



**Full Board Meeting
 Workforce Development Board Area 81
 24 Accent Drive, Suite 151, Monroe LA 71202
 March 28, 2019 @ 12:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT
Nicholson, Susan	Amelin, Gwendolyn
Hopkins, John	Barron, Joe
Bruno Dr., Nick	Green Sr., Damion
Cerda, Kathy	Justice, William
Dawson, Kema	Lewis, Cifton
Dyer, Gerald	Mathis, Edmond
Green, Ken	Moore, Pat/Liaison for OPPJ
Hartmann, Robert	
Lewis, Beverly	
Marshall, Otis	
Merritt, Melodi	
Pierre, Elizabeth	
Pilcher, Frank	
Schmidt, Steven	
Stephenson, Paul	
Wheelis, Vickie	
Young, Stephanie	
Staff	
Bennett, Doretha	
Lewis, Bedie	
Woods, Deela	

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 welcomed Ms. Stephanie Young with CenturyLink (as a new board member), and she asked members and staff to introduce themselves for the record.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 29, 2018 MINUTES

Mr. Paul Stephenson made a motion to approve the November 29, 2018 minutes. Mr. Gerald Dyer seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. WIOA PY17/FY18 Contract Amendment (action)

Ms. Doretha Bennett stated this amendment to agreement is between State of Louisiana, Louisiana Workforce Commission and Ouachita Parish. This is Amendment #2, and these funds for an additional \$108,000 to the Youth Program for Youth Transportation Pre-Apprenticeship Program; these funds must be spent by June 30, 2019. She stated we had committed to 18 youth for this training, and we have six that have completed, four still in truck driving training, and eight more needs to be enrolled. Ms. Bennett stated these are funds that other areas did not spend, and LWC called other areas asking could we spend these additional funds to do Youth Apprenticeship for Truck Driving. She asked for approval of this Amendment #2 for these additional funds. Paul Stephenson made a motion to approve WIOA PY17/FY18 Contract Amendment #2 for additional funds in amount of \$108,000. Elizabeth Pierre seconded. Motion carried.

B. WIOA PY18/FY19 Contract Amendment (action)

Ms. Bennett stated that this is Amendment #1 to increase WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Program allocations in the amount of \$1,231 for PY18/FY19 Budget. She asked for approval of this Amendment to accept the additional funds. Elizabeth Pierre made a motion to approve WIOA PY18/FY19 Amendment #1 for these additional funds in the amount \$1,231 for Adult and Dislocated Worker Program. John Hopkins seconded. Motion carried.

C. LaJet 2018-2019 Contract Funding (action)

Ms. Bennett stated this is funding for the LaJet Program from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, and she stated we received the contract late. Ms. Bennett stated the amount of the budget did not change, and the amount is \$255,520.71. These funds are to provide job readiness activities to individuals who receive SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. Ms. Nicholson asked was there a budget for these funds, and Ms. Bennett stated yes, last page of the handout. Ms. Bennett asked for approval of this contract for LaJet funding amount of \$255,520.71. Dr. Nick Bruno made a motion to approve this LaJet 2018-2019 Contract in amount of \$255,520.71. Kathy Cerda seconded. Motion carried.

D. WIOA81 Memorandum of Understanding (action)

Ms. Bennett stated this is the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Workforce 81 Partners. Adult Education made a few changes. Ms. Bennett briefly discussed Attachment F, Required Partner Services and Attachment K, Career Services. She asked for approval of this MOU. Ms. Nicholson asked for a motion to approve this MOU. Otis Marshall made a motion to approve WIOA81 Memorandum of Understanding. Robert Hartmann seconded. Motion carried.

E. Infrastructure Funding Agreement and Cost Allocation Plan (action)

Ms. Bennett stated this Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA) shall determine how the local board and partners will fund the costs at the Ouachita Business and Career Solutions Center.

Ms. Bennett further explained the Cost Allocation Plan (total cost by allocation base on square footage of Career Center) for Ouachita. Ms. Nicholson asked for a motion to approve this agreement and plan. Otis Marshall made a motion to approve this Infrastructure Funding Agreement and Cost Allocation Plan. Elizabeth Pierre seconded. Motion carried.

F. One-Stop Proposal and Contract (action)

Ms. Nicholson stated this is the proposal and contract for the person (ABG Professional Development Solutions) who will orchestrate the One-Stop Partners for Ouachita Parish. Ms. Nicholson gave a brief summary concerning the Proposal and One-Stop Operator. This contract is for \$65,000. Dr. Bruno asked were the edits done to the contract, and Ms. Bennett stated it was unchanged due to this contract is a cost-reimbursement to Ouachita Parish Police Jury (the Police Jury pays the cost, and LWC reimburse the cost to the Police Jury). Ms. Bennett further gave an explanation concerning the One-Stop Operator and the Workforce Board. There was a discussion concerning this matter, also a question and answer about the “Certification of Fiscal Accountability” part of the Contract. Ms. Nicholson asked for a motion to approve this proposal and contract. Robert Hartmann made a motion to approve this One-Stop Proposal and Contract (ABG Professional Development Solutions) in amount of \$65,000. Paul Stephenson seconded. Motion Carried.

G. Ouachita Workforce Local Plan and Regional Plan (action)

Bedie Lewis stated changes to this Plan (Local and Regional) were email to everyone. She stated this is the final draft of the Plan which needs to be submitted to Louisiana Workforce Commission. Ms. Lewis stated updates have to be done to this Plan every two years, and this Plan is from 2016 to 2020. She discussed the revisions. There were discussions, questions and answers concerning Workforce 83 being the lead for the Health Care Alliance. John Hopkins made a motion to approve WIOA Local Plan and Region 8 Regional Plan. Elizabeth Pierre seconded. Motion carried.

H. WIOA 3rd Quarter Report from LWC

Deela Woods reviewed and discussed the WIOA 3rd Quarter Report from Louisiana Workforce Commission. This report was emailed from LWC to all Board Members.

I. WIOA Performance Report

Deela Woods reviewed and discussed the recent performance report. She stated we exceeded in all Adult and Youth Programs measures, and we fail short for the Dislocated Workers. In the Executive Committee Meeting Dr. Bruno requested a detailed report concerning the measurable skill gains for Dislocated Workers (for report to be given in today’s meeting). Deela Woods discussed a detail report on measurable skill gains for Dislocated Workers. The Board was given 4 handouts on this matter. Ms. Woods stated we have to June 30, 2019 to enter the data in the system to improve this performance. There were several questions and answers on this matter.

Old Business

None

Other Business

1. Bedie Lewis stated the Job Plus Program has officially started. The Job Plus Program grant was received from HUD through Monroe Housing Authority, and the Program began in February 2019. We have staffs that have offices on site at Burg Jones to provide One-Stop services there similar to what we provide here. Job readiness classes have started, and every four-weeks new job readiness classes will begin. There will be community speakers, a HiSet teacher will be hired to have on-site, and childcare will be provided. There have been informational meetings and mandated meetings. We have monthly HUD conference calls. Ms. Lewis stated this grant has been around for 16 years, and Monroe is one of six receiving it. The program name is called STEP (Strategies to Employ People) Job Plus. There was a question and answer concerning this matter.

2. Deela Woods discussed the monitoring reports.

Director's Report

Ms. Bennett stated she contacted Brian Moore and Rochelle Daniels about doing board training, and she asked the Board to pick dates for training. This training can be two days at four hours each day. The cost will be \$5000.00. Ms. Bennett stated she thinks the Board needs this training due to new board members, and she thanked Stephanie Young for coming to the meeting. She briefly further discussed the need for the board training. Paul Stephenson suggested that Ms. Bennett check with the Consultants that will be doing the training for available dates, and then send dates to the Board for selection. Ms. Bennett also discussed HUD monitoring for Ouachita Housing. She discussed that more Staff have been hired for Workforce due to the work demand. Ms. Bennett explained that due to being sick she did not attend the 2019 Louisiana Labor Summit in New Orleans. She gave appreciation and commendations to the Board. Ms. Bennett and Gerald Dyer gave a summary of the last meeting for the pilot for Medicaid Initiative (Act 271).

1. Ms. Bennett reviewed and discussed the accounting (expenditure) reports for the Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker and LaJet Programs.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

John Hopkins made a motion to adjourn. Beverly Lewis seconded. Meeting adjourned

Transcribed by _____
Sharon Jones, Federal Programs Coordinator