workforce

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Date: December 10, 2012

To: Board of Supervisors/City Councils

From: David Hutchins, Consortium Board Chair

Subject: Elected Officials Appointment to the Consortium Board

The New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Investment Area Consortium Board is a thirteen (13) jurisdiction board representing the Chief Local Elected Officials in the New River Valley and Mount Rogers Area and has been certified by the State of Virginia as Workforce Investment Area 2 in order to receive funds under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Funds available under WIA are used for employment and training activities as well as workforce development initiatives within our jurisdictions to meet local workforce needs. Our responsibilities under WIA are extensive and program requirements are very complicated. In order to properly represent a local jurisdiction, the local Elected Official appointed to this Board must have an interest in enhancing and furthering workforce initiatives as well as regularly attending Board meetings and be active in their participation. Establishing a quorum at each meeting is required to take action. Many WIA requirements require local action and the lack of action could result in our area being de-certified as a Workforce Investment Area and the loss of several million dollars in funding per year.

As the new year approaches and Board/Councils are appointing members to various boards, I would like to request that consideration be given to appointing someone to the Consortium Board for their term of elected office as opposed to a one (1) or two (2) year term. Local requirements under the law are very complex and it takes a new Board member two (2) or more years to become knowledgeable of requirements so that they can contribute to Board discussion and effectively represent their jurisdiction. Additionally, I would like consideration given to appointing someone that has an interest in workforce development initiatives and a willingness to attend all Board meetings. Both term of appointment and regular attendance are crucial for each local jurisdiction to be effectively represented on the Consortium Board.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance to you in your appointment process.

David Hutchins