

MINUTES

Workforce Development Board

Thursday, November 20, 2025 – 7:30 a.m.

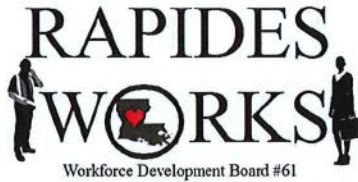
Held at: Central Louisiana Community Technical College (CLTCC),

516 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301

Multi-purpose room on the left side of the breezeway (from Desoto St.)

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CALL TO ORDER

WDB Vice-Chairperson Ms. Baker called the November 20, 2025 Rapides Workforce Development Board meeting to order and requested Dr. Sawtelle to say a blessing over the meeting.

Dr. Sawtelle said a blessing over the WDB meeting.

Ms. Baker thanked Dr. Sawtelle and introduced the guest speakers, opening the floor for them to present.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest speaker, Chris Masingill, President and CEO of Louisiana Central, spoke about the requirement of engagement within the Economic Development field and the growth of Central Louisiana regionally and how Alexandria is the economic anchor within the region.

WDB Vice-Chairperson Ms. Baker thanked the guest speaker and made a roll call and requested for attendees to provide a quick update of business from everyone present. The above members and other attendees were present at the meeting.

WDB Vice-Chairperson Ms. Baker thanked CLTCC for allowing access to the venue to hold the meeting.



WDB Vice-Chairperson Ms. Baker called on Mr. Depril to provide the Financial Report.

Mr. Depril explained the information contained within Report #1.

WDB Vice-Chairperson Ms. Baker called on the WDB President and LWDA 61 Executive Director Ms. Neal to provide the update on the 1st quarter report from the Job Center.

WDB President Ms. Neal explained the 1st Quarter Rapides American Job Center Report.

0AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes from Workforce Development Board meeting of August 21, 2025

It was requested that the minutes from August 21, 2025, of the Workforce Development Board be reviewed and approved.

Exhibit #1: Minutes from WDB meeting August 21, 2025

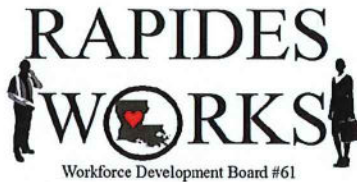
Action: Motion

No Discussion.

On motion by Ms. Randolph, seconded by Mr. Fuselier, with -0- nays, -0- abstained and 18 yes votes, the minutes from August 21, 2025, were approved.



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2. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Election

It was requested that the RWDB Bylaws, Article II- Organization Section, to nominate and elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to hold the positions until May of 2027.

Exhibit #2: No documents were attached.

Action: Motion

Dr. Sawtelle nominated Ms. Humbles for the position of chairperson. Mr. Fuselier nominated Ms. Doré for the position of Vice-Chairperson. Ms. Randolph nominated the current Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Baker, to retain her current role, and Ms. Baker indicated that only if a new Vice-Chairperson wasn't nominated would she accept, but as Ms. Doré was nominated, Ms. Baker declined.

On motion by Dr. Sawtelle, seconded by Ms. Jones, with -0- nays, -1- abstained and 17 yes votes, it was approved for Ms. Humbles to be the next RWDB Chairperson.

On motion by Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Ms. Szczepanski, with -0- nays, -1- abstained and 17 yes votes, it was approved for Ms. Doré to be the next RWDB Vice-Chairperson.

3. Agreement Between Chief Elected Official and Rapides Workforce Development Board

It was requested for the RWDB grant Authorization for the new CEO agreement to be signed by the WDB Chairperson prior to the next annually scheduled meeting in February after the new Chief Elected Official is elected.

Exhibit #3: Draft Agreement between Chief Elected Official and Rapides Workforce Development Board

Action: Motion to authorize Chairperson to sign Agreement between Chief Elected Official and Rapides Workforce Development Board

No Discussion.

On motion by Mr. Fuselier, seconded by Mr. Price, with -0- nays, -0- abstained and 18 yes votes, it was approved for the RWDB to approve the WIOA Budget for PY25/FY26 (7/1/25 – 6/30/26)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. Rapides Parish Workforce Development Board 2026 Meeting Schedule

LWDB 61's annual calendar of scheduled Workforce Development Board meetings for calendar year 2026.

Exhibit #4: 2026 Workforce Development Board Meeting Schedule

Action: No Action Required - For Information Only

5. WDB Member Changes-Appointments, Reappointments, and Resignations

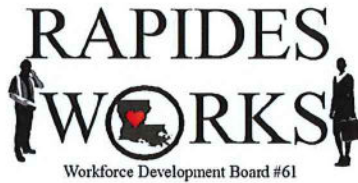
The Rapides Parish Police Jury President approved the Reappointments of Connie Baker, Cynthia Baker, Larry George, Paula Johnson, Keshawna Johnson, Rose Killion, Donald Lacombe, Gary Nugent, Lloyd Price, Deborah Randolph, Jimmy Sawtelle, and Cyndi Szczepanski to the Rapides Workforce Development Board.

Exhibit #5: Letter of Appointment from RPPJ to LWC

Action: No Action Required - For Information Only



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6. One-Stop Operator Monitoring

According to USDOL's Employment and Training Administration TEGL 15-16, "The Local WDB must measure, track, and monitor performance, service deliverables, and achievement of program or performance measures. This monitoring period covered PY25 1st Quarter (07/01/2025 – 09/30/2025).

Exhibit #6: PY25 1st Quarter (07/01/2025 – 09/30/2025) OSO Quarterly Report.

Action: No Action required - For Information Only

7. Workforce Development Board Certification Approval – LWDB61

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires that each Local Workforce Development Board be certified bi-annually. The LWDB 61 has received the Board Certification Approval.

Exhibit #7: WIOA Board Composition & Certification Approval Letter

Action: No Action Required - For Information Only

8. Youth Empowerment Services Program Additional Funding

The Youth Empowerment Services Program has received additional funding of \$100,000 and a program extension through the Rapides Foundation to continue operating until March 31, 2027.

Exhibit #8: The Rapides Foundation Youth Empowerment Services letter

Action: No Action required - For Information Only

9. Annual Performance Results for PY 2024 by Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)

Louisiana Workforce Commission has released the Annual Performance Results for PY24. The results are broken down by LWDA.

Exhibit #9: Annual Performance Results for PY 2024 by LWDA

Action: No Action required - For Information Only

10. 4th Quarter Performance Results (April – June 2025) by Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)

Louisiana Workforce Commission has released the Fourth Quarter Performance Results for PY24. The results are broken down by LWDA.

Exhibit #10: Third Quarter Performance (April – June 2025) by LWDA

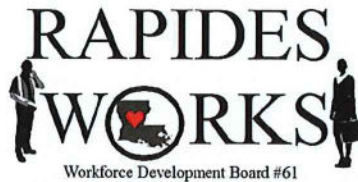
Action: No Action Required - For Information Only

11. 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 of education and training on the Code of Governmental Ethics during each year of his public employment or term of public service. Workforce Development Board members, WDB staff, and all non-members on the Committees are classified as public servants or public employees.



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Commonly used acronyms-

LWC	Louisiana Workforce Commission
OWD	Office of Workforce Development
NEG	National Emergency Grant
ETA	Employment and Training Administration
TEGL	Training and Employment Guidance Letter
LWDAs	Local Workforce Development Areas
IEP	Individual Employment Plan
UI	Unemployment Insurance
O*NET	Occupational Information Network
USDOL	United States Department of Labor
WARN	Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act
LRS	Louisiana Rehabilitation Services
HIRE	Helping Individuals Reach Employment
DCFS	Department of Children & Family Services
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
WDB	Workforce Development Board
FY	Fiscal Year
PY	Program Year
WIOA	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
WIF	Workforce Innovation Funds
IWTP	Incumbent Worker Training Program

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM CHAIR

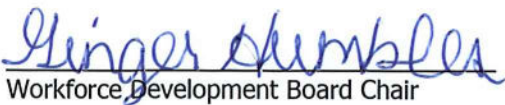
Ms. Baker reminded all board members to complete the surveys and to leave their tent cards on the table.

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM FLOOR

Dr. Sawtelle referenced and described how United Airlines will be returning to the local airport in May of 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Szczepanski, seconded by Mr. Ryan, with -0- nays, -0- abstained and 18 yes votes, the November 20, 2025, Rapides Workforce Development Meeting was adjourned.


Workforce Development Board Chair


Date



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