



1001 North 23rd Street
1st Floor Annex
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(O) 225-219-4215
(F) 225-342-9771
www.laworks.net

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Edward Rispone, Chairman

Workforce Investment Council

Special Workforce Investment Council Meeting
February 25, 2010
Governor's Press Room
4th Floor State Capitol
9:30 a.m.-Noon

Members of the Council Present:

Terry Baugh
Kathy Bobbs
Paul Howard, designee for Julie Cherry
Erin Bendily, designee for Camille Conaway
Janet Durden
Curt Eysink
Art Farve
Richard "Rick" Gremillion, Jr.
Whalen Gibbs, designee for Sec. LeBlanc
Joe May
Mike Mitternight
Charles Moniotte
Jason EL Koubi, designee for Sec. Moret
Thomas O'Neal
Mike Palamone
Louis Reine
Edward Rispone
Craig Roussel
Rep. Patricia Smith
Jorge Tarajano
Don Trahan
Jim Urdiales
C.A. "Buck" Vandersteen
Dr. Lisa Vosper, designee for Dr. Sally Clausen

Members of the Council Absent:

Jacqueline Beauchamp
Keith Brand
James Bulot
Sue Ann Cox
Clarence Fields
Cameron Henry
Ginger Laurent
Keith Myers
Kristy Nichols

Richard Noles
Sen. Neil Riser
John Young

Guest in Attendance:

Stephanie Seemion LWIA-1
Cynthia Douglas WIB-21
Alana Madison, House Labor
Nevonda Reed Dobard, House Labor
Patrick Dobard, Gov't Affairs
Dr. Lisa Vosper, Board of Regents
Missy Grimmatt, LWIA-40
Brenda Hubbard, WIA-40
Rosemary Zesso, DSS/LRS
Tia Edwards

Call to Order:

The special meeting of the Workforce Investment Council was called to order by Edward Rispono, Chairman of the WIC. A moment of silence was held in memorum of Representative Avon Honey, House of Representatives.

Resignation of Senator Donald Cravins, Senate was accepted by WIC members.

The minutes from the January 19, 2010 WIC meeting were approved with the amendment to add C.A. "Buck" Vandersteen, Thomas O'Neal and Michele Robinson, designee for Janet Durden to the list as being present at the meeting.

Action Item: Review and approve recommendations of Governor's Office for WIC strategic plan -*Kami McDonald, Executive Director, Workforce Investment Council, Erin Bendily, Education Policy Advisor, Governor's Office*-The WIC submitted to the Governor's Office the 2009 WIC Strategic Plan. The WIC reviewed each recommendation and made comments as to what need to be done to improve higher education. A taskforce would be put together to look at the Post-secondary Graduation Rate. A motion was made that WIC accept the Governor's recommendations. No objections.

The final recommendations from PERC were presented as it is related to the strategy on raising admission's standards at all four-year universities. Board of Regents has taken on these recommendation and work with the campuses to make sure that they are carried out.

Dr. Lisa Vosper, Board of Regents suggested a Goal 7 to certified work/career ready as evidence by achieving the national career readiness certificate powered by Work Keys.

A motion was made to accept the Governor's recommendations one through five and approve a new goal 6. The council accepted that the Workforce Commission is working on goal #6 to articulate the benchmarks and bring back to the next meeting. We will revisit Dr. Lisa Vosper Goal 7 at the next meeting. No objections.

Action Item: Review legislative agenda topics from member agencies-Office of the Governor-*Erin Bendily, Education Policy Advisor*- Presented a PowerPoint outlining the Governor's Education Legislative Agenda. The priority of this agenda is the performance of our Higher Education Intuitions.

Action Item: *LCTCS-Dr. Joe May, President* – Dr. May presented a power point on the percentage of students that are in the state's community and technical colleges. The system was created in 1999, over the last ten years about 20% of the state head count were enrolled in community and technical colleges. There is 1/3 of the head

count, about 70,000 students enrolled as of today. The SREB average for the percentage of students in the system is 28% for a 2 year program and 72% for a four year program.

LCTCS is recommending three things for the Governor's Education legislative Agenda. First that the state would let the students come to community college on TOPS, but set aside the different between a two year rate and the average four year rate than get the different in there junior and senior year to graduate from a university. The second is to change TOPS ACT requirement for students attending a community college. The proposal is if they earn a 3.0 GPA in their first semester, their second semester they would get 25% TOPS, third semester 50%, fourth semester 75% and when they transfer to a four year university they get the full TOPS. The third recommendation has to do with TOPS-TECH. TOPS-TECH was designed for technical colleges specifically, but there is a problem with the ACT requirements. Students that meet the ACT requirements choose to go to a four university rather than a technical college. No one takes advantage of TOPS-TECH. We are asking that they drop the ACT requirements. A search was done very carefully and we think that the ACT work keys are a better projector of people going into the technical programs, it guarantees that they are ready for work.

Performance based funding:

1. It is important that you complete the program, but it is more important that you get a job, at the highest standard. We are looking at the employment and wage data.
2. It is important to get an associate degree, but more important to transfer to a successful four year institution.
3. Industry Based Certification
4. Work Keys-Guaranty that every graduate is work ready. We must have better prepared workers to meet the challenge.

Adult Education will be made part of LCTCS. The goal is not just get a GED, but to achieve higher standards.

Action Item: Board of Regents – *Dr. Lisa Vosper, Assoc. Commissioner*- BOR is supporting the Governor's Grad. Also, based on the PERC recommendations we may have a few outlying items that are being worked on. What Erin and Dr. May discussed about accommodated these things.

Action Item: Department of Education – *Patrick Dobard, Deputy Director of Gov't Affairs*- Louisiana Department of Education makes all of their recommendations to BESE. There are about ten bills that are being presented, mostly dealing with technical issues. One bill in particular is to require tax collecting entities to hire independent auditors to perform procedures to get accurate time of remittance of revenues. We will work with the sheriff's association to make certain that we get some clear language to help support districts in receiving funds in a timely manner.

Also, seeking to streamline a number of old statues that are in Title 17, which are the education statues. We have a lot of statues from the 20's and 30's that can be streamlined.

The Department of Education is also supporting the recommending of the Governor's Education Package.

Action Item: *Louisiana Workforce Commission – Curt Eysink, Executive Director* – The legislation that we have basically falls under four categories:

Sunset Legislation – LWC and the Incumbent Workers Training Program both sunset this program. We have already had the hearings before House Labor and Senate Labor so we don't anticipate any problems there.

Integration - integrating The Louisiana Rehabilitation Services or the major components of that including vocational rehabilitation. This involves about 324 people and \$61,000,000 from their budget into LWC budget.

Re-employment Legislation – deals with workers' comp for the most of it. Overhaul the second injury funding, making it a true return to work

Worker's Comp Fraud-LWC is not allowed to disclose which companies carry workers' comp and which do not. Most states will publish those carrying workers' comp. We find that most companies are not being completely straight about how they are classifying their people, the size of their operation and so forth or whether they are even carry workers' comp.

Other Items/Miscellaneous

WIC will form an executive committee to address some routine things that come up and people have to make a presentation and get our input. We will bring this information back to the full council for a vote so that it can be more efficient. Also to choose a taskforce to help with some of the benchmarks.

The committee would consist of the following people:

- Art Farve
- Kathy Bobbs
- Joe May
- Eddie Rispone
- Curt Eysink
- C.A. "Buck" Vandersteen
- Louis Reine
- Jorge Tarajano
- Charles Moniotte
- Mike Mitternight
- Mike Palamone

The following dates were set for WIC meetings:

- March 23, 2010
- April 20, 2010
- June 15, 2010
- August 16, 2010

The March 23rd and April 20th WIC will meet at 9:30 a.m. and OFC will meet in the afternoon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.