Louisiana Workforce Investment Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 26, 2012, 9:30 a.m.
Louisiana State Police Training Academy
7901 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Members of the Council Present:
Kathy Bobbs, for Chair Charles Moniotte
Charles Vandersteen
Ray Barker, Designee for Craig Roussel
Curt Eysink
Eddie Rispone
Bryan Gautreaux, Designee for Hilda Curry
Whalen Gibbs, Designee for James LeBlanc
Jennifer Boggs
Jim Urdiales
Lisa Vosper, Designee for Comm. Jim Purcell
Darryl Ward, Designee for John Young
Jorge Tarajano
Julie Cherry
Keith Brand
Louis Reine
Margaret McGarity
Michael Mitternight
Michael Palamone
Russell Armstrong
Susana Schowen, Designee for Stephen Moret
Myron Berzas, Designee for Suzy Sonnier
Thomas ONeal

Members of the Council Absent:
A.G. Crowe
Alden Andre
Art Favre
Charles Moniotte, Chair
Clay Schexnayder
Elbert Guillory
Jacqueline Beauchamp
Joe May
John White
Katrina Thomas
Keith Myers
Pat Smith
Ronald Williams
Terry Baugh

Guests Present:
Byran Moore, LWC
Glenn Dugas, LWIA 41
Gloria Abels, LWIA 20
Joel Boe, Performance Contractors
Kelly Ebey, LWC
Latika Bharadwaj, LWC
Raj Jindal, LWC
Robert Roux, LWC
Sachin Chintawar, LWC
Shana Veade, House of Representatives
Sondra Redmon, LWIA 60
Stephanie Miller, LSU
Stephen Barnes, LSU

I. Call to Order
Kathy Bobbs, substitute chair, called the meeting to order.

II. Comments from the Chair
Ms. Bobbs introduced herself and announced that Mr. Charles Moniotte, Chair, was on vacation. She thanked members for attending since there were several items on the agenda that needed approval.

III. Approval of Minutes
A copy of the March and May meeting minutes was provided to the members for their review. Louis Reine made a motion to approve and Mike Palamone seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.
IV. Consideration and Approval of Louisiana’s Demand Driven Workforce Investment State Plan, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2017

Bryan Moore, LWC Workforce Development Director, addressed the Council regarding the five-year state plan that will be submitted to the Governor for his signature and then to the United States Department of Labor for approval. Louisiana Workforce Commission has been working on the plan for several months. The process included opportunities for discussion with partners, the WIBs and the Business and Career Solutions Centers. The draft of the plan was unveiled at the semi-annual Workforce Development State Conference held in New Orleans. Subject matter experts validated content in the plan for a demand driven system. The plan articulates the Governor’s vision relating to education reform from early childhood development to the colleges and universities. Labor Market information is discussed which is critical in developing a demand-driven system. Supporting data for funding training opportunities is a necessity in developing this demand driven system. Mr. Curt Eysink, Executive Director of LWC, shared that this plan is more effective in building this demand driven system because it has real metrics and accountability. All previous metrics were focused on job seekers and not business customers. Success is measured every quarter and then at the end of the year, the WIC does the Performance and Accountability Reports. Mr. Mike Palamone asked for these metrics to be distributed to the Council. Members discussed the need to break down the “others” category.

Following the approval of the Occupational Forecast, Louis Reine made a motion to approve the State Plan and Mike Palamone seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.

V. Consideration and Approval of 2020 Occupational Forecast

Dr. Stephen Barnes, Associate Director with the LSU Division of Economic Development, addressed the Council regarding the forecast. He summarized overall projections for Louisiana and the nation and reviewed the methodology used in creating the forecast which is a combination of using Micromatrix Software and historical data. Causes of trends, comments from driver firms and industry groups, as well as economic development projects were included. The division moves from industry forecasts to occupational forecasts by using staffing patterns and replacement rates and 846 regional industry and 3,710 regional occupational forecasts. He discussed the impact of how the hurricanes and recession affected the baseline statistical data and he also discussed other major economic and policy factors such as:

- Rebound from the recession
- Population growth
- Low price and abundance of natural gas
- Oil and gas activity increasing in the Gulf of Mexico
- Demographic influences and Health Reform impacting the demand for health care services

He discussed and provided charts in the handout summarizing projections for regional employment and growth, top industries in total and percent growth, staffing patterns, occupation group growth, and top occupations for graduate degrees, professional degrees, bachelor's degrees, high school diplomas, and those occupations requiring less than a high school diploma. He concluded by discussing the largest occupation groups.

He pointed out to members that they were provided with the state level occupational forecast and that there are similar spreadsheets for each of the eight regions. Mr. Eysink reminded members that they had already approved the industry forecast and that this gives more detail about specific occupations. Mr. Eddie Rispone suggested that in the future the Council should push for the education requirements and job training to be stated with more accurate detail. He also feels that the annual wage column is sometimes distorted and needs more definition. Mr. Eysink suggested that wages be listed as bottom quartile, mid-quartile, and high quartile.

Louis Reine made a motion to approve the forecast and Mike Mitternight seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.
VI. Presentation on Occupations Star Rating System
Mr. Eysink stated that this rating system will address some of the concerns that members have discussed relating to the organization and presentation of the forecast for various purposes and audiences. He stated that his hope is that the rating system will be finalized and approved at the next WIC meeting.

VII. Consideration and Approval of 2011-12 Labor Market One-Stop Grant
Raj Jindal, LWC IT Director, addressed the Council regarding the performance on the 2011-2012 Labor Market One-Stop Grant. She discussed the progress and completion of required products of the grant such as a database, the production and dissemination of the industry and occupational forecasts, making the profile available on the website, the post product, and partnering and consulting with the WIBS. She explained that the approval by WIC is stating that they completed these products during the year.

Jorge Tarajano made a motion to approve and Dr. Lisa Vosper seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.

VIII. Consideration and Approval of 2012 Labor Market Information Plan and Budget
Ms. Jindal also presented information to the Council regarding the application for federal assistance, the annual budget plan, the annual plan narrative and a summary of the plan for the upcoming year. She asked that the Council approve.

Louis Reine made a motion to approve and Jorge Tarajano seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed.

IX. Other Business
None

X. Public Comments
None

Meeting was adjourned