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**John Bel Edwards**, Governor  
**Ava Cates**, Secretary

**Workforce Investment Council**

## Workforce Investment Council Meeting

June 16, 2021

9:30 AM

This meeting will be available via Zoom and members of the public are encouraged to provide comments to [WIC@lwc.la.gov](mailto:WIC@lwc.la.gov) and/or the Zoom chat function.

**Public access through:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85769477513?pwd=MGJPVExiTHRLdmR2eEF5SRmk0R2tsQT09>

- I. **Call to order** – Vice Chairman David St. Etienne called the meeting to order at 9:35am.

WIC Director Jawanda Givens reads the La. R.S. 42:17.1 certification

**Swearing in of new members**

Ada Womack-Bell – sworn in by Executive Counsel Meridith Trahant

- II. **Roll call** –

**WIC Director Jawanda J Givens      Quorum: yes      Time: 9:44am**

16-Jun-21				
First Name	Last Name	Member	Designee	Designee
Bruce	Busada			
Joseph	Ardoin	x		
Paul	Arrigo	x		
Valerie	Aymond	x		
Melissa	Bayham	x		Ken York
Ada	Bell	x		
Keith W	Brand	x		
Cade	Brumley		x	Jessica Vallelungo
Barbara	Carpenter			
Conrad	Carriere	x		
Jason	Cobb	x		
Ava	Cates		x	Tavares Walker
Michael	Danahay			
Stephen	David	x		
Jason	Dedon	x		
John Bel	Edwards		x	Sec. Ava Cates

Jason	Engles		x	Gary Warren
Thelma	French	x		
Larry	Frieman			
Randy	Hayden	x		
Charles "Chuck"	Henderson, Jr.	x		
John	Hopkins			
Edward R	Jones			
Gina	Jones	x		
Leigh	King			
Norisha	Kirts	x		
Kirk	LaCour	x		
James "Jimmy"	LeBlanc		x	Rhett Covington
Robert J. "Bob"	Lobos	x		
Melissa	Mann			
Gerry	Mims			
Brent	Moreland	x		
Susan	Nelson	x		Julie Cherry
Barrow	Peacock	x		Margaret Corley
Sonia A.	Perez			
Don	Pierson		x	Susie Schowen
Kim	Reed		x	Lisa Williams
Louis	Reine		x	Chip Fleetwood
Ronald	Rosser Jr.			
Tracey	Schiro		x	Missy Sparks
Richard B. "R.B."	Smith	x		
Joshua	Sonnier	x		James Foster
David	St.Etienne	x		
Monty	Sullivan		x	Camille Conaway
Sandra	Thompson Herman			
Buck	Vandersteen	x		
Marketa	Walters			Lorrie Briggs
Thomas A.	Yura			
Z - Vacant	Z - Vacant			
Z - Vacant	Z - Vacant			
Z- Vacant	Z - Vacant			
Z- Vacant	Z - Vacant			
Z-Vacant	Z - Vacant			

**III. Comments from the Vice Chairman David St. Etienne:**

- a. Vice Chairman thanks the members for participation. The state has done a great deal in creating jobs and getting unemployment down. One of the hardest hit areas in the state is Lake Charles, which is to be expected because of the storms in that area. We want to continue to support the area with funding, looking specifically to using CARES and Recovery Act funds. We hope to have face to face meetings again soon.

**IV. Review and approval of previous minutes:**

Motion to approve minutes:

1<sup>st</sup> Joseph Ardoin

2<sup>nd</sup> Josh Sonnier

Abstentions: Yes       None x  
Opposition: Yes       None x  
Approved: Yes x      None

Unanimous vote

**v. Presentation of Occupational Forecast**

- a. Mark Jones: Most volatile area is RLMA 5, the Lake Charles area. Construction and plants bring the most jobs.
- b. Karl Gleichmann++: Gave presentation on Mining and Logging
- c. Julian Hwang presents overview of industry and occupational forecasts. The state will gain about 100,000 jobs by 2022. Accommodation and food services will see the most growth, next highest is manufacturing. Arts and Entertainment are expected to decrease the most.
- d. Member Valerie Aymond asks that Board Members receive a copy of the survey. [See Attached]
- e. Public comments:
  - i. What was the participation outreach?
    - 1. Kellie Taylor-White responds that it was combined regional and local outreach. We got responses from every region with more specific info in local areas.
  - ii. When will the PowerPoints available?

1. Kellie Taylor-White assures that once the minutes are approved the PowerPoints will be posted. [See Attached]

Motion to approve:

1<sup>st</sup> Josh Sonnier

2<sup>nd</sup> Susan Nelson

Abstentions: Yes       None x  
Opposition: Yes       None x  
Approved: Yes x      None

Unanimous vote

## VI. **Presentation and Review from IBCC**

- a. AWS – basic IBCC allows youth to be trained in Amazon Web Services training to learn about cloud computing. We want stackable credentials for our youth.
- b. Renaming credentials
- c. No public comments

Motion to receive and approve the three reports presented by IBCC Chairman David St. Etienne

1<sup>st</sup> Joseph T-Boy Ardoin

2<sup>nd</sup> Thelma French

Abstentions: Yes       None x  
Opposition: Yes       None x  
Approved: Yes x      None

Unanimous vote

## VII. **Presentation from Local Workforce Development Boards:**

**Presenter: Sunae Villavaso**

- Ms. Villavaso is the Director of New Orleans Workforce Office: Disaster Dislocated Worker Grant. She explains how the grant has been implemented.

- Sonya Williams explains that it is a one-time grant to provide services across the state. We have 10 contracts issued in 10 of the 15 local areas.
- Secretary Cates notes that a major part of this is the supportive employment piece. The \$20,000 is amount per participant to provide bridge to employment (off of unemployment).
- Vice Chairman St. Etienne asks have the other 9 areas been as active as Sunae in New Orleans.
  - Sonya Williams states that they have, but some areas are quicker than others. Lake Charles has challenges. Humanitarian assistance is part of our disaster structure and we are a model for that.

**VIII. Report on Sub-Cabinet for Education and Workforce**

**Presenter: Dr. Lisa Williams**

- Dr. Williams presents for Dr. Kim Hunter Reed. Next meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**IX. Presentation on Reboot Effort**

**Presenter: Camille Conaway**

- Ms. Conaway explains that the Reboot is a federal effort to reskill those unemployed due to COVID. The goal is to train 5000 unemployed. Training started in September. There are no minimum education requirements. They targeted credentials that can be earned in 12 weeks or less within 5 target industries: healthcare, transportation and logistics, IT, construction and manufacturing. 3200 were credentialed as of 3/31/21. She predicts they will exceed the 5000 credential goal by the end of June.

**X. Other Business**

- a. none

**XI. Public Comments**

- a. Valerie Aymond thanks the group for the discussion. This is the most challenging situation we have been in but the pandemic became a change accelerant.

**XII. Adjournment at 11:34am**

- a. Motion by Joseph Ardoin
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Nelson

**Minutes submitted by: Kandace Doley**

**Minutes approved by: Quorum of WIC meeting - October 20, 2021**

**La. R.S. 42:17.1 Certification**

On March 11, 2020, in Executive Proclamation 25 JBE 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency for Louisiana due to COVID-19. The state of emergency was extended in subsequent Executive Proclamations with the most recent extension in 94 JBE 2021 on May 26, 2021. The state of emergency is a public health one and an in-person meeting of the Workforce Investment Council (WIC) hosted at the Louisiana Workforce Commission would be detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the public. In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 42:17.1, the presiding officer of the Workforce Investment Council, Meridith J. Trahan, hereby certifies that the agenda of the meeting is limited to 1) matters that, if they are delayed, will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship and 2) matters that are critical to continuation of business of the Louisiana Workforce Commission and are not able to be postponed due to other deadlines that cannot be postponed or delayed.

As such, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 42: 17 .1, the Workforce Investment Council meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 9:30 AM will be held by video conference and in a manner that allows for observation and input by members of the public in accordance with the provisions in La. R.S. 42:17.1 (C).

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Meridith J. Trahan  
Executive Counsel for LWC  
Presiding Officer  
Notary Public, Bar Roll #30097  
My Commission Expires Upon Death.