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Bobby Jindal, Governor
Tim Barfield, Executive Director

2009 Occupational Forecasting Conference
Tuesday, June 16, 2009
10:00 A.M.
Capitol Park Welcome Center
702 River Road North
Baton Rouge, LA

Members of the Conference Present:

Tia Edwards
James Henderson
Stephen Moret
Louis Reine
Edward Rispone
Karen Zoeller
Dr. Dave Norris
Dr. Yu Hsing

Members of the Conference Absent:

Camille Conaway

LWC Staff Present:

Tim Barfield
Raj Jindal
Patty Lopez-Grainer
Dino Demarte
Kelly Ebey

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Occupational Forecasting Conference (OFC) was brought to order by Mr. Edward Rispono, Chairman of the OFC. Mr. Rispono has worked the last couple of years to revitalize the OFC to make some changes are user friendly. He is excited to work with the conference and asked Executive Director Tim Barfield to do the introduction.

Executive Director Tim Barfield stated looking at reforms last year, define priorities, OFC move up a notch and develop past forecasting and use as a planning tool. Identify the workforce priorities for the state in terms of the economic development impact to the communities and critical services needed. WIA Program, One Stops, DSS, DHH, and DOC to align as much as we can to use the dollars received to get the training and have tangible occupations.

Chairman Rispono introduced the conference principals:
Tia Edwards, Deputy Director of LA Workforce Commission
Louis Reine, President of LA AFL-CIO
Stephen Moret, Secretary of Economic Development
James Henderson, Senior Vice-President of LCTCS
Karen Zoeller, Vice President of LA Hospital Association

Action Item – Selection of the Occupational Forecasting Conference

Econometricians-Chairman Rispono

The nominees submitted for consideration are:

Dr. Gail Cramer, Chair
Department of Agriculture Economics – LSU

Dr. Yu Hsing, Professor of Economics
Southeastern Louisiana University

Dr. Dave Norris, Director
Louisiana Tech University

Dr. Janet Speyrer, Associate Dean
College of Business – UNO

Chairman Rispono had each econometrician to introduce themselves and then be excused from the room for the nomination. Mr. Louis Reine motioned to nominate Dr. Dave Norris and Dr. Yu Hsing as econometricians to the conference; seconded by Chairman Rispono. A letter will be sent to the econometricians that were not elected to the conference. The two elected econometricians will immediately serve on the conference.

Industry and Occupational Projections and Top Demand Occupations

Dr. Dek Terrell – Methodology/Employment Projections – Review 2006-2016

- Focuses on large industry sectors
- Conversations with key business leaders and economic development officials
- Consider new plant announcements and closures
- Modify existing forecasts as needed
- Modifications made for 177 RLMA-Industry forecasts of 760 total combinations

Modification Examples were given on the following areas around the state; New Orleans, Houma, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport and Monroe.

Raj Jindal, Patty Lopez-Grainer – Projection Milestones

Ms. Jindal explained the Planned Projections for 2008-2018 Milestones timeline. LWC is engaging LSU to assist with the forecast. Information was given on general questions asked about Industry and Occupational Projections and Top Demand Occupations.

Chairman Rispono suggested a working meeting and a facilitator to help coordinate the OFC meetings. Karen Zoeller volunteered the LHA facility to use for future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.