

Minutes of the Lafayette Workforce Development Board Meeting

April 12, 2016

I. Call to Order

A meeting of the Lafayette Workforce Development Board (LWDB) was called to order at 2:07p.m. by Angela Tauzin, Workforce Development Board Chairperson (WDB). The meeting was held at Lafayette Parish Main Library located at 301 West Congress Street, Lafayette, Louisiana.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Angela Tauzin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Roll was called by Claudette Nickerson, WDB Recording Secretary, with seventeen (17) out of twenty-three (23) members present; a quorum was met.

Members Present

Joseph Cilano	Ryan LaGrange	Raye Nell Spillman
Helen Dartez	Rachel Murray	Spencer Smith
James Debaillion	Chuck Nuzum	Willie Smith
Terry Garrett	Carlos Perez	Angela Tauzin
Chris Hockaday	Barbara Prejean	Melissa Thompson
Krystal Holder		Nicole Zaunbrecher

Members Absent

Deborah Aymond	Terry Castille	Sydney Crawford
Lynn Blanchard	Julie Cherry	Ernest Stephens

Staff Present

Cortney Boutte'-Breux, Interim WDB Exec. Admin.	Chanda Moffett, WDA Youth Coun.
Missy Grimmett, Industry Coordinator	Claudette Nickerson, WDB Rec. Sec.
Tina Johnstone, WDA #41 Local Area Coordin.	

Guest Present

Randy Broussard, Louisiana Rehabilitation Ser.	Robin Olivier, Laf. Parish Sch. Systems
Robin Couvillion, AIE	Andre Perez, SLCC
Connor Chauveaux, MA Interim Coord. Adult Ed.	Virginia Rabalais, Laf. Parish Sch. Systems
Lowell Duhon, CAO Lafayette Consolidated Gov't.	Joshua Taylor, KYTE Hiset Grad.
Brenda Hubbard, Exec. Dir., WDB #40	Sofia Seymore, KYTE Instructor
Shanea' Nelson, PhD., Dir. of Community Development, Laf. Consolidated Gov't.	

IV. Introduction of Guests & Swearing In of New Board Members

Cortney Boutte'-Breaux introduced the guest present. She also introduced the new board members, Mr. James Debaillon and Ernest Stephens. Terry Garrett, Notary Public, bestowed the Oath of Office to Mr. James Debaillon, officially making him a member of the LWDB. Mr. Stephens was not in attendance.

V. Minutes of the WDB January 12, 2016 WDB Minutes

A **motion** to approve the minutes of the Lafayette Workforce Development Board meeting on January 12, 2016, was made by Carlos Perez and seconded by Ryan LaGrange. The motion carried unanimously. There were no oppositions or abstentions, with the following in favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Rachel Murray, Chuck Nuzum, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

VI. Special Guest Speaker: Robin Olivier, Lafayette Parish School System

Cortney Boutte'-Breaux gave a brief bio on Robin Olivier, Director of Career and Technical Education and Schools of Choice for Lafayette Parish School System. Robin Olivier explained that Lafayette Parish School System has developed the Jump Start Career & Technical Program education. The initiative of the program is to educate the students to meet labor needs. Robin mentioned that Career Pathways have been developed for students to obtain Industry Based Credentials upon completion of high school. Robin offered tours of the high schools should any of the members be interested.

VII. Local Level Eligible Training Providers Program Appeal

Cortney explained to the members that training providers submit applications, to be placed on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), to the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council (State Board) for review and approval.

The Workforce Investment Council issued a rejection notice to the Academy of Interactive Entertainment for the Advanced Diploma of Screen and Media-3D Animation and VFX FDR Film (AIE). The rejection was based on local demand for this specific training. Since the Lafayette Workforce Development Board (LWDB) has the authority to review the appeal, they heard from Mr. Robin Couvillion with the Academy of Interactive Entertainment.

Mr. Robin Couvillion furnished the LWDB with facts and statics showing that the Academy of Interactive Entertainment exceeded all of their performance. The Academy of Interactive Entertainment provides their students with Advance Diplomas upon successfully completion of the program.

A **motion** to overturn the rejection notice for the Academy of Interactive Entertainment and list the program as an eligible program on the ETPL was made by Ryan LaGrange and seconded by James Debaillon. There were two oppositions; Wille Smith and Raye Nell

Spillman were both opposed as the Academy of Interactive Entertainment does not offer Associate Degree programs and the classes taken at the Academy of Interactive Entertainment do not transfer to a community college or university. There were no abstentions, with the following in favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Rachel Murray, Chuck Nuzum, Carlos Perez, Barbara Prejean, Spencer Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

VIII. LWC Fiscal Compliance Review- Status of Findings

Cortney Boutte'-Breux reiterated the summary of findings and status of the findings imposed by the Louisiana Workforce Commission's, (LWC) Office of Workforce Development. Cortney explained that two (2) findings were noted: the Cost Allocation Plan and no Fiscal Monitoring. The finding regarding the Cost Allocation Plan has since been closed. On April 4, 2016, the fiscal monitoring report was submitted to the LWC. A letter from LWC is forthcoming following their review of the report.

IX. Louisiana's WIOA Combined State Plan

The WIOA combined State Plan was submitted to the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) on April 1, 2016. Once approved by USDOL, LWDB will meet with partner agencies to discuss what the local plan should entail and who will assist in writing the plan. The deadline for the Local/Regional Plans is forthcoming.

X. Regionalism within Region IV

Angela Tauzin, WDB Chairperson, provided information on recent discussions of regionalism within Region IV. Angela stated that the eight (8) parish presidents within Region IV would be meeting on April 13, 2016 to hear from the Louisiana Workforce Commission as to what re-designation entails and the necessary steps required to move forward. Angela mentioned benefits of being re-designated as one, new local single area which includes reducing redundancy and duplication across the region as well as having one strong board versus two boards that have some of the same members. A draft resolution to re-designate Region IV as one, new local single area was provided to board members. Cortney reviewed the resolution in detail and entertained any questions.

A **motion** to approve the proposed resolution was made by Ryan LaGrange and seconded by Carlos Perez. The motion carried unanimously. There were no oppositions or abstentions, with the following members in favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Rachel Murray, Chuck Nuzum, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

XI. Committee Reports

- **Lafayette Region Occupational Forecasting Committee**

Ryan LaGrange, Manager of Workforce Development with Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA), presented a report from the Lafayette Region Occupational Forecasting Committee on the 2024 Projected Employment by Industry. The minutes of the committee meeting were provided to all board members in their electronic packets. Ryan reviewed the industry projections and the committee's observations regarding the projections.

A **motion** to accept the report of the Lafayette Region Occupational Forecasting Committee meeting was made by Carlos Perez and seconded by Rachel Murray. The motion carried unanimously. There were no oppositions or abstentions, with the following in favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Ryan LaGrange, Chuck Nuzum, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

- **Training Report as of January, 1 2016**

Tina Johnstone provided an update to the members on the training activities of the Lafayette Business and Career Solutions Center. The report included individuals placed in training from January 1, 2016 to date. Tina stated a total of forty-six (46) individuals were enrolled into training activities.

- **Traffic Report – Yearly Comparison**

Tina also informed the members that the Lafayette Business & Career Solutions Center (LB&CSC) traffic increased due to the unemployment rate. A total of 6,778 people reported to the center since January 1, 2016.

- **Job Driven NEG Update**

Tina Johnstone provided an update to the members as it relates to the Job Driven National Emergency Grant. The Lafayette Business and Career Solutions Center (LB&CSC) has fifty-six (56) On-the-Job Training (OJT) contracts utilizing \$183,814.92. Fifty-two (52) participants were placed into classroom training utilizing JD NEG funds in the amount of \$193,217.88.

- **Youth Service Navigator**

Chanda Moffett, WDA Youth Counselor, provided a report on the Youth Services Navigator activities. Chanda stated that between February 1, 2016 and March 31, 2016, a total of six (6) new students enrolled in the Keeping You Trained and Employed (KYTE) Program, ten (10) students obtained their High School Equivalency Diploma (HiSED), seven (7) students were recommended to take their High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), ten (10) students received \$100.00 incentives for obtainment of their HiSED, and six (6) students received \$100.00 incentives for entering employment or post-secondary education.

Chanda introduced Joshua Taylor a KYTE graduate who received his HiSED and is now working for Sterling Automotive.

A **motion** to accept the report of the Youth Services Navigator activities was made by Terry Garrett and seconded by Chuck Nuzum. The motion carried unanimously. There were no oppositions or abstentions, with the following in favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Ryan LaGrange, Rachel Murray, Carlos Perez, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

XII. Request to Extend the KYTE Contract

Tina Johnstone stated that Lafayette Business & Career Solutions Center (LB&CSC) requested that the Lafayette Workforce Development Board extend the current Keeping You Trained and Employed (KYTE) contract between the Lafayette Parish School System and the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government for duration of six (6) months. The extension will allow for continuation of the KYTE program from May 18, 2016 to November 17, 2016. During the 6 month extension period, negotiations for the next contract will take place.

A motion to approve the extension of the KYTE contract was made by Chuck Nuzum seconded by Krystal Holder. The motion carried unanimously with no oppositions or abstentions. The following were favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Ryan LaGrange, Rachel Murray, Carlos Perez, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

XIII. Updates:

❖ Super Regional Initiative-Acadiana Opportunity.Com

Cortney Boutte'-Breux and Ryan LaGrange provided the following information regarding one of the Super Regional Initiative activities. The Industrial Trades Career Fair took place at the Cajundome Convention Center Thursday, March 3, 2016 from 9am to 1 pm. A total of 1800 job seeker were present, with a total of thirty-six (36) employers. A total of seventy-two (72) jobs were offered to attendees.

Cortney mentioned that through a partnership of Louisiana Economic Development Fast Start, Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA), One Acadiana, Workforce Development Boards #40 & #41, and the South Louisiana Community College, the AcadianaOpportunity.com website was funded and created. This website will be used to attract displaced Oil & Gas workers who are interested in obtaining employment in the Lake Charles and Baton Rouge areas. Individuals who meet eligibly criteria may be eligible for grant funds.

XIV. Upcoming Events

❖ **Region IV Poverty Simulation**

Cortney Boutte'-Breux explained what the simulation detailed and encouraged members to attend. The event will take place May 19, 2016 from 2 pm to 4pm at the Picard Center located at 200 East Devalcourt St.

XIV. Reminders

❖ **Personal Financial Disclosure Statements**

Cortney Boutte'-Breux reminded members that the Personal Financial Disclosure Statements are due on or before May 15, 2016. She also extended help to anyone needing her assistance.

❖ **Electronic Survey – Now In Google Survey Format!**

Cortney Boutte'-Breux announced that a survey form regarding the WDB meetings is in Google Survey format now. The link and responses will help her in developing the agenda for the meetings.

XV. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

XVI. Public Comments

None

XVII. Adjournment

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Nicole Zaunbrecher seconded by Rachel Murray at 4:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously with no oppositions or abstentions. The following were favor: Joseph Cilano, Helen Dartez, James Debaillon, Terry Garrett, Chris Hockaday, Krystal Holder, Ryan LaGrange, Carlos Perez, Barbara Prejean, Raye Nell Spillman, Spencer Smith, Willie Smith, Angela Tauzin, Melissa Thompson and Nicole Zaunbrecher.

Angela Tauzin
WDB Chairperson

Claudette Nickerson
WDB Monitor/Recording Secretary