

MINUTES

Workforce Investment Board

Thursday, May 21, 2015 – 7:30 a.m.

Held at: Roy O. Martin Lumber Company, 2189 Memorial Drive, Alexandria LA

ATTENDANCE

Members present	Members absent	Other Attendees / Guest	Staff
Valerie Aymond	Cynthia Baker	Louis Mancuso (LSUA)	Jacqueline Braddock
Connie Baker	David Broussard		Carol Stanford
Susan Broussard	Remona Casey		Elaine Morace
Chad Bynog	Curman Gaines		
Catherine Cassels	Legena Gore		
Sonia Chevallier	Kris Hickman		
Caroline Cosenza	Bill Higgins		
Tim Dousay	Michael Johnson		
Kelli Hall	Richard Kyle		
Matthew Hennings	Robert Leavines		
Linda James	Joan Lee		
Haywood Joiner	Christine McGraw		
Bruce Kelly	Gerry Mitten		
Lloyd Price	Gary Nugent		
Bill Robinson	Carla Peters		
Anna Sweat	Jimmy Sawtelle		

CALL TO ORDER

Linda James called the meeting of the Rapides Parish Workforce Investment Board to order.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr. Louis Mancuso, a veteran international businessman, entrepreneur and marketing educator, was named the Scott O. Brame/CLECO Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship and Professor of Business at Louisiana State University of Alexandria. Previously, he was the Conrad Hilton Endowed Chair for Entrepreneurship at Xavier University of Louisiana and has taught at Tulane University, Loyola University, Florida State University and Southern University at New Orleans. Dr. Mancuso has authored numerous books and articles dealing with entrepreneurship, marketing, and computer simulation. Dr. Mancuso is working toward getting LSUA on the map with ASCSB accreditation (top accreditation in the world). He hopes that can receive the accreditation within five to seven years. Another vision for him is to start a business advisory council to guide LSUA faculty to be on the cutting edge of technology to fill the needs of the state and central Louisiana. The university needs ten or twelve more faculty, a new building, and research. The university is now offering a three day seminar for employers to help with training staff to be supervisors. International accreditation for CEUs will soon be offered. BS degrees can be completed in less than three years in business, criminal justice, and health care. This plan is offered every seven weeks – students will take 2 courses – and phone tutors are available (free) if needed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was requested that the Workforce Investment Board review and approve the minutes from the February 12, 2015 meeting.

On motion by Bill Robinson, seconded by Susan Broussard and unanimous vote the minutes from February 12, 2015 were approved.

2. WIB NEW Appointments and Reappointments

New appointments were authorized by the Rapides Parish Police Jury President, Mr. Richard Billings for **Sonia Chevallier**, the Director of Public Relations for Hayes Manufacturing Company, Inc. will represent private sector membership. **Catherine Cassels**, the Site Director for Sutherland Global will represent private sector membership.

Reappointments were authorized by Rapides Parish Police Jury President, Mr. Richard Billings, for those listed with effective termination dates between May and August 2015:

WIB Members

Tim Dousay
Anna Sweat

New Term Dates

08/05/15 – 08/05/17
05/23/15 – 05/23-17

Youth Council

Lisa Harris

08/05/15 – 08/05/17

On motion by Valerie Aymond, seconded by Haywood Joiner to accept recommendations for new appointments and re-appointments to serve on the Rapides WIB and Youth Council as noted above was approved unanimously.

3. Workforce Investment Board Policy Changes

Changes which occurred this quarter include:

1. Modification to YouthBuild due to monitoring recommendations,
2. Modification to youth eligibility criteria for clarification,
3. New policy for assessments

On motion by Valerie Aymond, seconded by Sonia Chevallier to accept changes to the Workforce Investment Board policies as recommended was approved unanimously.

4. LWIA 61 LaJET Contract Funding for Fiscal Year 2014/2015

Request the Workforce Investment Board Executive Committee ratify approval of the line item budget for the Louisiana Job Employment Training (LaJET) program for fiscal year October 1,

2014 – September 30, 2015 in the amount of \$220,777.00. This program provides Job Readiness Training for food stamp recipients.

On motion by Susan Broussard, seconded by Haywood Joiner to ratify acceptance of the LaJET Program funds for FY 2014/2015 as presented was approved by unanimous vote.

5. WIOA Implementation

The WIOA law will go into effect July 1, 2015. The new law requires changes to the Workforce Development Board (WIB's new name) composition. The WIB Director requests that the WIB authorize a team to develop and recommend needed changes to comply with WIOA.

On motion by Lloyd Price, seconded by Sonia Chevallier to approve a team to recommend WIOA changes to WIB membership, bylaws, etc. to comply with WIOA was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

1. 8th Annual Community-Wide Job Fair 2015

The 8th Annual Community-Wide Youth Job Fair is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at the Alexandria Riverfront Center hosted by the Rapides Business & Career Solutions Center – Youth Empowerment Services (Y.E.S.), several partners, and those who contribute in-kind services. There were 44 employers in attendance and 150 job seekers.

No action required for information only.

2. Summer Youth Program 2015

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) will begin in May. The Youth Empowerment Services (YES) year round program is a structured program that offers employment and job skills. Youth are selected who meet age, residency, and income requirements and are placed with private or public employers for six weeks during the summer. With the available funding for the Summer Youth Program down from prior years, we will collaborate this year again with Sheriff William Hilton and his staff regarding our Summer Youth program. Collaboration and combined funding will result in a six week summer youth program that will provide meaningful work experience where young adults will receive hands-on-training under a skilled supervisor. The participants of this program will learn how to make the most of their transferable skills from various enrichment opportunities such as Workplace Basics, Everyday Life Skills, Community Awareness, and on-site visits to local businesses.

No action required for information only.

3. Mandatory Ethics Training

Commencing January 1, 2012, Pursuant to R.S. 42:1170 each "public servant" is required to receive a minimum of one hour education and training on the Code of Governmental Ethics

during each year of his public employment or term of public service. Workforce Investment Board members, WIB staff and Youth Council members are classified as public servants or public employees.

The Board recommends that Ethics Training for 2015 be completed and a copy of certificate sent to RBCSC staff.

REPORTS/UPDATES

1. Financial Report
2. Rapides Business & Career Solutions Center Report

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM CHAIR

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM FLOOR

Members were given a few minutes to mention things happening within their businesses:

- Roy O Martin will be starting an internship for truck drivers for Perforex.
- LSUA will be beefing up business side to meet needs of employers. They have created an instrument to see if someone has the skills/abilities to be a supervisor.
- Sutherland is recruiting supervisors.
- Gilchrist has an IWTP grant to use to train employees. CLEDA brought in "Site Selectors" (Head Hunters) looking for sites for new businesses. Gilchrist can give 3 years solid Workkeys data if other companies would like stats.
- Hayes Manufacturing has grown from 98 employees to 200 in the past two years.
- Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office has inmate transition into workforce where they receive 100 hours training that is contracted with the state for 600 inmates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned by Linda James.

Workforce Investment Board Chair

Date