE JOHNSON: This is just for --

15 MR. STEPHENSON: -- For Southside residents this
16 is for any student; Southwest residents it's limited to tobacco
17 families, which is the way it's been since the Commission
18 started this program.

19 DELEGATE JOHNSON: My question is if there is no
20 one, no loans in the Burley Southwest that are affected?

21 MR. STEPHENSON: That is correct; there were
22 never any loans made to the Southwest students.

23 DELEGATE MERRICKS: Ned, this is in addition to
24 the 30 percent?

25 MR. STEPHENSON: No, it is not, this is the initial

1 seed money in the pot to stand ready to pay those students that
2 go forward, and going forward we're anticipating approximately
3 30 percent, but we will gauge that based on the experience on
4 those that come back.

5 DELEGATE MERRICKS: We'll get an accounting of
6 that in our regular meeting, how it's used?

7 MR. STEPHENSON: There's an account for that for
8 each cycle, and you can see how much is going to back-end
9 payments for the returning students.

10 MS. THOMAS: Just for clarification, why is the
11 grant to Southwest higher or why is it to the Southwest Higher
12 Education Center?

13 MR. STEPHENSON: All of these scholarship grants
14 have been made in favor of the Southwest Higher Ed Center, as
15 it is the administrator for the program; so that's why.

16 SENATOR RUFF: Any further questions?

17 DELEGATE JOHNSON: If no one from Southside
18 has an objection, I move that we approve it.

19 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Second.

20 SENATOR RUFF: Properly moved and seconded.
21 Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.)
22 Opposed? (No response.)

23 MR. STEPHENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 SENATOR RUFF: Next we move to the grant
25 applications from the community colleges. Tim.

1 MR. PFOHL: As you all remember every year we
2 make awards to the community colleges for the financial aid
3 program. Several years ago your Committee adopted a policy
4 that each year we would index an amount that is the maximum
5 request allowed for each community college based on increases
6 adopted by the Virginia Community College System tuition and
7 mandatory fees. So each year we index gradually based on the
8 VCCS. Last year each community college serving the tobacco
9 region was entitled to request \$400,000.00, and this past
10 summer VCCS adopted 4.4 percent increase in tuition and
11 mandatory fees and we used that to index, and the maximum
12 request this year is \$420,000.00 per community college. We
13 have nine proposals submitted totaling just over \$3.5 million.
14 Staff has corresponded with all of the applicants to determine
15 how many credentials we expect to see under each of these
16 programs that they're requesting. Currently we have and most
17 of the colleges have tobacco funds and some various other pots
18 that are described in the documents that were sent to you last
19 week. The one adjusted to the requested amount that Staff
20 made in the review was regarding Central Virginia Community
21 College, and I'll give you an explanation for that. Two or three
22 years ago we asked the community colleges to submit a request
23 that was limited to a single specific school year so we could align
24 these requests much like a four-year scholarship to a specific
25 school year. So the requests today in front of you are to serve

1 financial aid in the 2014-15 school year. That way we can kind
2 of end the practice of having scholarship funds that were
3 awarded in one year carried out for four, five or six years and so
4 forth.

5 First off, we need to thank Sarah Capps and Sara Williams
6 and all the community colleges who have been typing up those
7 financial aid grants in previous school years, and that freed up
8 some money to add to the bottom line available today. In the
9 case of Central Virginia Community College they asked for three
10 years of scholarship money based on their quarterly timeline,
11 and it looks like their need for the 2014-15 school year is
12 approximately 170 thousand, so that's why you see that
13 recommendation there; otherwise the Staff recommends
14 approval of all these requests.

15 One item that you will hear about later today, Virginia
16 Western Community College asked for a specific program to be
17 funded that would serve these students in the competitive
18 education round. We're suggesting that Virginia Western,
19 \$209,776.00 of financial aid be given the flexibility to deal with
20 those machine students within that 209,776 request.
21 Otherwise, Staff is recommending approval of those amounts
22 you see in the Staff recommendations.

23 DELEGATE MERRICKS: As I understand it, the
24 Central Virginia Community College is not getting cut, but it's
25 for one year rather than two years. They're getting equal as all

1 others.

2 MR. PFOHL: Yes, they asked for three years of
3 funding based on their calculations. Their estimated need for
4 the 2014-15 school year is 170 thousand.

5 DELEGATE JOHNSON: But all of these are equal?

6 MR. PFOHL: Yes, everyone is aligned for that school
7 year.

8 SENATOR RUFF: Any further questions. I don't
9 know if we'll get into it today, but I asked the Staff to look as we
10 move forward and make sure everything is fair based on the
11 population served and make sure that we're not off course.

12 DELEGATE JOHNSON: I make that motion.

13 SENATOR RUFF: Properly moved and seconded.
14 Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.)
15 Opposed? (No response.)

16 MR. PFOHL: Just for the record, Delegate Wright
17 and Senator Stanley joined us since the roll call.

18 The next item of business is the competitive Education
19 requests. You'll see the Committee has a practice of getting a
20 four-year scholarship program second with the community
21 college financial aid and third with the competitive request.
22 Back in late February we received a request for last year's
23 Competitive Education Program. In May the Committee met,
24 and actually in April the Committee met and took some steps for
25 new funding requirements and match requirements, statement

1 of national credential certification and so forth. In May your
2 Committee met and tabled the Advanced Manufacturing ---
3 request as well as two other competitive proposals. Those are
4 back here before you today. All applicants were given an
5 opportunity to revise proposals according to the new funding
6 guidelines that the Committee adopted back in April. It's a
7 little confusing if you look at the chart which shows you the
8 colors that are standing out, requested original amount in one
9 column and the revised requested amount to the right of that,
10 which is where everybody conformed to the dollar-to-dollar
11 match requirement, and then a column for Staff
12 recommendations. The effect of the new guideline is that \$3.8
13 million of requests that were submitted in February compared
14 to \$2 million of requests we have significant new matching
15 funds including the trust funds and so for some of these
16 projects. The total requested amount is now \$2 million and the
17 Staff recommendations are \$1.4 million, and we'll walk through
18 those if the Committee directs.

19 SENATOR RUFF: Make a quick pass at them.

20 MR. PFOHL: Central Virginia Community College
21 equipment upgrades for CVCC machine tool program in order to
22 meet the match required requesting \$206,972.00 to replace
23 outdated equipment and buy state-of-the-art equipment. Not
24 necessarily a large increase in students, but certainly an
25 opportunity to train students on the most modern equipment

1 used by industry in the region and the matching requirements
2 and certification and letters of support from area industry.
3 Staff recommends the full amount \$206,972.00.

4 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Where do we find this
5 information?

6 MR. PFOHL: This is the information mailed to you
7 last week. Staff has extra copies if anybody needs them.

8 The next request is the Danville Community College, a
9 request for Sitework Design/Management Funding for Danville
10 Community College's New "Technology Building", requesting
11 \$72, 075.00. The building had been funded by the General
12 Assembly. This is for sitework and design work and prepared
13 for construction. Staff is recommending the full award.

14 The next request is the Danville Community College for
15 their Certified Welding Program. This is to add a diploma
16 program in welding that will increase the number of students
17 getting welding credentials. This is \$150,000.00 start-up
18 operational funding. They've met all of our funding
19 requirements. Staff is recommending the full award of
20 \$150,000.00.

21 SENATOR RUFF: Is Danville here? When you use
22 the term degree or certification, how will these people be
23 certified?

24 MR. JONES: We don't provide certification, that's
25 just standard testing, but the program provides a diploma if you

1 qualify the students, the national recognized certification. The
2 industry certification is what is of primary importance for the
3 program.

4 SENATOR RUFF: They will be required to sit for that
5 as part of that?

6 MR. JONES: This will be part of the program to get
7 that nationally recognized certification. The college doesn't
8 give that. Our program is designed to get them so that they
9 can get qualified, and they'll have the diploma which they'll have
10 to sit for and pass that certification, and our efforts will be for
11 them to do that. Requiring is one of those things that will be
12 included in the program to qualify them. Our expectation is
13 that every one of them will sit and pass. The reality is the same
14 as in any program, and you certify the vast majority if not all.
15 Some don't take the certification, though.

16 SENATOR RUFF: Is there a mechanism that can be
17 used to require them to sit for it?

18 MR. JONES: There are things we can do to
19 incorporate it and incorporate it in the standard program, but
20 it's industry certification. You have to have preparatory
21 planning. You can't have a two-year program and then say by
22 the way you've got to get -- or there's more steps. The front-end
23 work has to be done as the student gets recruited into the
24 program and knows the goal. The goal we're striving for is the
25 diploma and certification. You can plan for it in the

1 curriculum and you'd get a much higher percentage of them.

2 SENATOR RUFF: I would hope as we move forward
3 any of these certifications that you all develop has a more
4 positive strategy how you're going to force them to comply to the
5 complete agreement. I think there's going to be push back
6 from the Tobacco Commission if you're going to put people
7 through programs and not coming out certified. I don't expect
8 an answer to that today, but I think you always need to be
9 prepared for the future that that will have to be part of the full
10 package.

11 MR. JONES: I would certainly agree with that, I
12 have no issue with that and very supportive. There are things
13 you can do to make it mandatory, and it will be done. That can
14 be an expectation as part of the program and make it part of the
15 program.

16 SENATOR RUFF: Since you're new, if you would,
17 introduce yourself.

18 MR. SCISM: I'm Bruce Scism, new president of
19 Danville Community College. I was born in Danville and got a
20 Ph.D. and my father still lives there.

21 MR. PFOHL: The next request is from Mountain
22 Empire, and I'll give you a little bit of background. In February
23 the four Southwest Virginia Community Colleges combined to
24 submit one application and submit it in the name of Southwest
25 Virginia Community Colleges. The new funding requirements

1 they backed off of that joint proposal and three of the colleges
2 submitted their own individual proposals, and this is the first of
3 those three. The Mountain Empire Community College
4 Foundation, \$59,595.00 to upgrade equipment for their welding
5 program and computer manufacturing program, and this will
6 allow them to teach additional skills and outcomes listed in
7 terms of additional credentials be granted and matching and
8 other requirements. Including letters of support from various
9 industries. Staff is recommending an award of \$59,595.00 for
10 Mountain Empire.

11 MS. THOMAS: How many of these people are going
12 to be certified?

13 MR. PFOHL: The outcome is listed as 110 total
14 enrollment, 19 welding certificates and 14 computer
15 manufacturing degrees.

16 SENATOR RUFF: In the applications you had one of
17 the addresses as Suffolk, Virginia, and we were confused by
18 that.

19 MR. PFOHL: It was a glitch in the database.

20 SENATOR RUFF: That was kind of a strange
21 location. Any further questions?

22 MR. PFOHL: The next proposal is from Southern
23 Virginia Higher Education Center; their Advanced
24 Manufacturing Boot Camp submitted \$869,083.00 and revised
25 to \$711,583.00. This is a multi-faceted proposal that intends

1 to prepare a pipeline of entry level advanced manufacturing
2 training candidates using multiple experiences including career
3 readiness assessments, career awareness, website information,
4 manufacturing camps, and several other training stages. We
5 feel like several elements of this proposal may ultimately be
6 addressed by efforts arising out of the Boston Consulting Report
7 and Advance Manufacturing Initiative that is meeting currently
8 to decide strategies for career awareness. So the two aspects
9 that are focused on in this proposal, one is the work ready
10 foundation that entails 165 hours of training modeled after a
11 Commission-funded pilot with TRESTO, and that was in Halifax
12 County involving ECPI, GenEdge and community colleges, as
13 well as the Manufacturing Technician Action Learning Lab, a
14 100 hour training conducted with Virginia Manufacturers
15 Association and ECPI, resulting in up to six ECPI college credits
16 and the MT1 skills assessment designed by VMA and its
17 partners. A combination potentially of those two training
18 elements should provide up to 205 hours of training experience
19 with credentials resulting from it.

20 Other elements involve state and national certification
21 and/or may be incorporated in later CCAM related strategies.
22 The Higher Ed Center staff has provided a revised budget that
23 would focus funds on 80 participants for the Work Ready and
24 Manufacturing Technician Lab at a cost of \$163,750.00. That
25 revised budget includes a part-time position at the Higher Ed

1 Center to administer the programs, and acknowledges that
2 career awareness activities will be addressed later by the
3 Centers of Excellence funding. Staff is recommending an
4 award of \$163,750.00 for the revised budget focused on Work
5 Ready Foundations and Manufacturing Technician Learning
6 lab and associated costs including student tuition assistance
7 and a Higher Ed Center administrative position.

8 SENATOR RUFF: Any questions? This is a
9 significant difference from the original application.

10 MS. ADAMS: I'm Betty Adams, Executive Director of
11 the Southern Virginia Education Center. I think many
12 elements about this proposal we're jumping the gun in light of
13 what is happening regarding the Center's investment. So,
14 while we at Southern Virginia Higher Ed Center are kind of
15 geared for action and ready to get things going, we understand
16 there are a lot of decisions that have to be made. So we're
17 staying with this decision, and I think we can go ahead and get
18 things rocking and rolling and have some folks ready to go,
19 because the people that are funded in this situation are really
20 focused on building a foundation so we're good. Thank you.

21 SENATOR RUFF: Any further questions?

22 MR. PFOHL: Another project was submitted in
23 February for \$175,000.00, Southern Virginia Higher Ed Center,
24 Workforce Training: Welding in Halifax County at their facility.
25 This one was partially dealt with by the Southside Economic

1 Development Committee that provided a grant of \$154,000.00
2 of this request for the equipment to establish this welding
3 training lab at the Higher Ed Center, leaving the request to
4 \$20,886.00 for financial aid for the first cohort of students.
5 The welding will initially be conducted in South Boston by the
6 Virginia Technical Institute at Alta Vista, and it's a national
7 training curriculum. At this time we don't have an
8 understanding of what future sources of financial aid will be,
9 and we're embarking on a path that provides financial aid to
10 welding students. The Staff has alternatively suggested that
11 assistance for start-up and training costs and instructors and
12 welding supplies and materials and so forth might be a better
13 approach to deal with this. The Higher Ed Center is agreeable,
14 accepting a grant award for start-up costs and instruction and
15 material costs, and the Staff is therefore recommending an
16 award of \$20,886.00 for instructional costs and materials.

17 SENATOR RUFF: Any questions?

18 MR. PFOHL: The next request, and we're on Page 8
19 now, is the Southside Virginia Community College Foundation,
20 Technical Training for Southside's Workforce. Initially
21 submitted a request for \$471,977.00, and that's revised to
22 \$471,756.00. An element of the original proposal to train folks
23 with the HVAC skills. This is funded through the Southside
24 Economic Development Committee. Southside resubmitted
25 without the HVAC component and now has several elements of

1 the request. The high priority is \$235,756.00 to enable the
2 college to begin offering precision machining courses in the fall
3 of 2014 in Greensville at the Southside Virginia Education
4 Center, Phase III building that was constructed in part from an
5 award of the Tobacco Commission. The proposal includes
6 20,000 for a part-time position responsible for development of
7 the Precision Machining Technology curriculum in alignment
8 with national credentials. That is supported by \$176,000.00
9 for updating equipment at the SVCC welding labs in Keysville
10 and South Hill to qualify and prepare students for the American
11 Welding Society and the NCCER certifications. The fifth aspect
12 of the proposal is a request for \$15,000.00, and let me just go
13 back. Enhancements to equipment in the high performance
14 technology program in South Hill is 25,000. We allow the
15 college to incorporate a machine training component into the
16 existing program, more closely aligning the training with
17 current industry demands. The fifth aspect is the \$15,000.00
18 to support advanced manufacturing camps for high school
19 students. The Staff is recommending a grant award of
20 \$456,756.00, not including support for the camps.

21 Virginia Highlands Community College, Highlands
22 submitted their own individual application request. The
23 Virginia Highlands now is requesting \$163,550.00 and meets
24 all matching requirements. The proposal includes updating all
25 the Industrial Maintenance Lab at VHCC that will allow the

1 college to provide an advanced training environment for
2 students in the Electrical Technology Associates Degree
3 Program, Industrial Maintenance Career Studies Certificate
4 Program and the Electro-Mechanical Maintenance Diploma
5 programs. Two national industry credentials and the
6 outcomes are listed there for you. Staff recommends an award
7 of \$163,550.00. We did get some revised figures from the
8 college, and that will be adjusted before it goes before the Full
9 Commission.

10 Next request is Virginia Western Community College,
11 Industrial Maintenance Technician Training, originally
12 submitted at nearly 364,000, and that was reduced to
13 \$43,864.00, and that would be financial aid assistance for
14 students from Franklin County. There is an estimate of eight
15 students from Franklin, and they would be assisted by what I've
16 already talked about with the Community College financial aid
17 component. Virginia Western is recommended for funding
18 yearly of \$210,000.00 of financial aid money, and we're
19 suggesting they be allowed to handle these students through
20 their financial aid requests.

21 MR. WILLIAMS: I'm Eric Williams. I'm the
22 Coordinator for Resource Development at Western Community
23 College. The community college access program had an
24 additional scholarship request for a CNA program 209,000 that
25 you've already approved, and we appreciate that very much.

1 This additional program of 43,864 that would serve eight
2 students would have to come out of that 209. So we're
3 requesting the possibility to work with the Staff to amend our
4 original proposal to include the 43,000 on top of the 209 so that
5 we could serve all students that we've been requested to serve
6 instead of having to choose between the two programs.

7 SENATOR RUFF: Thank you.

8 MR. PFOHL: Wytheville Community College
9 Educational Foundation, Inc., Improving Advanced
10 Manufacturing Education, and they're requesting \$110,150.00.
11 This is for improving advanced manufacturing education. This
12 is for some equipment for the Machine Technology Program,
13 and some of the existing equipment is getting old and really isn't
14 appropriate for current trainees. This program is
15 well-established. There is a list of 15 potential employers who
16 have expressed interest in recruiting graduates, and the Staff is
17 recommending an award of \$110,150.00. That completes the
18 Advanced Manufacturing list.

19 MR. NOYES: Clearly we're at a point where we have
20 our community college partners in some upgrade and
21 replacement cycles. The Commission has a policy that folks
22 cannot dispose of assets financed by the Commission without
23 letting us know what the plan is. This applies to a couple of
24 these projects and for all of them. The policy is that the
25 Committee at some point is going to need to consider how to

1 dispose of this equipment that is no longer in use and that was
2 paid for might be used. Maybe it goes to area high schools or
3 something like that. We need to have some input from the
4 community colleges what they intend to do, not just we're going
5 to sell it on the open market and have a windfall of cash. So we
6 need to begin thinking about that in terms of replacement
7 cycles and upgrade cycles. It's something on the horizon
8 people need to pay attention to.

9 MS. THOMAS: Along those lines, if we do get to the
10 point where they want to upgrade equipment, wouldn't it be
11 reasonable that proceeds they received from the sale of that be
12 applied toward the new equipment?

13 MR. NOYES: That's certainly an alternative, or
14 make it available to other folks that might want to use it for
15 training.

16 SENATOR RUFF: It would be of less value at that
17 point, so it may not be that particular community college.

18 Now, we can deal with these any way you want. If
19 someone wants to make a motion in a block, that would be
20 acceptable by the Chair.

21 MR. HAMLETT: I'd move we approve these in a
22 block.

23 MS. THOMAS: I'll second that.

24 SENATOR RUFF: Properly moved and seconded
25 that we approve the Staff recommendations on 2774 through

1 2759.

2 MR. PFOHL: Nine advanced manufacturing
3 proposals totaling \$1.4 million.

4 SENATOR RUFF: Any further discussion?

5 DELEGATE JOHNSON: The block does not include
6 the tabled ones?

7 MR. PFOHL: Does not include the next two
8 proposals that are not advanced manufacturing, the Southwest
9 Higher Ed STEM and Virginia Foundation for Community
10 College Education. We'll do those separately.

11 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I'm going to vote for the
12 motion, but I wanted to say that on these welding programs I
13 think we need to make sure that the certifications should be
14 part of the requirements as much as possible. I think we need
15 to make sure, and that's appropriate.

16 SENATOR RUFF: That was restricted to Danville
17 but that holds true, and I think all the community colleges
18 heard that, and moving forward that certification needs to be
19 part of the game plan.

20 DELEGATE WRIGHT: The reason I said that, and
21 I'm not picking on Danville, I would think that would apply to all
22 of them. I think it's a good idea to be included also in the
23 outcome.

24 SENATOR RUFF: I think everyone agrees with you,
25 and I see other nodding heads.

1 DELEGATE MERRICKS: I might add setting up
2 these programs is fine, but unless there are certifications, then I
3 don't know. We could make it as part of that scholarship as far
4 as getting that program, and the program itself is going to be
5 getting them ready to take the certification, and maybe in the
6 scholarship we should say you ought to do this as a provision
7 for getting the money.

8 SENATOR RUFF: I'm not sure they have the answer
9 for that today, but I'm sure they're going to try to get it done.

10 MR. SCISM: I support the idea, and there are things
11 we can do to make it a requirement for the program, and it's
12 possible to come up with a plan and tie it in with the
13 scholarships. We can work on that to come up with a plan,
14 and I'll come back to the Commission and report what we're
15 doing, give feedback on that as well.

16 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I would make that part of the
17 motion, and I appreciate the comments.

18 SENATOR RUFF: We've got a motion and a second.
19 Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.)
20 Opposed? (No response.)

21 MR. PFOHL: We have two other competitive
22 Education requests that were tabled in May. I'll try to be brief
23 on these since you've already heard the presentation in May at
24 your Committee meeting on both of these. I'll focus on the
25 up-dated information.

1 The first is the Southwest Virginia Higher Education
2 Center Foundation to establish a STEM-H Clinical Lab Sciences
3 program at Abingdon at the Center in conjunction with VCU,
4 and the request has been increased from 400,000 to 500,000
5 with all funds now focused on Abingdon at the Higher Ed Center
6 including a faculty member, three years' salary and benefits.
7 Supplies \$182,000.00 for new lab equipment for this Center.
8 All matching funds are largely in-kind from VCU, including
9 some costs to deliver the course work by technology. Staff late
10 Friday received a detailed equipment and supply list. That's
11 mentioned in the Staff comments. We haven't had time to fully
12 check all the matching fund commitments, or equipment lists.
13 At this point the Staff is recommending the project stay on the
14 table.

15 DELEGATE JOHNSON: In Southwest Virginia two
16 days ago there was a big problem, and we need all the help we
17 can get, and this is going to be a big benefit to Southwest
18 Virginia.

19 DR. FOLKES: I'm Rachel Folkes, Southwest
20 Education Center. This particular project, like the majority of
21 the courses offered at the Higher Ed Center, are tailored exactly
22 to the needs of the workforce, in this particular case Mountain
23 States and Wellmont, the two hospital systems that serve
24 Southwest Virginia in our region, and we do need these people.
25 This is a four-year degree, and these are highly trained people

1 and the kind of personnel you'd find in a hospital. They run
2 the blood banks and blood labs and they run all the work on
3 tests that are done in a hospital. This is a degree based on
4 other four-year degrees in science, STEM-H goals. The reason
5 the program is costly in the up-front end is because of the
6 equipment. We did submit on Friday the list of equipment but
7 one of our goals here is not to purchase the equipment but to
8 rent it or lease it and not holding the equipment once the
9 program is ended or moved to another location, and it's
10 sophisticated equipment. That's one of the reasons for the
11 costs. The other cost factor here is the faculty to teach the
12 program and one full-time person. This is not an on-line
13 program. One full-time person based in Abingdon delivering
14 services and that could be supplemented from VCU coming here
15 or visiting, video-conferencing primarily to deliver the program.
16 The population would be 20 the first year in a three-year
17 program, and then the second year we start two, and also
18 tuition dollars catch up with the financial costs of starting the
19 program and we put in a percentage.

20 MR. NOYES: It's Wellmont, and who is the other?

21 DR. FOLKES: Mountain States.

22 MR. NOYES: Where are they in terms of financial
23 obligations?

24 DR. FOLKES: Their financial contribution, all the
25 students are required in their final semester to actually work in

1 a laboratory in a hospital diagnostic section. They're providing
2 both locations, we have 10 partnerships, and they're the same
3 hospitals that work with us on our CRNA projects. They're
4 providing the location for the clinical work as well as the
5 supervising staff from their own employees to work with us. I
6 have a letter from the hospital submitted in April. I saw in the
7 notes from the meeting today you hadn't received anything from
8 the hospital indicating that, but I've got another copy of it if you
9 need it.

10 MR. PFOHL: We wanted to be able to have high
11 confidence that the VCU match, which is largely in-kind, is
12 based on the percentage use of that equipment in Richmond
13 and dedicated to delivering the program in Abingdon. And
14 that's one issue. We wanted to understand what the
15 equipment needs were. We got that information very late last
16 week simultaneously when this report was going out. We
17 wanted some additional verification from VCU that they were
18 fully committed to this program. The pieces are coming
19 together at the last hour. I think we've got a good track record
20 of the Higher Ed Center working with VCU and the nurse
21 anesthesia program the Commission started almost a decade
22 ago. There are good employment opportunities in the region
23 for the students once they graduate, and we wanted to have a
24 little more confidence that all the pieces were in place and
25 committed to this.

1 SENATOR RUFF: Do you believe the pieces are
2 coming together or will be before the Full Commission meets
3 next week?

4 MR. PFOHL: In a week, I suppose we could work on
5 that. We just received some of this information, and the report
6 went out Friday afternoon and we hit the road at
7 O-dark-hundred Monday morning, so we haven't had a chance
8 to really go through all of this. Next week, yes, we'll spend
9 some time looking at that.

10 SENATOR RUFF: If we can't do it we can always
11 have a short meeting. We'll ask Stacey to add another brief
12 Committee meeting either on the afternoon of the 25th or
13 morning of the 26th.

14 MR. PFOHL: The other tabled competitive proposal
15 was from Virginia Foundation for Community College
16 Education, GED to College: Increasing Educational
17 Attainment Levels in the Tobacco Region and a \$364,000.00
18 request to provide a \$1,000.00 award to 350 citizens in the
19 service area of seven tobacco region community colleges, and
20 these are in the area of the Rural Virginia Initiative. The
21 request is somewhat modeled on the Patrick County Education
22 Foundation with cash incentives, and the Commission was
23 involved with that as well. You heard about this at your
24 Commission meeting in May. Patrick has continued to have
25 dialogue with the Foundation staff to try to get these awards

1 focused. None of the students are already eligible for either
2 federal Pell grants or state financial aid assistance or Tobacco
3 Commission funding. It's aimed primarily on those students
4 that are taking non-credit training and would not be eligible for
5 other state or federal funds. So it becomes a gap-filler, if you
6 will, and they're programs that would have them ready for
7 employment in as few as two or three months. The Staff is
8 recommending an award of \$364,000.00, and bear with me
9 while I read all of this, contingent on demonstration of
10 committed dollar-for-dollar matching funds and administration
11 of the funds by the respective colleges to use TICR funds on
12 tuition and mandatory fees only, for students who are not
13 eligible for other state and federal financial aid in programs
14 such as non-credit workforce training, and other STEM-H
15 students with last-dollar financial needs.

16 MS. THOMAS: Maybe this is a question for the
17 community colleges. Help me understand how this is different
18 than giving the money directly to the community colleges or the
19 scholarships.

20 MR. PFOHL: In effect passing it through the state
21 foundations to the community colleges. I'll let Ms. Gentry
22 answer that.

23 DR. GENTRY: Thank you. The Virginia
24 Foundation for Community Colleges has tried to take the
25 initiative, and this is a demonstration project working with one

1 college out of fourteen to see how quickly students can go from
2 GED to enrollment in college and credit toward tuition and
3 books and working toward training for workforce needs. We as a
4 statewide foundation will monitor that particular success, and
5 we're working with a \$42 million project and working with these
6 colleges in rural Virginia. This is a small piece to serve these
7 areas of the state.

8 MS. THOMAS: What colleges?

9 DR. GENTRY: Mountain Empire, Southwest
10 Virginia Community College, Virginia Highlands Community
11 College, Danville, Wytheville, Patrick Henry in Southside.

12 MS. THOMAS: I'm having a hard time
13 understanding why it needs to go through a foundation rather
14 than giving it back to the individual colleges and why it's not
15 going directly to them.

16 DR. GENTRY: You have some administrative costs,
17 and that's to provide a uniform marketing. We're working with
18 a firm which I'm not at liberty to discuss right now out of
19 Richmond and they will help us promote this and working on a
20 marketing campaign. The money in that particular budget is
21 used to develop a brochure and recruit those students,
22 leveraging and taking that money with much larger
23 contributions.

24 SENATOR RUFF: What's the 14,000 for?

25 DR. GENTRY: We have printing of materials and a

1 uniform method, and it's very important for this marketing
2 program, and we've worked with someone on an advertising
3 campaign. I have some material that I'd love to leave with you
4 and graphics that show you our educational goals and coincides
5 with the leadership for the statewide foundation. The
6 statewide foundation is working with this entire portion, and
7 this goes into a much larger program overall. This is going to
8 move forward very rapidly.

9 MR. HAMLETT: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to move for
10 approval of this grant request.

11 SENATOR RUFF: It's been properly moved. Do we
12 have a second? We have a second. Any further discussion?

13 Tim, did you say you've narrowed the scope? Exactly
14 what are the funds paying for?

15 DR. GENTRY: These funds pay for the revisions
16 from the Staff, tuition and fees. Originally we had requested
17 for other students to have access for like transportation,
18 supplies and other things, but the Staff requested us to take
19 some requests out, so we've been working trying to refine this or
20 revise it.

21 MS. THOMAS: You said something about
22 transportation.

23 DR. GENTRY: The Staff requested that we take
24 those additional expenses out, although transportation is a
25 barrier. In fact I heard a story that some of the students would

1 take classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays and they couldn't
2 come on the other days because they couldn't afford the gas.
3 I've heard stories like they just couldn't afford to do that.

4 DELEGATE WRIGHT: I see in the recommendation
5 here John Tyler Community College. Any particular reason
6 why they're mentioned?

7 Dr. GENTRY: John Tyler is located in a relatively
8 pointed area if you look at the Midlothian campus. We didn't
9 think the need was quite as critical. The Foundation has
10 helped John Tyler.

11 DELEGATE WRIGHT: My concern is that students
12 attend there that are not from there, not part of the Midlothian
13 area, like Cumberland County and Amelia and Nottoway.

14 DR. GENTRY: We would be delighted and offer
15 scholarships directly to students.

16 MS. THOMAS: I think what you're trying to do here
17 is a wonderful thing, but education certainly is very good. I'd
18 like to see some results in this area of funding. I think it's fair
19 that annually we see where the funds are going, rather than not
20 knowing. I think it's fair to request that as part of this.

21 DR. GENTRY: If I may add something, your concern
22 is certainly worthy, in-kind administrative and our academic
23 department and we track 350 students as an administrative
24 project, and we want to make sure that our outcomes are met,
25 particularly for students in the workforce area, and those

1 additional funds are not available.

2 SENATOR RUFF: We've got a motion. Is there a
3 second on that?

4 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to
5 follow that advice and second the motion.

6 SENATOR RUFF: You said something about
7 matching money. Is there a match involved here?

8 DR. GENTRY: Yes.

9 SENATOR RUFF: Who are the match?

10 DR. GENTRY: We already have funds designated in
11 our Foundation to raise four million this year from matching
12 funds, and we have a statewide board in addition to that. We
13 already have funds coming in, and we have a \$2 million match
14 and hopefully 2 million more in a match. We're working with
15 some members of the General Assembly for a small amount of
16 matching funds. We'd like to have a public/private
17 partnership.

18 SENATOR RUFF: If I understand this correctly,
19 you're talking about serving 350 students and you'd be talking
20 about money for those individuals, or are you talking about,
21 what students for the match?

22 DR. GENTRY: The match could go either way.

23 SENATOR RUFF: The term 50,000 and seven
24 community colleges thrown out there, is the designated 50,000
25 per college or designated for seven colleges, the first 350 would

1 apply?

2 DR. GENTRY: It was originally designated or meant
3 50,000 for seven colleges, now eight.

4 SENATOR RUFF: You heard Delegate Wright's
5 properly seconded. Any further discussion?

6 MR. PFOHL: My question to Delegate Wright's
7 motion, additional money to serve John Tyler.

8 DELEGATE WRIGHT: That's up to the Commission.

9 MR. PFOHL: Yes, it is.

10 DELEGATE WRIGHT: My whole point, Mr.
11 Chairman, or at least my counties won't be included here and
12 Nottoway and John Tyler, and she mentioned the services, and
13 that's the reason I made the motion.

14 MS. THOMAS: Question, are you saying the
15 students would have to be from those counties or just attend
16 John Tyler?

17 MR. NOYES: All of our financial aid programs,
18 Tobacco Commission resident areas, that doesn't change.

19 DELEGATE WRIGHT: At the present time the three
20 counties are what I am concerned about.

21 MR. NOYES: I understand that, but these GED
22 graduates that receive \$1,000.00 would have to be residents of
23 the Tobacco Commission and not Midlothian, as much as I like
24 Midlothian, because that's where I live.

25 SENATOR RUFF: What's the three counties?

1 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Cumberland, Amelia and
2 Nottoway.

3 MS. CAPPS: The office says Dinwiddie and Suffolk
4 Counties.

5 SENATOR RUFF: I understand that, I'm just trying
6 to figure out those numbers.

7 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Five counties.

8 SENATOR RUFF: Nottoway is Southside.

9 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Some may go to Southside.

10 SENATOR RUFF: My concern is that those part or
11 partial counties the same as you do core community colleges,
12 then Southside will be dealing with their share and John Tyler
13 would be serving one-quarter of people with the same dollars,
14 and that doesn't seem to be quite fair either. There might be a
15 solution but I'm not sure the same amount of money.

16 DELEGATE WRIGHT: My concern here is that, and
17 it's been many years now, that when you look at how this money
18 is going to be spent by Southwest, I have no objection to them
19 getting their fair share, but Southside is not getting its fair
20 share. This is one of the most glaring examples I can think of
21 that the amount of money needs to be split evenly. This is a
22 small way of trying, you have to be fair, and people in Southside
23 is where the majority of the tobacco was grown, and that's the
24 end of my say.

25 SENATOR RUFF: I guess we're negotiating here, but

1 would you consider 25,000?

2 DELEGATE WRIGHT: Twenty-five.

3 SENATOR RUFF: I think maybe --

4 DELEGATE MERRICKS: -- Twenty-five added to the
5 364.

6 SENATOR RUFF: Correct. All right. Amending
7 the motion, which is to include John Tyler, an extra 25,000.
8 Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.)
9 Opposed? (No response.)

10 Now, Cindy's motion to report back to the Commission.
11 Any further discussion on that? We have a motion and a
12 second. All those in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No
13 response.)

14 Now, the original proposal Staff recommendation goes to
15 condition. Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye?
16 (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)

17 MR. PFOHL: One other item of business. Two
18 years ago your Committee recommended and the Commission
19 funded a \$1 million competitive education grant to the Virginia
20 Advanced Study Strategies, Inc. to continue its work across the
21 tobacco region to increase Advanced Placement teacher
22 training, student enrollment and test scores in conjunction with
23 a large grant from the National Math & Science Initiative.
24 VASS's relationship with NMSI has now ended, the subject
25 grant remains 100 percent available, and VASS has

1 subsequently secured a \$2.7 million federal Department of
2 Education i3 grant. That's grant 2411. As I said, they've
3 secured a federal Department of Education i3 grant, and that
4 stands for Investing in Innovation to establish a Rural Math
5 Excel Partnership Project with the purpose of creating a focused
6 partnership between local schools, local businesses, and
7 students/parents to increase awareness of math skills required
8 for technician-level jobs in STEM-H related fields. The Project
9 will focus on seven high schools and seven middle schools in
10 Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Henry and Prince Edward
11 Counties and the City of Martinsville. VASS requests that all
12 funds under grant #2411 be repurposed for salaries and
13 benefits totaling \$471,123.00, instructional supplies,
14 \$420,000.00 and operational costs, \$108, 877.00 for a three
15 year period to match the federal i3 grant to implement the Rural
16 Math Excel Project. Activities will include professional
17 development for math teachers and content specialists, gap
18 analysis of skills needed by businesses for STEM-H technician
19 jobs, and other collaborations with businesses, schools, parents
20 and students.

21 This is 100 percent change of scope for a two-year old
22 grant, and funds are requested for a three-year period. In
23 effect, VASS is asking for a completely revised use of funds to
24 start the three-year project, and the Commission's approval is
25 needed to carry on and use that million-dollar grant. It is not

1 new money, it was money awarded two years ago, and it's a new
2 use of that money and focused on a specific targeted area as
3 opposed to the original approval. We just received this detailed
4 information in the past week and a half, although conversations
5 with VASS have been going on for a few months. In most cases
6 further vetting would be desirable with a substantial new
7 USDOE grant provides evidence that this national model project
8 is needed. The Staff recommends if you want to hear it or defer
9 to the Committee on how to handle it, VASS's leadership is here.

10 UNIDENTIFIED: Good morning, ladies and
11 gentlemen. Thank you very much for the monies that were
12 appropriated and funds have been funded, and I would report to
13 you that they have in fact have done a great deal of good work
14 with training new teachers throughout the tobacco area. There
15 was an opportunity for funding through three businesses like
16 Altria, the Department of Defense and many others spread
17 throughout the state. There was a list of concern by many
18 people that we were looking at training teachers for middle
19 school through high school so that they would go beyond the
20 expectation of the standards of learning to more advanced rigor
21 and the target was for AP. Many persons in the General
22 Assembly and other places considered AP to be a college
23 program much more focused on making sure the workforce
24 development issues were taken care of. With that fact in mind,
25 as was mentioned by Mr. Pfohl, we actually went after the U.S.

1 Department of Education grant specifically to schools in
2 southern Virginia that were mentioned to be able to really look
3 at partnerships that are necessary and the identification of
4 those that are necessary for advanced manufacturing, IT,
5 energy and healthcare resources. The training we do with
6 those teachers is the same, but there is this specific target on
7 what the needs are. Partnerships now at the Virginia
8 Manufacturing Association and healthcare and community
9 colleges that we work with and those needs are identified.
10 Specifically the aim is to say to parents and to students we have
11 algebra because it's required and it's college required and
12 geometry that the college required. What else do you need,
13 because when you move on to further training through the
14 community colleges whoever that might be, what other
15 resources are other skills do you need? We know specifically
16 from the Virginia Manufacturer's Association that some of those
17 skills involve chemistry, computer science and things of that
18 nature. This is specifically looking at targeting resources and
19 teacher training so we can provide it for the students so when
20 they graduate from high school they are prepared.

21 I do have materials as well as a wrap up of the first grant
22 that you had. We're doing a really good job with the schools.

23 MR. PFOHL: Staff recommends approval of the
24 requested repurposing, conditioned upon administrative
25 approval by the Tobacco Commission Executive Director of a

1 more detailed budget, project milestones timeline and outcome
2 estimate reporting.

3 SENATOR RUFF: You've heard the
4 recommendation. Is there a motion?

5 DELEGATE JOHNSON: I so move we approve the
6 Staff recommendation.

7 MR. OWENS: Second.

8 SENATOR RUFF: We have a motion and a second
9 that the Staff recommendation be approved. Any discussion?

10 MS. THOMAS: This as well as the other application
11 we just looked at, I think we need some specifics on what we're
12 actually doing or an actual report on the facts.

13 UNIDENTIFIED: You may be interested to know
14 that one of the requirements for the education loan is that a
15 thorough evaluation takes place. It's an international
16 program, and all of that data is available to the Tobacco
17 Commission.

18 MS. THOMAS: That we can understand.

19 UNIDENTIFIED: But in that vein much of the
20 material you see here, students and resources made available,
21 all of that is contained in there. That's being accountable.

22 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

23 SENATOR RUFF: Any further discussion? All
24 those in favor say aye? (Ayes.) Opposed? (No response.)
25 That concludes our business. Any public comment?

1 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, on the
2 Southwest Virginia Higher Education funding request, in
3 reading the notes or the printout it would appear to me Staff
4 probably recommended certain criteria. Dr. Folkes has made
5 certain comments today, and I would respectfully move that the
6 Staff is able to make an amendment the approval of the project
7 between now and the time we have a meeting next month that
8 this project be taken off the table and be included in the
9 recommendation.

10 SENATOR RUFF: The meeting is next week, and
11 they have committed that that can go through. We can have a
12 short meeting next week and work that out and we'll receive
13 everything in writing.

14 MR. WARD: I'm with Virginia Manufacturing
15 Association. I wouldn't be doing my job if I didn't come up and
16 say and I know this has been a long process. We started back
17 in March and talked about the Crooked Road, and it looks great,
18 but nevertheless I thank you for your attention, and the
19 community colleges are doing an excellent job in helping that,
20 and the Higher Education Center. So I want to thank you all
21 for that.

22 I'd also like to ask for some clarification. For our industry
23 we have about 1500 manufacturers in the jurisdiction.
24 However, for us to help you help us one of the things that would
25 be helpful is to be able to know the direction of the BCG study

1 subcommittees. One of the members has asked me to, it's a
2 letter, and I'll hand it out today to show you.

3 One of the things I continue to hear at these hearings as
4 we refine the message and everything else, and when we started
5 this process I was under the impression, and the chairman of
6 the Committee, that the BCG subcommittees and centers of
7 excellence would focus on the CCAM recommendation, and that
8 was three occupations. Now it looks like that might include a
9 variety of other occupations. It may now be from conversations
10 I have, and there may be some other responsibility wrong. So I
11 guess from my point of view now to get good information and get
12 advice particularly for our staff.

13 Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask for the record, can you clarify
14 for us at some point will these centers of excellence be focused
15 on just the CCAM and Rolls Royce occupation identified in the
16 BCG, or will it include other occupations?

17 The second piece is as far as career promotions, that
18 challenge, how will those centers of excellence, how will that
19 play out as well? Those are my comments.

20 SENATOR RUFF: Well, Neal has handled that. It
21 will not be strictly the skills that CCAM has talked about, that's
22 a starting point to build on. We are the ones that have our
23 hands on the reins. The industries are the horses that are
24 pulling the wagon, and those horses are believing in what they
25 need, and we're not doing our job. That's not a great analogy,

1 but that's a spur of the moment.

2 MR. NOYES: Certainly the Centers of Excellence
3 can offer curricula doing welding, machine operation and
4 machine maintenance. Those three things have to be offered,
5 and the funds set aside for the Centers of Excellence are focused
6 on those three things. Ten million dollars the Commission
7 approved for this year, and this Committee ten million dollars,
8 and the second ten million matching dollar-for-dollar. There
9 are two funds available through this Committee. Those funds
10 could be used for things other than have traditionally been used
11 for things other than the three priority skill sets. Ten million
12 dollars is focused on getting three centers of excellence in
13 operation and for those focused on three things, the welding,
14 machine operations and maintenance. They compete
15 successfully for other Commission funds and centers of
16 excellence and basically to be responsive to industry needs. In
17 terms of career awareness, it's one of the things the R&D
18 Committee is looking, and we do it on a unified basis across the
19 three centers of excellence and reach out to multiple
20 constituencies throughout the tobacco region.

21 Does that answer your question?

22 There is going to be a meeting of those three ad hoc
23 committees in October to further refine these. I think we've
24 asked Katherine to advise us on how Dream It Do It might be
25 implemented through the three centers of excellence and

1 working on that, and she's talked on the phone numerous
2 times.

3 SENATOR RUFF: The workforce coordinator comes
4 on October 1st.

5 MR. NOYES: CCAM has hired an individual, a
6 workforce specialist person, and that person will come on board
7 October 1st, and I hope soon after that to be moving along.

8 SENATOR RUFF: Any further comments? All
9 right. If there are no further comments, then the meeting will
10 be adjourned.

11

12

PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

2

3 I, Medford W. Howard, Registered Professional
4 Reporter and Notary Public for the State of Virginia at large, do
5 hereby certify that I was the court reporter who took down and
6 transcribed the proceedings of the **Education Committee**
7 **Meeting of the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and**
8 **Community Revitalization Commission when held on**
9 **Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Sheraton**
10 **Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center, Roanoke, Virginia.**

11 I further certify this is a true and accurate transcript
12 to the best of my ability to hear and understand the
13 proceedings.

14 Given under my hand this 11th day of October, 2013.

15

16

17

18

Medford W. Howard

19

Registered Professional Reporter

20

Notary Public for the State of Virginia at Large

21

22 My Commission Expires: October 31, 2014.

23 Notary Registration Number: 224566

24

25