Members of the Executive Committee Present:
Charles Moniotte, Chair
Curt Eysink
Art Favre
Jerry Ryan, Designee for Dr. Joe May
Mike Mitternight
Stephen Moret
Mike Palamone
Dr. Lisa Vosper, Designee for Comm. Jim Purcell
Louis Reine
Charles Vandersteen

Members of the Executive Committee Absent:
Jacqueline Beauchamp
Kathy Bobbs
Eddie Rispone
Jorge Tarajano
John White

Guests Present:
David Lefkowith
Paul Theriot

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

II. Comments from the Chair
Mr. Moniotte informed members that the meeting was cut back because some of the presenters could not be present.

III. Approval of Minutes
A copy of the May meeting minutes was provided to the members for their review and approval. Louis Reine made a motion to accept the minutes and Mike Mitternight seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.

IV. Discussion and Review of WIC Strategic Plan
Claudeidra Minor addressed the Council and stated that she received member comments regarding the Strategic Plan and incorporated those into the plan. Those comments included to update statistics and graphs and also progress reports on each of the implementation strategies from partner agencies. All other information is the same or mirrors the initial strategic plan. The updated copy in the packet is a strikethrough copy reflecting updated statistics. Yellow highlighting indicates new text or progress report information on the implementation strategies received from the partner agencies. Since the legislative session has ended, some or all of the information may have changed. She asked partner agencies to review the draft copy and if necessary update it accordingly.
Also included in the packet is a memorandum explaining the law concerning the updating of the strategic plan and it provides history of the strategic plan. All stakeholders are accountable for a component of the plan. It is required that it be approved by the WIC and the Governor. She sent the Governor’s office a note that the plan would be completed by the end of the year. Also included in the packet are the current Strategic Plan, the Grad Act, and the strikethrough copy of the 2012 update.

**Strategic Goal 1: Increase the High School Graduation Rate**

Dave Lefkowith, Department of Education, expressed that a dual goal will be to improve the validity and relevance of the diplomas that students achieve. He will update information relating to how the department is meeting the current objective and he will most likely add to the implementation strategies relating to new legislation, etc. He will provide these updates as soon as possible.

**Course Choice** includes courses in virtual training, Industry based certifications, etc. Superintendent White is stressing two things in Course Choice:

- Accountability of course providers (tracking results) and rigorous curriculum
- Developing continuums or pathways beyond K-12

Paul Theriot stated that they will go through the existing IBC Focus list and examine it thoroughly and update. There is a move toward more competency based credentials through seat time waivers.

**Strategic Goal 2: Increase the Postsecondary Graduation Rate**

Dr. Lisa Vosper, Board of Regents, reminded members of previous discussions about the need to better align this goal with the Grad Act and informed members that they are in the process of doing that. The goal as stated may be modified. The objectives and data proposed are out of line with the requirements of the Grad Act. She stated that they fell short on the recommended implementation strategies especially the funding of postsecondary institutions at a level to fulfill their missions as came out during this year’s session. Also, the text in the Strategic Plan is from the first Grad Act not the amended Grad Act from 2011. She stated that they would update the plan using the 2011 Grad Act.

Dr. Jerry Ryan, LCTCS, provided a handout to members on possible success parameters for the Community and Technical College System with several goals outlined and how those goals could be measured. He feels that the Grad Act parameters should also be associated with mission of the institution and should be different for community colleges than 4 year universities. Their hope is to be judged on the success of part-time students as well as first time, full time students. This is important for funding and in establishing the benchmarks. Successes in skill attainment and employment should show up in the measurements. He feels that the goals are still acceptable but the timelines may need to be adjusted given budget cuts. The goal might read “increase the postsecondary success rate” instead of “graduation rate” and be measured by employment realization in the field in which they have trained.

Dr. Vosper suggested that a presentation is needed on the Grad Act by both Commissioner Purcell and Superintendent White to speak on changes and budget cuts and how they will affect implementation of the Grad Act. She agrees that they need to quantify the measuring of skills attainment and employability rather than just a degree or certification. Employers are asking for skill sets not just credentials or degrees.

**Strategic Goal 3: Align Postsecondary Resources with Workforce Needs**

Mr. Moniotte advised members that they would present the changes to the Occupational Forecast to all four system boards and the Board of Regents and ask for their continued and increased use of it. He stated that the funding formula has an incentive for alignment to workforce needs. He asked if this is actually being used in the calculation of the funding. Dr. Ryan and Dr. Vosper responded that they didn’t think so because they haven’t come up with a measurement yet. Dr. Vosper informed the Committee that the Occupational Forecast is a measure in the Grad Act that schools have to report on and Mr. Eysink asked that an explanation of this be included in the presentation on the Grad Act. Members discussed the importance of not having too many programs around the state which results in a watering down.

Dr. Vosper suggested that a presentation is needed on the Grad Act by both Commissioner Purcell and Superintendent White to speak on changes and budget cuts and how they will affect implementation of the Grad Act. She agrees that they need to quantify the measuring of skills attainment and employability rather than just a degree or certification. Employers are asking for skill sets not just credentials or degrees.

**Strategic Goal 4: Develop a Comprehensive (Demand) System that Credibly Forecasts and Effectively Communicates Workforce Demand and Identifies Priority Workforce Education and Training Needs**

Mr. Eysink expressed that they are headed in the right direction on the forecast which would be finalized by the full WIC on the 26th. He feels that language in the first objective should be changed to: “Maintain comprehensive and accurate industry and occupational short-term and long-term forecasts that are actionable at the state and regional levels.”
Strategic Goal 5: Implement a Comprehensive Accountability System for Workforce Development Results

This relates to the Accountability and Performance Measures Report. The objectives under this goal are dated. Mr. Eysink suggested a change to the objectives to one that states: “Maintain an accountability system consistent with the goals of the Strategic Plan.”

Proposed/Recommended Strategic Goal 6: Increase the Workforce Participation Rate

The workforce participation rate measures the ratio of the total work eligible population that is actually participating in the workforce. This number needs to be higher in order to sustain healthy economic growth. Louisiana is 47th in the country as of May. The biggest reason for this is the low high school graduation rate and people without a marketable skill. This figure includes the civilian population 16 years and older but excludes prisoners, people in mental hospitals, nursing homes and the military. The LWC and the LCTCS strategic plans address the workforce participation rate with the goal of hitting the national average by 2015 and then to exceed it from that point forward. Dr. Vosper suggested that the measurement of skills or employability may fall under this goal or the goal may be to “Increase the workforce participation and preparation/employability rate.”

Mr. Eysink summarized that employability has two parts:
- Foundational skills- work skills/soft skills
- Industry based skills –IBCs, non-credit courses, being hired with skills attainment

Secondary and postsecondary quality and rates need to go up. Quality can be measured by rate at which students are hired and the pay scales they achieved. Wage data can be used to measure this.

The following implementation strategies under Goal 4 need to shift to Goal 6:
- Realigning unemployment insurance and worker’s compensation programs as reemployment services
- Support training for job seekers that prepares them for jobs that provide financial independence
- Work with business and industry to increase the opportunities for nontraditional sources of labor, including veterans, ex-offenders, people with disabilities and people with language barriers, to achieve sustained employment

Mr. Eysink feels that the strategy “Integrate Louisiana Rehabilitation Services into the Louisiana Workforce Commission” can be addressed in the strategy “Work with business and industry to increase the opportunities for nontraditional sources of labor, including veterans, ex-offenders, people with disabilities and people with language barriers, to achieve sustained employment.”

Attachments

Dr. Vosper will provide updated versions of the first three attachments which relate to the Board of Regents’ goals in the plan including updates on the Governance Commission Report.

In conclusion, Mr. Eysink stated that the goal is to have an updated draft of the plan and a presentation by Regents, LCTCS and Department of Education on their plans at the August 14th Executive Committee meeting.

V. Other Business

None

VI. Public Comments

None

Meeting was adjourned