



**MEETING OF THE
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION**

DATE

AUGUST 8, 2023

1 Tuesday, August 8, 2023

2 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Good morning, everyone.

3 This meeting is called to order. Mr. Trobman, has anyone signed
4 up for public comment?

5 MR. TROBMAN: No, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you very much. Ms.
7 Miller, good morning to you.

8 MS. MILLER: Good morning.

9 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you. This brings us
10 to the end of Agenda Items 3 through 7. We will take a short
11 recess.

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right, we're back.
13 This is Agenda Item 8, Distribution of RESEA Performance Outcome
14 Payments to Local Boards. I thought for a minute I was going to
15 have to do it, Mr. Serna. It wasn't going to be as good if we
16 had to do it.

17 SUZETTE ROBINSON: Good morning,
18 commissioners. I'm Suzette Robinson with the Workforce Division.
19 Good morning, Mr. Serna. Before you for consideration is a
20 discussion paper on the distribution of a portion of the 2.29
21 million RESEA performance outcome payments to the boards based
22 on providing services above DOL's threshold. DOL has set
23 national RESEA program performance indicators as a means of
24 measuring the quality of program implementation. The
25 participation indicator is based on the percentage of claimants

1 scheduled for RESEA that fail to report, and the service
2 indicator is used to calculate the board's performance outcome
3 payment. It's based on the percentage of claimants scheduled
4 that received all the required services. Staff developed an
5 outcome payment distribution methodology based on DOL's service
6 indicator of 60 percent or greater and board's monthly service
7 numbers for the most current RESEA performance period, calendar
8 year 2022, to incentivize the boards. The table in the
9 discussion paper distributes \$15,000 to the boards for each
10 month the threshold was met. In addition, in the last column of
11 the table staff recommends distributing \$10,000 to each board to
12 send one of their RESEA staff and two service providers to the
13 mandatory preconference RESEA training day this fall. The
14 training will provide them with tools to improve participation,
15 compliance, and employment outcomes, and I am happy to answer
16 any questions that you may have.

17 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

18 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: I was going to say
19 is Suzette really happy to answer any questions that we have?

20 SUZETTE ROBINSON: Absolutely.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: I heard genuine joy in her
22 voice.

23 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: But her walkup was a
24 little slow.

25

1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: You know I think she was
2 building the suspense for a powerful discussion paper is what
3 she was doing.

4 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: She's ready though I
5 see.

6 SUZETTE ROBINSON: Absolutely, absolutely.

7 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: All right, I have no
8 questions.

9 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I don't have any
10 questions but I'd just like to say thank you to all the
11 Workforce Boards for all the hard work they put in every day,
12 and congratulations to the boards for earning this award.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right, is there a
14 motion?

15 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Mr. Chairman, I move
16 that we approve the distribution of a portion of the
17 Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment program
18 performance outcome payment in the amount of \$1,870,000 to be
19 allocated to the boards as described in the discussion paper and
20 presented today by staff.

21 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

22 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
23 seconded, and the motion carries. Thank you. This is Agenda Item
24 9, Report on the Transition from Military Service to Employment.

25

1 BOB GEAR: Good morning, Chairman Daniel,
2 Commissioner Demerson, Commissioner Treviño, Mr. Serna. For the
3 record, I'm Bob Gear, director of Texas Veterans Leadership
4 Program. Texas Labor Code Chapter 302.020 requires the Texas
5 Workforce Commission to submit an annual report on the
6 transition from military service to employment to the Texas
7 governor, lieutenant governor, and the legislature by the 1st of
8 September. This report follows the standard layout that we have
9 used for previous reports including TWC's commitment in serving
10 veterans. The report also highlights success of TWC and TWC
11 partner veteran-related programs, and I would like to highlight
12 just three real fast. One is Workforce Solutions Central Texas
13 partnering with Fort Cavazos, and they have served over 980
14 transition service members, military spouses using the
15 \$8,000,000 dislocated worker grant. Number two is Department of
16 Labor awarding Workforce Solutions Borderplex 4.7 million
17 dollars for dislocated worker grant to retrain transition
18 service members exiting from Fort Bliss. And number three is
19 Fort Cavazos and all the workforce partners up in Central Texas
20 for working with Samsung and creating a 12-week pilot internship
21 program focusing on advanced semiconductor manufacturing to
22 train transition service members starting this fall. These are
23 just three examples of many that are highlighted in the report.
24 The final section lists the five most common transition military
25 occupational specialties, industry-based certifications in

1 alignment with a military occupation specialties under civilian
2 occupations. There is no change from last year. Going straight
3 to the list, number one is infantryman rifleman. Number two is
4 automated logistics and logistics across the board for every
5 military branch. Number three is your health care specialists,
6 medics, naval corpsmen, and aerospace medical service. Number
7 four, vehicle mechanics, construction mechanics, and number
8 five, computer network support specialists, computer support
9 programming, and information systems technicians. Staff is
10 seeking the commission's approval for this year's annual report
11 for submission to the Texas governor, lieutenant governor, and
12 the legislature. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may
13 have.

14 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

15 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Mr. Chairman, I
16 have—Bob, I appreciate, continue to appreciate what you and the
17 team are doing to help with the transition of military veterans,
18 and then I want to applaud also the three that you singled out
19 for the work that they're doing, Susan and the group at Central
20 Texas, and the Borderplex as well but all of those that are
21 participating in this space, appreciate all the work that
22 they're doing.

23 BOB GEAR: Thank you, Commissioner Demerson.

24 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: No questions or
25 comments. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right, is there a
2 motion.

3 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Mr. Chairman, I move
4 that we approve the annual 2023 report on the transition from
5 military services to employment for submission to the governor
6 and legislature as recommended today by staff.

7 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

8 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: The motion carries. It's
9 unanimous.

10 BOB GEAR: Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: This is Agenda Item 10,
12 Submission of the 2021-22 Equal Employment Opportunity Report.

13 ERIN HUMPHREYS: Good morning. For the
14 record, I'm Erin Humphreys. I'm currently serving as the interim
15 EEO compliance monitor in the Civil Rights Division. So pursuant
16 to Texas Labor Code Chapter 21, we are presenting this report to
17 you today for your consideration, and hopefully approval to
18 provide the demographic information to the—and analysis to the
19 governor, the legislature, and the Legislative Budget Board. As
20 you know, this report uses data from the comptroller and the
21 United States Census to provide the workforce composition of our
22 state's civilian workforce board, of the state agency workforce,
23 and our state agency's new hires. I'm happy to take any
24 questions you have.

25

1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Are there any comments or
2 questions?

3 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: None. I love Erin's
4 name.

5 ERIN HUMPHREYS: Sorry?

6 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: I love your name,
7 Erin and Aaron.

8 ERIN HUMPHREYS: I know, it's a great name,
9 the best.

10 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: All right, no other
11 questions or comments.

12 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: No questions.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

14 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Mr. Chairman, I move
15 that we approve the hiring practices and equal employment
16 opportunity report for fiscal years 2021 through 2022 for
17 submission to the governor and legislature as recommended today
18 by staff.

19 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

20 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
21 seconded, and the motion carries. Thank you.

22 ERIN HUMPHREYS: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: I was just seeing how far
24 you'd go. Agenda Item 11, Board Nominations. I mean you seemed
25

1 confident but, you know, ready to go. It's a shame we didn't
2 have walkup music for right here.

3 SHUNTA WILLIAMS: I'm glad you didn't do
4 that to me, chairman. Good morning, chairman, commissioners, Mr.
5 Serna. For the record, Shunta Williams with the Workforce
6 Development Division. Today before you for consideration we have
7 Workforce Board nominations for Workforce Solutions Borderplex,
8 Cameron County, Gulf Coast, and Central Texas. Staff recommends
9 approval on the presented nominees, and I'm here to answer any
10 questions that you have.

11 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

12 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: None here.

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

14 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Chairman, I move
16 that we approve the local Workforce Development Board member
17 nominees presented today for the following Workforce Solution
18 areas: Borderplex, Cameron County, Gulf Coast, and Central
19 Texas.

20 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: And the motion carries.

22 SHUNTA WILLIAMS: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you. Agenda Item 12,
24 Unemployment Trust Fund Balance.

25

1 CHRIS NELSON: Good morning, chairman,
2 commissioners, Mr. Serna. For the record, Chris Nelson, chief
3 financial officer. This morning you have an update on the
4 projected balance as of October 1st, this coming October 1st of
5 the unemployment insurance trust fund, and I'll walk you through
6 the schedule. We started last October 1st with a balance of 2.13
7 billion. We're expecting revenue of 2.28 billion through
8 September 30th and expecting a payout of about 2.4 billion
9 leaving a net balance on October 1st of just over two billion
10 dollars. I will say this also has an estimate for the non-LEU
11 COVID chargebacks that are being processed. We still haven't
12 seen the impact and the revenue but it still has an estimate in
13 here so it could be over the next couple months, it could be two
14 months after that but we do have an estimate in here to reduce
15 that.

16 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: So it's like a range?

17 CHRIS NELSON: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Sort of an ish number?

19 CHRIS NELSON: Sort of like an ish.

20 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right, I'm familiar
21 with that strategy.

22 CHRIS NELSON: We do project—even at two
23 billion we project to be above the floor of 1.3 billion, and
24 certainly below the ceiling which would be 2.6 billion projected
25 at October 1st. On the ETI schedule at the very bottom, we

1 started with \$112,000,000. We've projected \$130,000,000,
2 \$129,000,000 in revenue. We do have an increase of the Skills
3 appropriation so in the 88th Legislative Session the Skills
4 appropriation was increased so the negative 28.4 is the transfer
5 to this Skills appropriation from the ETI account since we are
6 above the floor, and that would leave an ending balance of
7 \$213,000,000 in the ETI account as of October 1st. That's all I
8 have and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

9 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

10 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: I love the shape
11 that we're in. Thanks for the report.

12 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Yeah, thank you,
13 Chris. No comments or questions.

14 CHRIS NELSON: Thank you, sir.

15 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: This is Agenda Item 13,
16 Fiscal Year 2024 Allocations and Funding Distributions for Local
17 Workforce Development Areas.

18 CHRIS NELSON: Again, for the record, Chris
19 Nelson, chief financial officer. This morning I'm requesting
20 approval for the remaining FY2024 program allocations in the
21 amount of \$74,481,190 for TANF choices, \$14,381,267 for SNAP
22 E&T, and \$26,394,769 for employment services consistent with TWC
23 rules and Chapter 800 on allocations. Also included in the
24 packet is a distribution of \$254,000 for migrant seasonal
25 farmworker outreach services, and \$1,322,895 in smaller

1 workforce area funding. Consistent with previous allocations,
2 the small board funding is pulled from the amounts available to
3 allocate for each program with the exception of WIOA which uses
4 the prior WIOA rapid response balances we have available. Also
5 of note, there is no estimate for SNAP ABAWD funding, and that's
6 able-bodied adults without dependents. The food and nutrition
7 services did not award TWC or the state of Texas any ABAWD
8 funding in 2023 so we don't have an estimate for 2024, and if we
9 do get funding, we wouldn't know until later this spring so
10 there's no estimate in this packet. That's all I have.

11 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

12 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: None here.

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

14 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: Chairman, I move
16 that we adopt the fiscal year 2024 block grant allocations and
17 distribution as recommended today by staff.

18 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

19 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: The motion carries.

20 CHRIS NELSON: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you. Is there an
22 executive director's report today?

23 MR. SERNA: No, sir.

24 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there any other order
25 of business to come before the commission?

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: None here.

COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion to
adjourn?

COMMISSIONER DEMERSON: So moved.

COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I second the motion.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
seconded to adjourn and we're adjourned. Thank you.