

UELRR Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting of December 11, 2008

MINUTES

The UELRR Advisory Committee met in conjunction with the Annual LATA Conference in Lafayette, LA at the Hilton Lafayette on Thursday, December 11, 2008 at eight thirty a.m. (8:30 a.m.)

Committee Members present were: Chairman, Mark West, Cynthia Bridges, Cynthia Boudreaux, Henri Louapre and Roy Austin.

Chairman West declared the meeting duly convened at 8:50 a.m.

Cynthia Bridges made a motion to adopt the minutes from Advisory Committee meeting of November 13, 2008, the motion was seconded and the committee all agreed. Minutes were adopted.

The following agenda items were discussed by the committee:

1.) Status Update on System from RAMware

- Increased Usage
- Parishes are feeling more comfortable in using the system.
- St. Bernard Parish has not done a download yet due to their offices being moved. Chairman West was concerned about St. Bernard Parish and approximated that \$250,000 had been filed for their parish. He was also concerned that if the parish is not utilizing the system the businesses will lose confidence in it. Chairman West offered to contact Greg Ruppert in Jefferson Parish and ask him to provide assistance to St. Bernard Parish in getting them up and running with the system.
- East Feliciana has gone through.
- 2 New Features to the System
 1. Change Request – Tax Administrators can request changes
 2. Alert Notice – There is now a bulletin board with the latest alerts or changes (i.e., rates, returns) which forces the taxpayer to see changes before proceeding to filing their return.
- Cynthia Bridges and Jesse Pettyjohn met with Jones, Walker to promote the new Parish E-File system and there were a couple of concerns:
 1. Communication of rate changes
 2. Rate changes being made prior to official approval
- Rate changes can only be made/changed quarterly.
- Roy Austin asked about taxpayers wanting to be able to comment on the returns.

2.) Validation of Account Number Update

- Going Live next update on December 20th.

3.) Orleans

- As of today, the legal opinion has not been received by the committee.
- A letter was drafted by Christina Loftus of LDR and read to the committee to send to Orleans as an official request for the legal opinion. The committee members all agreed to the language of the letter. The letter informed Orleans that their interest rate will be adjusted effective February 1, 2009 if the opinion is not provided to the committee before then. Letter will be signed by both Secretary Bridges and Chairman West.
- Letter was mailed on December 15, 2008.

4.) Joint Effort Statement on Website

- Mention the Advisory Committee instead of LDR. Cynthia Bridges would like to remove any reference to LDR since there have been misconceptions about ACH Credits being paid to LDR.
- Cynthia Bridges will re-work the statement and present at the next meeting.

The next Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., and will be at the Louisiana Department of Revenue, 2nd Floor Calcasieu Room.

There being no further agenda items or public comments Chairman West made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the committee seconded the motion. Chairman West then carried that the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mark West, Chairman