Workforce Investment Council

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 2012
9:30 a.m.
Louisiana Workforce Commission
Large Executive Conference Room
1001 North 23rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA

Members of the Executive Committee Present:
Kathy Bobbs
Curt Eysink
Joe May
Mike Mitternight
Sec. Stephen Moret
Eddie Rispone
Art Farve
Mike Palamone
Jorge Tarajano
Dr. Lisa Vosper, designee for Jim Purcell
Quintin Taylor, designee for Dr. Joe May
Dvcefrowida Dedsqpea, designee for Supt. John White

Members of the Executive Committee Absent:
Jacqueline Beauchamp
Charles Moniotte, Chair
Louis Reine
Charles Vandersteen

Guests Present:
Bryan Moore
Kelly Ebey
A.G. Crowe
Michael Dupre, designee for Sen. Elbert Guillory

I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order by Chairman Charles Moniette

II. Comments from the Chair
None

III. Approval of Minutes
A copy of the August meeting minutes was provided to the members for their review and approval. All were in favor and none were opposed.

IV. Presentation on Louisiana International Gulf Transfer Terminal (LIGTT)
Honorable A.G. Crowe, Louisiana Senator presented the Louisiana Gulf Transfer Terminal (LIGTT) project. The (LIGTT) project was Louisiana’s response to widening the Panama Canal. The main objective is to reestablish Louisiana as a gateway to North America. LIGTT is envisioned to be transshipment and logistics “hub-and-spoke” system for containerized cargo. The purpose of the hub-and-spoke system is to effectively address emerging challenges resulting from fundamental changes in the international container shipping industry. The
primary objective of the LIGITT plan is to address the nation’s infrastructure challenges, and the second objective is to stimulate economic activity along the northern Gulf of Mexico.

V. Consideration and Approval of 2013 Meeting Schedule
The proposed 2013 meeting schedule for the council and committees was provided by Ms. Claudeidra Minor. She stated since the law change, the Workforce Investment Council will meet minimally four times per year. Curt Eysink stated the proposed schedule will allow members to meet each quarter. There was a motion for the approval of the 2013 meetings schedule, and Curt Eysink seconded the motion. A copy of the 2013 schedule was provided for review and approval to the members. All were in favor and none were opposed.

VI. Consideration and Approval of WIC Strategic Plan
Ms. Claudeidra Minor discussed the strategic plan and the addendum to the plan. Claudeidra reported the revision included the implementation of the agency’s progress report and performance measures information. Altogether, there are 6 strategic goals that have been updated. There was a motion for the approval of the WIC strategic plan and the addendum to be added. All were in favor and none were opposed.

VII. Demonstration of Star Rating System
Raj Jindal presented a prototype of the new web based database for job seekers and employers. The new portal has job specific searches for both the employers and job seekers. Raj reported that the emphasis is to have a more integrated and comprehensive system for the state of Louisiana. Raj discussed the significance of the star rating system; as this would aid both job seekers and employer. She reported the criterion is detailed and specific; therefore the user would have choices as well as preferences.

Raj further reported that the metrics, trends, and other reporting components can be driven by parish, region, and ultimately statewide statistical data. Overall, she reports the functionally and criterion allows flexibility as well as reliability. Curt Eysink stated the need for a more integrated system, as this would decrease the need for one stop centers. He stated that everyone would go to one place. Raj further discussed how job seekers and employers can manipulate and or curtail the job specifications to their needs. Raj pointed out the occupational, educational, and other assessments that are also incorporated into the new system as this would create uniformity with other institutions. Curt stated this web design is mainly setup for job seeker’s, so that that they can tailor it to their needs. Raj Jindal reported the importance of institutions providing their data. She stated this would be a tremendous additive for the star rating system as a whole. Moreover, the data would be implemented and or interfaced with the web portal, as this would create efficiency, partnership, and continuum of service. Raj emphasized this would serve the initiatives of the star rating system altogether, as this information would tie in with the higher education.

Curt stated that our web portal will be indexed; this will be supported by google. We are looking forward to have Twitter and Facebook associated with Louisiana jobs, both are social networks. This will create transparency as well as accessibility for both employers and job seekers. Curt’s overall response of the new database implementation will be huge for the star rating system and integrated job search database here in Louisiana.

Also, Dr. Vosper stated that the Board of Regents is looking at the star rating system as a tool to evaluate degree programs. Dr. Vosper stated that she has been working with Jim Purcell to present this tool to higher education. Dr. Vosper stated that she has discussed scheduling this initiative with both Board of Regents, and the Bese Board in a combined meeting, which is forthcoming. Furthermore, Dr. Vosper reports this forum is at the highest level for all committee’s to meet and discuss the specifics of the new system with regard to higher education. Raj Jindal stated she will disseminate the web address electronically for all the members.

VIII. Update on Recertification and Performance Measures
The Local Workforce Investment Areas, through section 117, states that all have to be certified every two years. LWC is tasked with the responsibility of the recertification. A timeline was established to go through the certification process, which requires the boards to send certain documents and ensure that they were in compliance. Three main areas were considered, namely Assurances, Board Governances’ & Board Membership.

The need to ensure there is business diversity, as well as small business representation. Therefore, it includes at least 2 education representatives, 2 labor representatives, 2 representatives of community-based organizations, 2 representatives from economic development agencies, and an individual representing public employment through Wagner-Peysner public, and a representative from each of the one stop partners. In addition, there are measures taken to ensure that board members are properly nominated from the entity they are representing. Documentation is scrutinized to verify that all memberships are official to make certain that competition of the
board is in place, as intended by Congress. In addition, Board members are to have staggered terms to lessen
the chance of high turnover rates at one time.

Various problems have impacted member retention, i.e. people moving out of the state. Ongoing measures are
underway in finding members for boards with vacancies, as a quorum is needed in a meeting in order to take
action on the issues at hand.

IX. Report on Accountability and Performance Measures

The primary purpose of the Workforce Investment Board is to establish policy around the local funding received
from the USDOL through the state workforce agency, which is the Louisiana Workforce Commission in this
State. It is comprised of 51% of business-led at all times. There are several mandated partners, who are required
to serve on the board. They are to set the standard in terms of being able to focus on demand occupations, and
ensure that training is matching the jobs that are in demand. In essence, they are to make sure that supply
meets demand in their region as it relates to jobs, and see that the One Stops they oversee have the same
measures in place.

There is a breakdown between the WIB identifying the labor demands in their regions, and quickly reporting
those needs at the State level. Because needs are always going to crop up, the WIB needs to be in tune with those
needs, as they are a pivotal part of this demand-driven system and work with their training providers and
partners to make sure there are adjustments in the demand. WIB's manage the dollars in their areas. Some
WIB's provide soft skill training through One Stops to teach jobseekers how to dress appropriately and other
skills in looking for jobs. WIB is the main funding for our Career Solutions Centers, and to prepare the
workforce with the qualified skills to secure employment. Board members are needed to guide that entire
system to make sure it is demand driven.

Each state has a performance rate that is negotiated with USDOL each year. Louisiana has met or exceeded
every level of performance. For WIA purposes, the three areas are Adult Services, Dislocated Services and Youth
Services. In Louisiana, the Wagner-Peyser Services was added, which is the state level funding. In 2011, there
is no area that we are failing as a State, with only two areas where we are meeting the goals and not exceeding
them. Preventive measures are in place to ensure that areas that are exceeding the goals do not begin to decline
to where we are just meeting the goals.

For example, although we are exceeding in every area in Youth Services, there was a significant decline from
2010 to 2011. Therefore, program advisors have been reinstituted to provide confidence, guidance and
counseling that are needed to ensure that the job is done effectively. Four program advisors will be assigned to
two regions. Reports for the first quarter of 2012 will be available in November 2012.

X. Overview and Progress Report on Louisiana Workforce Commission

Packages were disseminated instructing recipients to whom to direct further inquiries. These packets do not
reflect a complete report, but it is forthcoming with necessary updates.

The latest federal report for 2010 states we are number six in the number of Adults served in the WIA, we are
number 2 in the Entered Employment Rate for Adults; we are number three in the Entered Employment Rate
for Dislocated Worker; we are number two in the Literacy Gain for Youths. Regarding Unemployment
Insurance, we have the lowest average tax rate on federal wages in the country; we are number 2 in the country
in the Solvency of our Trust Fund; we are number three in the country in the balancing of our Trust Fund. In
Worker’s Compensation, our average cost is number 27 in the country.

463,000 meals were served to Hurricane Isaac victims and responders. Inquiries were made regarding
employment issues caused by natural disasters, and how it affects state workers.

XI. Other Business
None

XII. Public Comments
None

XII. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned