
SHREVEPORT LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

401 TEXAS, SHREVEPORT, LA 71101 • P.O. BOX 31109, SHREVEPORT, LA 71130



KATRINA EARLY
CHAIRPERSON

Phone (318) 673-5900

TOM ARCENEUX
MAYOR

The Shreveport Local Workforce Development Board held its scheduled meeting on September 19, 2023, at 11:45 a.m. The meeting was held at the Hilton Shreveport Convention Center, 104 Market Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101.

I. Call to Order

The Local Workforce Development Board #71 quarterly meeting was called to order by Ms. Katrina Early, Board Chairperson.

II. Invocation

Mr. Lenard Adams, LWDB Director, gave the invocation.

III. Roll Call & Introduction of Guest

Ms. Kathy Brown called the roll and noted every member, guest and staff. The attendance was as follows:

Present

Julie Bass
Sandy Cimino
Anita Crafts
Katrina Early
Teresa Hefner
Michael Joiner
Matt LaFisca
Jacques Lasseigne
Lonnie McCray
Curtis Shepard
Keonia Thomas-Walker
Reginald Wells

Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana
Community Bank of Louisiana
Dept of Children and Family Services
State Farm Insurance
Louisiana Rehabilitation Services
Shreveport Pipes Trade
Shreveport Area Electrical JATC
Louisiana Workforce Commission
Southern University at Shreveport
Shreveport Job Corps Center
Calumet Packaging
United Parcel Service (UPS)

Absent

Brent Moreland
Adam Sistrunk
Casey Travis
Angela White

Shreveport Area Electrical JATC
Bancorp South
Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport
North Louisiana Economic Partnership

Quorum: Yes

Guest in Attendance

Corine Ambler

Shreveport Job Corps

Staff in Attendance

Lenard Adams

City of Shreveport

Kathy Brown

City of Shreveport

Penny Butler

City of Shreveport

Bridgette Clark

City of Shreveport

Jacqueline Harrison

City of Shreveport

Bonnie Moore

City of Shreveport

Sheila Petteyway

City of Shreveport

L Nicole Shelby

City of Shreveport

Celena Strickland

City of Shreveport

IV. Communications

Communications were presented by Mr. Lenard Adams, Board Director.

- Adam Sistrunk submitted a letter of resignation from the board effective July 20, 2023.
- Five new board appointments are to be confirmed by the city council on Tuesday, September 26, 2023. Jay Johnson – Vice President GDIT, Marla Mitchell – Shreveport Convention Center. Stefanie Y’Barbo – Cadence Bank, Gloria Washington – The Port of Caddo-Bossier, and Justin Tison – BPCC Adult Education
- Subsequent Designation Process
LWDA 71 will have an appointment on September 20, 2023, to meet with the WIC executive council and Louisiana Workforce Commission to discuss our programmatic, administrative, and fiscal performance with our state partner.
- Workforce website is now live at www.shreveportla.gov/908/Workforce

V. Old Business

Mr. Lenard Adams also presented the Old Business

- MA Now Program with SUSLA and Ochsner nine (9) students that graduated in the ceremony. They also had three (3) job offers at Ochsner that were made and accepted.
- The YouthBuild Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between the Shreveport Housing Authority and the Workforce Development Board (WDB) #71 on the date of December 31, 2021, effective from May1, 2022 to September 1, 2025.

VI. New Business

Ms. Katrina Early gave a brief discussion of the new business that needed a motion to be approved.

- Approval of Past Minutes – June 28, 2023 / July 18, 2023, Emergency Meeting
- Approval of Revised By-Laws of the City of Shreveport Workforce Development Board
- Approval of Memorandum of Understanding/IFA 2023-2026
- Approval of Adult & Dislocated Worker Eligibility Policy

Mr. Jacques Lasseigne made a motion to approve the past minutes from June 28, 2023, July 18, 2023, Emergency Meeting, the Revised By-Laws of the City of Shreveport Workforce Development Board, the Memorandum of Understanding/IFA 2023-2026 and the Adult and Dislocated Worker Eligibility Policy in global. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sandy Cimino. All members were in favor and the motion was carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

Business Service Report presented by Mr. Jacques Lasseigne, Board Member

- Zoom Session with Mr. Quentin Bradley, Ochsner Health, and Dr. Mathew Mitchell, Caddo School Board on Ochsner's Pre-Apprenticeship Nursing Program in Caddo Parish High Schools. Dr. Mitchell expressed his interest in this program for Caddo Parish High School students and inquired how soon they could commence this partnership.
- Placing Employers in the Caddo Parish High School Classrooms: Victor Mainiero, Director of High Schools
- NW LA Healthcare Sector Partnership: Launch Meeting is Thursday, September 21, 2023, at Christus Shreveport-Bossier health on E. Bert Kouns.
- Drive Your Future 2.0: 15 Slots in Northwest Louisiana- 1 failed drug test, 2 failed cdl test, 1 dropped out and 11 completed training and obtained their CDL license and 5 of them are gainfully employed.
- Broadband Initiative – in contact with David Lehman with Connect LA Baton Rouge who on the first round received \$200,000.00, this round they received 1.3 billion. Proposing zoom session with broadband and internet providers, AT&T Attended 18 and NextLink

Public comment period for their proposal to the Feds ends September 25th and the plan will be submitted to the Feds in early October 2023

Business Service Report presented by Ms. L. Nicole Shelby, Staff

- Promote On The Job Training program
- Working with Leon Wheeler in Fair Share to gather OJT leads
- As of July 1st, attended 18 Job Fairs
- Assisted with Rapid Response Event to assist laid off individuals to gain employment to get back in the work environment.

Financial Report was presented by Ms. Sheila Petterway, Staff

- For PY23/FY24 we were awarded funds of \$1,594,610.00. Last year we were awarded \$1,840,425.00, so our funds were reduced by \$245,000.00, but Ms. Moore successfully negotiated input on additional funds for \$649,000.00.
- Youth was budgeted \$1,182,165.00, expended \$324,713.00, obligated \$445,378.00 and has balance of \$412,074.00.
Adult was budgeted \$1,025,580.00 expended \$435,047.00, obligated \$49,628.00 and has a balance of \$540,905.00.

Dislocated Worker was budgeted \$1,115,029, expended \$86,441.00, obligated \$49,661.00 and has a balance of \$878,927.00.

VIII. Reminders

Reminders were presented by Ms. Katrina Early, Chairman

- Personal Financial Disclosures are due May 15, 2023
- Ethics Training id due by December 31, 2023
- Next Meeting date will be held November 14, 2023. Location will be announced.

Ms. Katrina Early asked if there were any questions or concerns that needed to be discussed be for the meeting was adjourned.

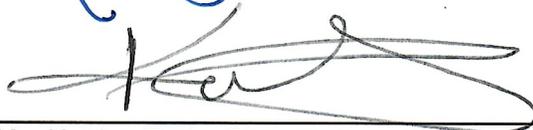
- Ms. Julie Bass mentioned to the board members that there will be a Reentry Simulation scheduled for December 8, 2023, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. She explained that the goal of this simulation is for you to gain an understanding of the significant obstacles faced by those attempting to navigate life upon release and returning home.
- Ms. Keonia Thomas-Walker informed the board that she will be sending out invitations to Calumet Jewella's 100th Anniversary scheduled for September 30, 2023.

IX. Adjournment

- With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 pm.

I, Kathy Brown, Management Assistant for the City of Shreveport, Bureau of Workforce Development, and the Secretary for Shreveport's Local Workforce Development Board LWDB #71, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing are the minutes of the Local Workforce Development Board meeting for September 19, 2023.


Kathy Brown, LWDB #71 Secretary



Ms. Katrina Early, Chairperson