



Pachyderms

Of Greater Baton Rouge

22 August 2012

Pension Reform In LA

Minutes By: Secretary Larry Dyer

The meeting was called to order by President Harold LaCour. The Invocation was given by Gayle Landry. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Aaron Brown introduced the main speaker for the night, Brian Landry, Director, Small Business & Governmental Reform Council, Technology Advocacy Council for the

Louisiana Association of Business & Industry.

Mr. Landry spoke about the problems with the state pension system and the reforms that were passed in the recent state legislative session. The state pension system liabilities are currently only 56% funded, leaving an unfunded liability of over \$20 billion. The situation has come to this from years of legislators promising pension increases instead of pay raises in contract negotiations, without much regard to the future costs. The

recent legislative session produced one major step to improve the situation. New state hires will now go under a 401-k style cash balance plan, which will be a fully funded account under the employ-

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Pictured from Left to Right: Harold LaCour, Aaron Brown, Brian Landry, Angela Neff, and Clifford Grout

The Mess We're In

By: Larry Dyer, Secretary BR Pachyderms

Suppose you owned a company that was in deep debt and was losing money? What would your business plan be? Well, obviously you would do everything you could to stop losing money and keep the debt from growing. You would try to reduce the number of unprofitable customers and increase the number of profitable customers. You might try to reduce prices for your best customers in order to increase business, and increase prices for your unprofitable customers. You would cut all unnecessary spending and look for ways to do things more cheaply.

The United States government is in

deep debt and losing money every year just like this hypothetical business. It is spending much more each year than it takes in. A plan to put the government into a better financial situation would be similar to the plan a failing business would follow. In order to improve the long term viability of the country, the government needs to increase revenues from working people and businesses (the profitable customers). It can do this by making it easier and more profitable to run their businesses. This would just have to involve staying out of their way. It also needs to decrease the number of people who are not working, providing no tax revenues, and taking money from the government (the un-

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Welcome Kevin Kane!



We would like to welcome The Pelican Institute's Kevin Kane for taking the time to address our group this evening. Mr. Kane will be discussing how Obama-Care will affect our state and us as individual citizens.

Be sure to join us

September 27th at 6:30 pm

for our next meeting at our usual location. We will be featuring Public Service Commissioner Eric Skmertta who will be speaking about the UN and Agenda 21.

Pachyderm Officers:

President:	Harold LaCour
1st Vice President:	Luke Sheldon
2nd Vice President:	Gregory Neff
3rd Vice President:	Ramsey Horn
Secretary:	Larry Dyer
Treasurer:	Angela Neff
Director at Large:	Gayle Landry
Director at Large:	Joyce LaCour

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Cont'd from "The Mess..."

profitable customers) and turn them into profitable customers (taxpayers).

All this is pretty much common sense. It didn't take Bain Capital to figure out this business plan. So of course you might expect that our government, with the best and brightest minds, is busy at work implementing these common sense strategies right now. However, that is not exactly what it is doing. What it is doing is the exact opposite of all these obvious business plan steps!

The current administration is working to keep and expand the number of unprofitable customers. It has done away with work rules for welfare and not

enforced immigration laws. It has greatly increased spending and has made no effort to reform entitlement spending. Instead it has instituted a new entitlement with Obamacare, which will greatly add to government spending and the debt.

The current administration is also doing everything it can to inhibit revenue from its profitable customers. It has enacted financial and environmental regulations that make it harder for businesses to survive. The best way to turn unprofitable customers to profitable ones is to find them jobs, and the administration's rules have resulted in the closing of many businesses and increased unemployment. It has antagonized its best customers by stating that they are not responsible for



their success.

The Obama administration has done the exact opposite of what any sensible consultant would recommend. It has acted as if there is no debt problem or impending fiscal crisis. It has ignored the realities we see over in Europe. It has placed reelection over sound financial practice. Is it any wonder our country is in such a mess?



WE WANT YOU!

Join the Pachyderms of Greater Baton Rouge today and help us carry out our organization's mission to:

“Promote active citizen involvement and education in government and politics...”

Dues are only \$35 per year! Fill out the form below and mail it in with a check made out to Pachyderms of GBR to:

Angela Neff 2525 W. Orice Roth Rd #901 Gonzales, LA 70737

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Are you interested in being a board member? Yes or No

Cont'd from Reform

ee's personal account. The new hire will receive an annuity based on the amount in the account instead of the typical retirement formula. Other reform measures did not pass. The state pension situation is one that will impact Louisiana's budget for many years to come.

A question and answer period was held after Mr. Landry's talk.

The meeting was adjourned after the question and answer period.

Be Active, Get Involved

Upcoming Republican Events:

Aug 27-30-GOP Convention

Sept 17-Republican Women of Central; Meet the Candidates

Sept 20-Ascension Republican Women; featuring Jason Dore

Sept 27-Pachyderms of GBR; Featuring PSC Eric Skmertta