

UELRR Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting of August 11, 2022

MINUTES

The UELRR Advisory Committee met Thursday, August 11, 2022 at 10:00 AM, in person at the LAMPERS Building at 7722 Office Park Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA, 70809, and via Zoom virtual meeting.

- 1.) Chairman Krennerich declared the meeting duly convened at approximately 10:08 AM.
- 2.) Committee Members present were: Chairman, Kressy Krennerich, Danell Gerchow (LDR designee), Jon Betts, and Gary Dressler. A quorum was established with four of the five members present. The Committee was informed in late June that member Kristin Harrell would no longer be able to serve on the Committee. LABI and the LA Retailer's Association were notified and has been requested to submit names of recommendation to the Governor for approval.
- 3.) With no opposition to the agenda items from committee members, the agenda was adopted with a motion by Mr. Dressler and seconded by Ms. Gerchow.
- 4.) Members were provided with a copy of the meeting minutes from the February 10, 2022 meeting. A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes by Mr. Betts and seconded by Ms. Gerchow. With no requested corrections or opposition from members, and no public comment, the minutes were unanimously adopted without corrections.

The following agenda items were discussed by the committee:

5.) Review of current system operations/statistics

- Collections through the end of July 2022 were \$376.9 million, with over 210K returns filed.
- Total Collections to date are over \$ 28 billion, with over 17.2 million returns filed since the program's inception.

6.) Parish E-File Upgrade

- Nonso Chukwujekwu of Avenu, via Zoom, provided committee members and meeting participants an update on the new Parish E-file user interface that went live the last week of July. The update to the password requirement went live as well. Overall the update has been a success and is running smoothly. Ms. Krennerich has received positive feedback on the new platform and encourages others to send in feedback if any.
- Ms. Krennerich also pointed out the FAQs as well as YouTube videos available. Mr. Chukwujekwu stated more information and graphics will be added in the coming weeks.

7.) Review of issues or comments relating to Parish E-File System

- No issues or comments have been reported.

8.) Update regarding Change Requests for consideration

- Upload Request – submitted at the request of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism to enable documents like exemption certificates to be uploaded in the system for distribution to affected local collectors. Additional information is needed before a quote can be provided to the Committee. Avenu did however provide an estimate of different timelines for the request at different levels of complexity. Chairman Krennerich will obtain feedback at the upcoming LATA meeting to present at the November meeting. Mr. Dressler asked if this would be something beneficial to everyone. Ms. Krennerich answered yes, it would definitely be of value to everyone using the system. It would allow taxpayers to upload supporting documents without the need of collectors asking for it after the return has been filed.
- CK 129479 – LDR is interested in adding a question regarding whether the taxpayer rents or leases motor vehicles to others. If yes, then lines 3(a) and 24 will populate. If no, the lines will be grayed out. Nonso stated that Avenu will need to discuss with LDR further to determine the value of adding the question. After further discussion, it was determined to move forward with the request as written and if any substantial changes are needed or if the price is more than stated, it would be sent back to the committee for consideration. It was motioned by Mr. Dressler to move the change request forward, and seconded by Mr. Betts. With no opposition, the change request was approved.

9.) Other Business

- Chairman Krennerich addressed the system receiving and processing occupational license payments. Avenu has provided information to Ms. Krennerich and she will visit with local collectors to gain a sense of interest and report back to the committee. It will be determined whether this should be undertaken by the advisory committee or on a parish by parish basis.

10.) Public Comment

- David Hall, via the chat feature, recommended that users of the Parish E-file and Sales Tax Online systems be required to verify and update their account information at least once per year. Ms. Krennerich stated this would be beneficial for all users of the system. Ms. Woodward also supported this recommendation via the chat. This will be looked into further.

11.) Next Meeting

- The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2022 and will be held at the LAMPERS Building and via Zoom virtual meeting.

12.) Adjournment

- There being no further agenda items or public comment, Ms. Gerchow made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. Dressler. With no opposition, Chairman Krennerich declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kressy Krennerich, Chairman