Workforce Investment Council

Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 13, 2012
9:30 a.m.
Associated Builders & Contractors
19251 Highland Road Baton Rouge, LA

Members of the Executive Committee Present:
Kathy Bobbs
Curt Eysink
Jerry Ryan, Designee for Joe May
Mike Mitternight
Charles Moniotte
Mike Palamone
Dr. Jim Purcell
Jorge Tarajano

Members of the Executive Committee Absent:
Art Favre
Charles Vandersteen
Eddie Rispone
Jacqueline Beauchamp
Louis Reine

Guests Present:
Meg Casper
Steven Grissom
Dr. Lisa Vosper

I. Call to Order
Chairman Charles Moniotte called the meeting to order.

II. Comments from the Chair
Mr. Moniotte stated that he would skip over the January meeting minutes since we did not have a quorum and move on to item number VIII on the agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes
The January meeting minutes will be considered for approval at the May meeting.

IV. Presentation by WIC Agency Partners on 2012 Legislative Agenda
A. Louisiana Workforce Commission - Curt Eysink, Executive Director
House Bill 539 is the Workforce Investment Council cleanup bill by Pat Smith. It aligns state and federal law regarding the appointment of the chairman and the election of the vice-chairman. It reduces the number of mandatory meetings from six meetings to four meetings in the case that a quorum is not reached for one or two of the meetings during the year. It also clarifies the terms “state” plan and “strategic” plan.

B. Louisiana Economic Development - Steven Grissom, Deputy Secretary
Over the last four years Louisiana has been outperforming the south and US by almost any database measure found. To accelerate the progress, to build on recent policy reforms, to improve overall business climate and strengthen existing programs, the Governor has proposed four new incentive programs to enhance our ability to compete for the most attractive projects in highly competitive situations where outcomes and economic impacts show a positive return for the state.
The target sectors are:
- Corporate headquarters
- R&D operations
- Renewable energy
- Clean Technology
- Logistics and warehousing
- Data centers
- Other highly competitive growth sectors, particularly in manufacturing

The four new incentive programs being proposed by LED are:

1. **Corporate tax apportionment**
   Louisiana utilizes a single sales factor apportionment for manufacturers and other merchandisers but it is limited to those industry segments. House Bill 729 and Senate Bill 463 would allow the state to apply single sales apportionment for other segments as other states do such as corporate headquarters, logistics & warehousing, data centers, clean tech, destination healthcare, renewable energy, R&D and digital media and software development.

2. **Property tax exemption for non-manufacturing firms**
   Louisiana offers 10 year property tax exemption for manufacturers building new facilities in the state. Other states offer this to non-manufacturing sectors. House Bills 674 and 694 and Senate Bills 331 and 332 would allow the same benefit to highly competitive projects segments such as corporate headquarters, logistics warehouses and others already mentioned. The new incentive would only be offered where parish governing authorities opts in to the program through a vote. This will require a constitutional amendment so it will have to go to the voters for approval. Once the program is established, the local governing authority would have to take a vote on the exemption.

3. **Payroll incentive for competitive projects**
   Louisiana currently offers the quality jobs incentive which provides up to a 6% payroll rebate for eligible companies. House Bill 958 and Senate Bill 548 would offer up to a 15% payroll rebate for highly competitive projects in target sectors where the state is able to ensure a positive return based on jobs, payroll and capital investment created.

4. **Corporate headquarters relocation program**
   A number of states offer highly competitive incentive packages to attract headquarters of high growth companies and firms in the fortune 1000. This is an area where we have some challenges in competing with other states. House Bill 937 and Senate Bill 567 would enable LED to offer a 25% rebate over 5 years on qualifying facilities and relocation costs of headquarters. This will be used selectively to secure highly competitive relocation projects to state.

C. **Louisiana Community and Technical College System - Dr. Jerry Ryan, Senior Vice President for Workforce, Career and Technical Education**
   Senate Bill 284 seeks to merge Acadiana with SLA Community College. Senate Bill 247 seeks to create a Central LA Technical College for the area extending from Ferriday to the state line. Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 requests the Board of Regents to study the feasibility of a merger of Capital Area Technical College and Baton Rouge Community College. House Bill 727 asks for three alternative funding formulas from the governing boards of various sectors, the one that the Board of Regents adopted last year. Before the change last year, the formula was based on enrollment taken on 10th day. Last year it was changed to be based on final grades at the end of year. LCTCS feels that this is antithetical to their mission since community colleges have an open access mission with no competitive admission standards, and they will also now be receiving all remedial students because the other institutions will not be serving them. The formulas should be mission specific.

D. **Louisiana Board of Regents - Dr. Jim Purcell, Commissioner of Higher Education**
   The Board of Regents Legislative Package addresses 5 areas:

1. **Appropriations**
   Senate Bill 301 by LaFleur allows postsecondary institutions to carry forward certain funds at the end of a fiscal year under certain conditions and House Bill 396 and SB385 by Carmody and LaFleur propose a constitutional amendment to provide relative to the authority and powers of the Board of Regents and the public postsecondary education management boards.
2. **Higher Education**
   House Bill 395 by Carmody is relative to the expenditure of allocation of funds appropriated to postsecondary education management boards. House Bill 882 by Burns authorizes the Board of Regents to increase the licensure fee for postsecondary, academic degree-granting institutions operating in LA. Senate Bill 103 by Nevers limits the number of hours required to earn a baccalaureate degree. Senate Bill 290 by Murray provides relative to the Louisiana University Marine Consortium. Senate Bill 453 by La Fleur provides relative to Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

3. **TOPS/Dual Enrollment K-12**
   House Bill 841 by Pat Smith is relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students and provides for award dollar amounts.

4. **Tuition**
   House Bill 275 by Schroder is relative to the authority of public postsecondary education management boards to increase tuition and mandatory fee amounts.

5. **Mergers**
   House Bill 964 and SB527 by Fannin and Walsworth provides for the merger of Louisiana Tech and LSU-Shreveport. Senate Bill 284 by Cortez and Bishop merges Louisiana Technical College campuses with South Louisiana Community College. These bills are recommended by the Board of Regents although they are not on the Board of Regents legislative agenda.

V. **Report on Accountability and Performance Measures**
Claudeidra Minor stated that the only new information in this report is on pages 3-11 dealing with the graduation rate information. The Strategic Plan was used as an outline to match the performance measures and metrics that were developed by the Interagency Workgroup and the Executive Committee and then approved by the Workforce Investment Council.

Dr. Lisa Vosper stated that she and Commissioner Jim Purcell looked at these and decided that the graduation rates goals were based on early PERK recommendations and would like to see them aligned to the Grad Act. The WIC Strategic Plan was developed in 09-10 with input from Sally Clausen. As the Strategic Plan is updated, there is a need to update the benchmarks.

VI. **Discussion and Consideration of 2012 Strategic Plan Update**
Ms. Minor provided a copy of the Strategic Plan 2012 update for review and consideration. The only updates in the plan are the statistics and implementation changes which were provided by the partner agencies for goals relating to them. She asked for any changes or modifications needed by the end of the week so that the final draft can be provided at the WIC meeting. It will be presented for approval with the condition that LWC staff will consult with the chairman to make any necessary and appropriate changes so that it can be submitted to the Governor’s office no later than the end of April.

Mr. Tarajano objected and proposed that we resubmit the same plan. Ms. Minor explained that the law requires that the plan be updated every two years. Ms. Minor further explained that the Council could request an extension to the April deadline to submit the plan. Mr. Eysink proposed that we send a letter to the Governor’s office stating that the current plan would stay in effect until we update it. The committee agreed.

VII. **Discussion of Workforce Investment Council and Workforce Investment Boards Outreach Program**
Mr. Moniotte discussed the idea of reaching out to the WIBs by assigning WIC members to attend one of the board meetings for the WIBs and also to visit the One Stop in their area and then report back in a 5 minute presentation to the Council on what they are doing.

VIII. **Other Business**
The agenda for the WIC meeting next week was reviewed and it was discussed that some of the legislative presentations should be in the form of a handout. The need to align the Strategic Plan with Grad Act Goals was also discussed.

Meeting was adjourned