**Workforce Investment Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 19, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Hearing Room, Louisiana Department of Insurance, First Floor

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 9:37 a.m. by Chairman Charles Moniotte. Lori Cherry called roll and a quorum was present. Stesha Rampersad recorded minutes.

***Members Present:*** Joseph Ardoin, Keith Brand, Susan Broussard, Exec. Dir. Ava Dejoie, Gary Warren for Jason Engels, Thelma French, Charlie Habig, Rhett Covington for Sec. Jimmy LeBlanc, Fran Harvey for Robert "Bob" Lobos, Gerry Mims, Charles Moniotte, John "Patrick" Mulhearn, Susan Nelson, Jim Odom, Jami Rogers for Peggy Parker, Carlos Perez, Sonia Perez, Susie Schowen for Don Pierson, Lisa Vosper for Joseph Rallo, Louis Reine, Natalie Robottom, Missy Rogers, Ronnie Rosser, David Helveston for Dr. Monty Sullivan, Jorge Tarajano, Brian Breaux for C.A. Buck Vandersteen, Terry Ricks and Kim Matherne for Marketa Garner Walters, Thomas Yura

***Members Absent:*** Valerie Aymond, James Ray Barker, Kathy Bobbs, Jennifer Boggs, Joe Bonita, Michael Boudreaux, Jason Dedon, John Bel Edwards, Art Favre, Brent Golleher, John Hopkins, John F. Jones, Todd McDonald, Thomas Mitchiner O'Neal, Mike Palamone, Ed Price, Jonald Walker, III, John White

Note: Change was made to the agenda, approval of OFC Short/Long Term Occupational Forecasts was moved up before Review and Approval of Previous Minutes.

1. **Approval of OFC Short/Long Term  Occupational Forecasts, Stephen Barnes, LSU**
   1. Sachin Chintawar and Dr. Stephen Barnes shared a presentation via PowerPoint.
      1. Discussed the methodology for reaching the occupational forecast level. This includes gathering information from driver firms to develop the industry forecast which was approved by the WIC in March.
   2. Motion to accept the 2016 short and long term Occupational Forecast
      1. 1st Jorge Tarajano
      2. 2nd Louis Reine
      3. No opposition, no abstentions, all in favor, motion carried
2. **Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** 
   1. No questions, no discussion
   2. Motion to approve minutes from the meeting on March 15, 2016
      1. 1st Louis Reine
      2. 2nd Ronnie Rosser
      3. No opposition, no abstentions, all in favor, motion carried
3. **Comments and Update on 2016 Legislative Session, Chairman Charles Moniotte**
   1. Senator Appel gave a brief summary on the legislative session. They entered the session with a fiscal crisis on their hands. Most of the session was focused on raising funds. They were able to save $1.2 billion in the 1st special session through a higher sales tax, which is one of the highest sales taxes in the nation. There is a 2 year limit on this tax. Much reform must still take place in the future. Senator Appel also discussed the expansion of Medicaid and the need for the right model for healthcare and higher education in the state.
   2. Representative Barbara Carpenter discussed the collaboration that took place during both special sessions and regular session on the house side and how they were able to accomplish more than they anticipated.
   3. Lisa Vosper shared some information on Higher Education and how they fared as a result of the session. She encouraged those who were interested in learning more about their new funding formula to attend the Funding Formula Forum; a statewide forum on Aug 3rd at Pennington Biomedical Center. Lori Cherry will send additional information to the Council.
   4. Terri Ricks from DCFS explained that several bills were passed during the session. These bills will help to change and expand programs to keep up with the needs of the state, especially in the areas concerning child welfare. They intend to work with their partners to get workforce training dollars to people that need training to gain employment.
   5. Rhett Covington from DOC stated that they did not receive the budget cuts they anticipated so they are in a better place budget wise. However, there are funding dollars that are needed for use after inmates are released from a corrections facility. Assistance through Medicaid is important to assist these people once they are released. If healthcare services are not available then there is a 100% chance that they will be incarcerated again. HCR 82 is important for the Sec. Leblanc at this time.
   6. Exec. Dir. Ava Dejoie from LWC explained the changes the LWC has made concerning IWTP. Employers are now able to choose their training provider and are allowed to train in house if they desire.

Exec. Dir. Dejoie discussed LRS funding and how the dollars assist many people. With the $3.69 match from the feds it allows us to serve more people than we would be able to alone. However, last year we left $17 million on the table because of the state budget, so we are able to do more with less but we would like to draw down as much money as we can.

1. **New Financial Planning Requirement, Ken Bradford, DOE**
   1. Ken Bradford provided a handout the "Louisiana's High School Student Planning Guidebook"
   2. He explained some statistics surrounding the graduation rates, TOPS eligibility, TOPS tech eligibility, and graduating seniors who applied for federal financial aid. Because of these numbers it was decided that starting with the graduating class of 2018 parents will have to actively accept or decline financial aid planning for their student. The class of 2018 will also graduate with a jumpstart credential or a college ready, TOPS accepted diploma.
2. **HiRE Employer Portal, Renita Williams, LWC**
   1. Renita Williams is the director of the office of unemployment insurance administration.
   2. Dir. Williams shared a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the HiRE system which has allowed the LWC to integrate and modernize their service delivery model
3. **Veterans’ Licensing and Certification Demonstration Project, Scottie LeBlanc, LWC**
   1. Mr. LeBlanc shared the Training and Employment Notice 2-16 to the council and explained the importance it serves to veterans who have received training in the military and the problems they face after military service to utilize their training in the civilian workforce.
   2. A suggestion was made to have the IBC address some of these issues during their meeting next week, not only concerning training but also in the apprenticeship area.
   3. Carlos Perez shared that his apprenticeship program was recognized by the national Veterans’ Affairs and he is willing to assist in any way.
4. **Public Comments**
   1. Next meeting is September 13th at 9:30 am at this location
   2. Final meeting this year is December 13th at 9:30 am, and Lori Cherry will confirm this
5. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.