Connecticut Low Wage Employer Advisory Board  
July 30, 2018  
CT Department of Labor  
200 Folly Brook Boulevard  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Conference Rooms A&B  
Minutes

**Members Present:**  
Manisha Srivastava, Office of Policy and Management  
Paul Lavoie  
Stanley McMillen  
Merle Berke-Schlessel  
Merrill Gay  
Monica Morneau  
Michael Seid

**Other Participants:**  
Marisa Morello, Department of Labor  
Heidi Lane, Department of Labor  
Mike Bartley, on behalf of Department of Labor appointee  
Wildaliz Bermudez, on behalf of Eva Bermudez (Representative Matt Ritter appointee)  
Deborah Chernoff on behalf Deborah Schwartz

I.  **Call to Order by convener of meeting**  
Stanley McMillen called the meeting to order at 10:12am.

II.  **Introduction and oath of office of new Low Wage Employer Advisory Board members**  
Heidi Lane of the Department of Labor gave the Oath of Office to Manisha Srivastava from the Office of Policy and Management.
III. Discussion of inactive Board members and their status

Mr. McMillen opened discussion about the status of inactive Board members. Deborah Schwartz and Eddie Stephens will be contacted to verify if they still wish to serve on the Board. Susan Coleman resigned and will need to be replaced. Ms. Coleman was one of the Governor’s appointees.

IV. Discussion and open question about future status of the CT Low Wage Employer Advisory Board

Mr. McMillen asked the Board members to discuss if they wish to continue to meet and if so, what would be the focus of study. After some discussion, the Board members came to a consensus that they wish to continue their work. The focus of the Board’s study will be 1) barriers to employment for low wage workers and 2) the impact that wage increases have on public benefits (the “benefit cliffs”). Specifically, the Board will review if income-based public assistance programs end as a recipient’s income increases. In addition, the Board will consider some sort of common data accessibility between DOL and DSS to start matching data to allow analysis of public assistance usage among working adults.

V. Next Steps

Michael Seid nominated Stan McMillen and Manisha Srivastava as Co-chairs. Paul Lavoie seconded the nomination. The full Board approved. Future meeting dates/times were discussed and confirmed.

Meeting Dates have been confirmed for:
Tuesday, August 28th (3-5 PM)
Tuesday, September 25th (3-5 PM)
Tuesday, October 30th (3-5 PM)
Tuesday, November 27th (3-5 PM)

All meetings will be located at the:
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VI. Adjournment

Stanley McMillen adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.