



**Full Board Meeting  
 Workforce Development Board Area 81  
 24 Accent Drive, Suite 151, Monroe LA 71202  
 June 13, 2019 @ 12:00 PM**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>
Nicholson, Susan	Barron, Joe
Hopkins, John	Green Sr., Damion
Amelin, Gwendolyn	Green, Ken
Bruno Dr., Nick	Justice, William
Cerda, Kathy	Lewis, Clifton
Dawson, Kema	Marshall, Otis
Dyer, Gerald	Mathis, Edmond
Hartmann, Robert	Schmidt, Steven
Lewis, Beverly	Wheelis, Vickie
Merritt, Melodi	Young, Stephanie
Pierre, Elizabeth	
Pilcher, Frank	
Stephenson, Paul	
<b>Staff</b>	
<b>Bennett, Doretha</b>	
<b>Lewis, Bedie</b>	
<b>Woods, Deela</b>	
<b>Chatmon, Clara</b>	
<b>Large, Cassandra</b>	
<b>Johnstone, Tina</b>	

**CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH A QUORUM**

Ms. Susan Nicholson, Chair, called the meeting to order and established a quorum.

**INVOCATION**

Mr. John Hopkins gave the invocation.

**INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

Ms. Susan Nicholson stated everyone had introduced themselves in the Board Training prior to this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 28, 2019 MINUTES**

Mr. John Hopkins made a motion to approve the March 28, 2019 minutes. Mr. Gerald Dyer seconded. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Policy Changes (action)**

Doretha Bennett stated that on the “Work Experience for Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth Policy”, page 2 under “Work Experience Agreement”, item number 3, states “A hourly wage to be paid (not to be less than state minimum wage); but she stated when reading the law that the payroll can be based on an employer hire wage. Ms. Bennett stated such as if Chase currently hire at \$12.00 per hour, than our work experience can start them at that entry-level pay. She stated trying to get Board Policy and Work Experience pay up to what the law states, and asked approval to change this policy to state, “WIOA enrolled participants will be placed on regular payrolls for paid work experiences through WIOA Title 1 Programs. Work Experience participants will be compensated according to minimum wages standards, and/or prevailing wage of employees with similar training, experience and skills for a similar occupation, as set by the employer”. Dr. Nick Bruno stated that on page 2 of the policy it states, “WIOA mandates that not less than 20% of funds allocated to the local area be used to provide youth with paid and unpaid work experiences”. He asked how the 20% applies to unpaid work experiences. Ms. Bennett stated that the law states unpaid, but it applies to the paid. Ms. Cassandra Large, LWC Office of Workforce Development, stated sometimes a youth may go into a business to job shadow, but some staff person had to go out to procure that worksite. That staff time is part of the cost to procure the work experience site (even if it is unpaid for the participant). Ms. Bennett introduced Ms. Tina Johnstone, LWC Office of Workforce Development; Ms. Bennett stated Tina was a Program Manager in Lafayette.

Ms. Bennett asked for approval to change “Transfer of WIOA Funds between Adult and Dislocated Worker Policy”, she asked to change the percent of transfer from 80 percent to 100 percent of dislocated worker funds to adult program. Ms. Large stated that LWC could only approve up to 90 percent. Ms. Bennett asked to change approval to 90 percent transfer from dislocated worker funds to adult program. Ms. Bennett stated we have more adults for service than dislocated workers.

Ms. Bennett asked to change “Use of Individual Training Accounts (ITA) Policy” on page 2, from \$5000 to \$6000 per semester. To change The “Maximum Training Funds Available” on any individual ITA shall not exceed \$6000 per semester. Ms. Bennett stated we need this amount changed due to the truck drivers’ tuition; their tuition is \$6000. She also requested approval to change on page 3, the Training Slots for College & Universities change from 90 to 60 slots, and change for Driving Schools from 10 to 30 slots. Ms. Nicholson asked how many do we usually pay for to attend College and Universities. Ms. Bennett stated in the last two years we have paid for 35 to 40 participants.

Bodie Lewis asked for approval of the “Reentry Policy”, this policy is to provide reentry services to those incarcerated with the necessary resources to return to the workforce after release. Ms. Lewis discussed some corrections in the policy. There was a brief discussion concerning this policy. Dr. Nick Bruno made a motion to approve all the above changes and policy (Reentry Policy). Beverly Lewis seconded. Motion carried.

**B. WIOA PY19/FY20 Allocations (action)**

Ms. Bennett stated these are PY19/FY20 Allocations for July 1, 2019, for Youth Program last year fund amount was \$608,179 and PY19/FY20, \$481,972 that is a reduction of \$126,207. There were questions as to why reductions. There was a statewide reduction, and the reduction is based on many variables such as poverty level, population and unemployment. Adult Program allocation last year was \$576,715 and PY19/FY20, \$447,381 that is a reduction of \$129,334, Dislocated Worker Program allocation last year was \$489,553 and PY19/FY20, \$524,392 that is an increase of \$34,839. The total allocation for last year was \$1,674,447 and PY19/FY20, \$1,453,745 that is a total reduction of \$220,702. There was a question and brief discussion on this matter. Ms. Bennett asked for approval of these allocations (\$1,453,745). Gwendolyn Amelin made a motion to approve the PY19/FY20 allocations (\$1,453,745). John Hopkins seconded. Motion carried.

**C. WIOA Performance Report**

Bedie Lewis reviewed and discussed the current WIOA Performance Report. LWDB81 exceeded and meet all measures except three (Employment Rate 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter after exit for Dislocated Worker, Credential Attainment for DW, and Median Earnings 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter after exit for Wagner-Peyser).

**Old Business**

Ms. Nicholson gave a brief summary on the ACT Work Ready Communities Certification, which was received in March 2019.

**Other Business**

None

**Director's Report**

Ms. Bennett discussed the April 2019 expenditure reports for the Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker and LaJet Program. She also discussed travel for various training, and she thanked all for attending the meeting.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Nicholson welcomed and thanked Ms. Alberta Green, One Stop Operator for attending the meeting.

**Adjournment**

John Hopkins made a motion to adjourn. Elizabeth Pierre seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Transcribed by \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Jones, Federal Programs Coordinator