



LWDB 20 - Geaux Jobs Supplemental Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2026

The Local Workforce Development Board met on March 26, 2026, at 11:00 AM at Murphy's Seafood located at 1700 North Morrison Blvd, LA 70401

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sadie Maninno-Bennett. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mrs. Chappell called roll. Upon taking roll call, a quorum was reached.

Chairperson Sadie Maninno-Bennett resumed the meeting.

MEMBERS' PRESENT

Eric Baldwin, Sadie Mannino-Bennett, Annette Beuchler, Jason Dedon, Lisa Dugas, Karen Fontenot, Craig Kaiser, Carissa LeBeouf, Ismary McLemore, Ronnie Rosser, Jason Purdy, Penni Saul, William Sims, Sandy Summers

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jaye Collura, Terri Cook, Daryl Ferrara, Roderick Matthews, Darryl McGaha, Michael Thornhill, Chad Williams, Lisa Williams

GUEST:

WIOA STAFF: Tina Roper, Shalonda Vessel-Chappell

PUBLIC INPUT: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A Supplemental meeting was held on March 26, 2026, at 11:00 PM. The meeting was held by Ms. Tina Roper, Director of Geaux Jobs Workforce Area 20, to discuss financials, Executive Order Number JML 26-011 (Modernizing Louisiana's Workforce for a New Era), Single State Board, and changes to the ITA policy, Supportive Service Policy, Youth Incentive policy, and the Network User Policy.

Financial:

- o Allocations/Expenditures -Ms. Roper provided updates on the WIOA federal budget outlook and reviewed allocations to dislocated worker funds
- o Ms. Roper reported that funds in the amount of \$200,000.00 were moved from DW to Adult for the use of training and supportive services.



Policies:

Individual Training Provider (ITA) Policy- Ms. Roper proposed an addendum to the ITA Policy to address the increase in cost of training programs that exceeds the current \$5,000 limits. The proposed changes would increase limits to \$10,000 for four-week programs and up to \$15,000 for 13 to 18-month programs. Ms. Roper shared that this increase would help minimize the financial hardships of individuals currently in training and ensure that this funding is available to all new program participants.

A motion was made by Mr. Jason Dedon and seconded by Ms. Lisa Dugas to approve an increase of \$10,000 for four-week programs and up to \$15,000 for 13 to 18-month programs.

Supportive Service Policy- Ms. Roper reported that a revision to the Supportive Service Policy, which increases the support limit from \$1500 to \$3,000. This funding will cover essential items, provided these expenses are itemized.

A motion was made by Mr. Ronnie Rosser and seconded by Ms. Lisa Dugas to increase the support limit from \$1500 to \$3,000.

Youth Incentive Policy- Ms. Roper shared that the policy was updated to increase financial incentives from \$100 to \$250 for achievements such as a high school diploma, Industry-Based Certification (IBC), unsubsidized employment, or a post-secondary degree. Ms. Roper hopes these measures will encourage participation in training programs and improve completion rates.

A motion was made by Mr. Jason Dedon and seconded by Mr. Ronnie Rosser to approve an increase in financial incentives for young youth from \$100 to \$250 for achievements.

Network User Policy- Ms. Roper shared that Geaux Jobs will transition from a paper-based network usage agreement to a digital display on computer screens at the AJC centers. Users will be required to accept the policy terms on-screen to access the computers. This will simplify the administrative process by removing the collection of physical forms.

A motion was made by Mr. Eric Baldwin and Ms. Ismary McLemore to transition from a paper-based network usage agreement to a digital display on computer screens at the AJC centers.

Votes were as follows for each of the above-mentioned policies (ITA Policy, Supportive Service Policy, Youth Incentive Policy, and Network User Policy), per individual motion.

Yeah: Eric Baldwin, Sadie Mannino-Bennett, Annette Beuchler, Jason Dedon, Lisa Dugas, Karen Fontenot, Craig Kaiser, Carissa LeBeouf, Ismary McLemore, Ronnie Rosser, Jason Purdy, Penni Saul, William Sims, Sandy Summers

Absent: Jaye Collura, Terri Cook, Daryl Ferrara, Roderick Matthews, Darryl McGaha, Michael Thornhill, Chad Williams, Lisa Williams

Nays: None

Abstained:



Ms. Roper shared with the board that there are 21 waivers from the Department of Labor built into House Bill 951, which would create a Talent Accelerator Division within Workforce. She also expressed concerns regarding House Bill 680, which seeks to codify an executive order into law. A Chief Elected Officials Committee has been created to address these legislative concerns.

BOARD INPUT/DISCUSSION

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Chairperson Sadie thanked everyone and appreciated their attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Roderick Matthews and seconded by Mr. Ronnie Rosser to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sadie Maninno-Bennett".

Sadie Maninno-Bennett

Board Chairperson