THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020

	THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2020
2	CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Well, let's call this
3	meeting to order. So we're here for this Advisory Board Meeting
4	for the Jobs and Education for Texans Program. Now that the
5	meeting's called to order, Emily, you want to take the roll?
6	EMILY: Absolutely. Chairman Brian Daniel.
7	CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Here.
8	EMILY: Mario Lazoya. Will Connelly.
9	WILL CONNELLY: Here.
10	EMILY: Gerald Booker.
11	GERALD BOOKER: Here.
12	EMILY: Scott Norman.
13	SCOTT NORMAN: Here.
14	EMILY: Steve Leshlo.
15	STEVE LESHLO: Here.
16	EMILY: Chairman, we have a quorum.
17	CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you very much.
18	Does any members of the Advisory Board have any comments that
19	they'd like to make at this time? None. All right, we'll have
20	plenty of time for that throughout the meeting. Mr. Trobman,
21	has anyone signed up for public comment?
22	MR. TROBMAN: No, sir. No public comment.
23	CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right, thank you very
24	much. Let's move them to Agenda Item 3, which is the Approval
25	of Minutes for the September 17, 2019 meeting.

1 EMILY: Yes. Members attached in your 2 Board book, you will see the minutes from the September 17, 2019 3 JET Advisory Board Meeting. Unfortunately, there was a little 4 glitch in the recording of the meeting, so we did not have a 5 court reporter. So you -- we do need to take action to approve 6 the minutes from this meeting in order to move forward. So if 7 you have any questions, please let me know, otherwise we will look for a motion. 8 9 SCOTT NORMAN: Scott Norman. I'll move 10 approval. 11 WILL CONNELLY: Will Connelly. I'll 12 second. 13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and 14 seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Is there any 15 objection to approve the minutes? Show that the minutes were 16 approved unanimously. 17 EMILY: Thank you. 18 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right. That'll take 19 us into Agenda Items 4 and 5. Four is Discussion, Consideration 20 and Possible Action Regarding Grants to public Junior Colleges, 21 Public Technical Institutes, Public State Colleges in the School 22 District. 23 And Agenda Item 5, which can follow or we 24 can take it up before is Discussion, Consideration and Possible

Action on Measures to [unintelligible] Covid-19 pandemic. I

bring them up this way because we're in some pretty interesting times here. You know, we have both a statutory and, frankly, a good obligation here to commit these funds to good use. I will tell you that as a commission, we've been conserving a lot of our dollars and pushing those forward to Covid-19 efforts.

Those can be training, can certainly be what we're considering here today. But we're sort of looking at everything through a new light. Understanding that the applications for these funds were submitted long before anybody knew what Covid-19 was or what the impact it was gonna have [unintelligible] stay.

And so what I would like for the Advisory Board to consider as we go through this, if we like what we're seeing here and we can understand that this will be beneficial to the State's effort as we look out to the future and try to understand how we'll bring economic development back to the state, we're on the back side of this, if we think we see something here that might not be exactly how we've always done things, now would be the time for us to discuss that in this meeting, so we can bring that forward.

On the other hand, if we just want to consider the applications as they were submitted, and understand that those investments will be made in both higher education institutes and the ISDs, we think those are still beneficial, certainly under all the authorities that we have, we can continue to make that investment and let that go forward.

I just want to give folks the option.

We've been, at all of our commission meetings, talking through how we're spending funds and how we think this is going to benefit both job seekers and employers when the economy starts to come back online. Hopefully soon, hopefully this summer and hopefully an opportunity to move forward into the fall.

I would open it for discussion and if there is none, we'll ask Ms. Hoffelter to lay out the proposals that are before us. But certainly, this is an appropriate time to discuss this and then we can also have further discussion after Emily does her thing. Okay. I'm not seeing anybody unmute quickly to discuss. Emily, why don't--why don't we lay out what we have proposal-wise and then we can resume discussion after that.

EMILY: Absolutely, Chairman. I would also like to take a moment. I see that Commissioner Aaron Demmerson has joined us, so I would just to thank Mr. Demmerson for being here today and taking the time to join this meeting.

If folks will turn to page six of their
Board book to a JET application summary. We give you FY '16
through present just because, for historical information but
want to discuss the FY '20 information. It's tentative
[unintelligible] technically still open. But as you can see,
there were 82 applications received for FY '20, 23 IAGs and 59
ISEs. Out of those applications, 80 met minimum qualifications,

meaning 80--only two were disqualified this year. And then out of those 80, 53 of those applications met the 60-point threshold that the Advisory Board has set; 13 colleges and 40 ISDs. So below that, the actual amounts requested.

And so as you can see moving down to the requested amounts 60-point threshold, you can see that \$2.6 million was requested of those applications that met that 60-point threshold and then slightly over \$8 million were applications from ISDs [unintelligible] 60-point thresholds.

Meaning, we would have about—if we were able to, unlimited funding, we could've funded \$10.7 million worth of application, which is, of course, exiting to see the need.

I would like to highlight that last

Advisory Board meeting, the Advisory Board took action to split

the funding 50 percent between ISDs and IHEs. As

[unintelligible] during that meeting in FY '19, we had utilized

and gone down the list of those IHEs completely, meaning that

every IHE that had met that 60-point threshold was funded.

For this year, as I mentioned, those IHEs that met that minimum point threshold, only \$2.6 million worth of applications, which 50 percent is about 33 percent. However, the ISDs, we would be able to fund the rest of the \$8 million with IHE--ISE applications, excuse me and the ISDs have over \$8 million worth of eligible applications. I wanted to bring that to your attention as we move forward with today's discussion.

So if you will flip to page seven, I mentioned there were two disqualifications, One IHE disqualification and one ISD disqualification. For the college, it had been that one institution had submitted more—application, so that additional application was disqualified. And then for the ISDs, as you can see, that they did not include that high demand occupation form that the local workforce board is required to sign in their application [unintelligible] part of their documents to turn in.

beginning of the mass document list, mass applications that you're used to seeing. In part with the ISDs, as you can see, of those, 39 on this--excuse me, 41 on this list, we are able to find 29 applications and that includes, of course, that is more than the 50 percent of the \$4 million that we [unintelligible] the Advisory Board had decided last round but gaining the additional funding from the IHE amount, moving it over to ISDs.

And so of course this list gives you their score, the grant amount, number of [unintelligible] students, the occupation and then again, that license certificate or post-secondary degree that this program and-or course is leading these students to.

And again, I will reemphasize that every application that you see on this list and every occupation has been signed off on by the local workforce board saying, yes,

this is a high-demand occupation in this region. This is needed. I always want to, you know, reemphasize that that is a big part of these is that every occupation listed is a high-demand occupation in the Workforce Board region where this institution is.

So that goes through page 14 and on page 15 starts the IEG, the colleges, their mass application list. So again, same information. Grant amount, unduplicated students, occupation, title and that license certificate, post-secondary degree for the program. And as I mentioned that we are able to go down the list completely with the IHE to find every application that was eligible or met that 60-percent threshold.

So with that, I will open it up for questions, comments, discussion, anything that the Board has.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Questions or comm-SCOTT NORMAN: This is Scott Norman.
CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Scott.

SCOTT NORMAN: Going through the list, I notice, I mean, they're all essential services under the Governor's order and under the CDC or Homeland Security guidance, cites the 2.0 list, I mean, it's categorized and they're all—they're almost all either medical or some kind of mainly welding, construction related with some engine repair and other things in there, as well. So I think they certainly fit into the Covid times that we have.

And then a general -- to your question, Mr. Chairman, earlier, I think, as we hopefully get the economy started back up here sooner rather than later, we're going to have a lot of unemployed individuals and this may be more on the higher ed. space, that are going to be looking for new careers because their occupations either are not essential at this time or they've been laid off or furloughed or what have you. And so I think we may see an increase. I was on a call with TSTC this morning on the exact same topic. We may see an increase in adult -- need for adult education as people look to change careers or look for new occupations in the workforce. Yeah, we're seeing the same thing, large, you know, across all the areas we cover at the Workforce Commission. And that's certain, I think, germane to this discussion in terms of, you know, what future training will we need. Mario, were you--did you have a comment or a question?

MARIO LAZOYA: Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and good afternoon, everybody else. I understand that we have this condition with Covid-19, however, for long term perspective looking at the data and expecting similar data in the years to come, again not considering the Covid-19, I've made the request before about the consideration having the funds split 50-50. And when you look at the--the data, it's clear that typically, the IH--the community college IHEs request less

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

than what's allotted. And typically, the ISDs request much more than what's allotted.

I'm requesting consideration to adjust the 50-50, to reflect the demand in ISDs, to increase it to maybe 60-40 ISDs.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Okay. We took a vote on that at the last meeting. If we want to—if we want to take another vote on this, if you want to present that in the form of a motion and you get a second, we can certainly put that to a vote.

MARIO LAZOYA: Yeah, I was not present last meeting and I do, would like to make a Motion for Consideration of Adjusting the Allotment from 50-50 to reflect the data and supporting the ISD's demand.

STEVE LESHLO: Yeah, I'll second that and I'll also comment at the appropriate time. This is Steve Leshlo.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Right. It's been moved and second and so it's open for discussion.

GERALD BOOKER: I have a question. This is Gerald Booker. Emily, the amount of students served, is it also about a 60-40 split? I mean, in other words, that's just a estimate of what a split would be but is the amount of students

served that great of a difference in the eight million to the two million?

EMILY: You know, we'd have to look--take a deeper dive. You know, we've seen some ISDs have hundreds of students enrolled in these programs and some of the community colleges have, you know, much less. So it kind of depends. You know, we do like to say--or I would like to reinforce that the ISEs must be in partnership with their local community [unintelligible] so the colleges are a part of every--100 percent of these grants.

GERALD BOOKER: Right.

EMILY: So I would like to--but as far as the student distribution, we would have to look a little further into the numbers. But, you know, we can definitely do that.

MARIO LAZOYA: I'd like to add to that comment. You made a good point where the community colleges need to be in partnership. I'll remind you that in alignment with the 65-30 initiative as well as Lieutenant Governor Senate Bill 22 PTECH, we've seen many more PTECH schools opening up within the ISDs, so PTECH programs within the ISDs. And most of these PTECH programs require high-end equipment which is right in alignment with a JET grant. And in my opinion, I think the PTECH program, Pathway for Technology and Early College High school, provides that key partnership with the ISD with the community college, provides that pipeline to the community

college. So the community college accredits that course at the high school, so the high school students are potentially getting a certification or a degree before they leave high school. So we're seeing those programs even grow even further. So my guess is that even this demand that's going to even increase in the years to come. Dallas has, I believe, about 16 PTECH schools. We're seeing it starting to feed down into south Texas here where I'm at. We had, last year, had zero PTECH schools, this year we have six. So when you start looking at those numbers, you're seeing that increase and that demand at the ISDs that's not even reflected yet. And we'll start seeing that coming up in the years to come.

STEVE LESHLO: Mr. Chairman, may I comment?

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Please.

I've had conflicts the last few meetings, so I apologize about that, for not attending. But I serve on the school board for San Antonio Independent School District. We serve about 50,000 kids, 93 percent economically disadvantaged and 97 percent students of color. My lens through which I view the service on this committee is then necessarily—I've been on the school board for seven years, I've been on this committee, I think, four years. And so that—that's the lens through which I look at this and I can remember conversations whenever I was first appointed to the Committee by then Speaker Joe Strauss, it was a

new thing for ISDs. Historically, this has exclusively been a program for community college districts. At that point, it was a new thing for ISDs. Even then, I think we split -- we agreed, as a committee, to split the proceeds 50-50 and we saw kind of-what I like to think in my non statistician mind, is like a-the--the start of a Bell Curve where, in those first few years, there was a lot of uncertainty from the ISDs about the application process. My memory serves, a lot of the ISDs didn't complete -- their applications got kicked out or had to go back for resubmission because they just weren't doing it right. But over the years, as the ISDs have gotten more comfortable with the process, with these partnerships, with the community colleges, we started to see the numbers diverge where they're a whole lot more highly qualified ISD applications. And so I think Mario's proposition, proposal is timely at this point because we have, I think, a full velocity of ISD applications coming in.

Also, I'll share anecdotally, that ISDs are starting this race far behind the starting line. The equality of the facilities and the equipment that that many of—especially urban school districts lower—more economically disadvantaged school districts are using, are far inferior to the facilities and the equipment that community college districts are providing.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

In my mind, so much of what we can do as the committee is to help these school districts who have historically thought of CTE career, technical education courses, as a lower-tier track to place lower performing students by using bad equipment, out-of-date equipment. It really wasn't until HV4--and this is, again, just my experience, until HV4, which was, gosh, in 2013-ish, where I saw in school districts across the state, an epiphany about what career technical education could be and should be. It should be a pathway for every student, not just a pathway for those students who aren't gonna go to college. That epiphany happened decades after the epiphany happened--the same epiphany happened in the community college districts.

And so all this to say I think ISDs are still running from behind. We're still trying to catch up in this—in this game of providing our students with incredibly high quality CTE programming. And so adjusting our allotment accordingly to account for that and to support these school districts further I think would be appropriate this year and maybe for the next few years.

SCOTT NORMAN: Mr. Chairman, Scott Norman, I have a question.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Sure.

SCOTT NORMAN: If we made this adjustment, do we know--and not to put staff in a bind, but do we know--if

we apply--I guess we're talking about applying it now. If we did that, how would that affect the applications in the approved institutions?

it sounds like the action that we're looking to take is to change the allotment, the split to reflect applications received, meaning we could go forward with awarding these grants to reflect that approximately 37 percent for the IHEs and then the rest for the ISEs. Mario, is that correct what you were implying?

MARIO LAZOYA: Thank you for allowing me to clarify. I'm not necessarily making the motion for this particular round. I'm just generally making the motion based on the data of the prior years and what I think is coming. So I think I'm making more of a motion for—since we're not gonna meet probably for another month or two, so I'm making the motion for follow—on applications. But should—what I see right now, it looks like the IHEs are not going to use up their portion of the funding anyway. Right. So maybe a separate motion would be to use those excess funds to apply to ISDs.

But to clarify, my motion was just in general for general purpose.

EMILY: Okay, great.

SCOTT NORMAN: Well, I guess that answers my question. Would this free up some surplus funds to satisfy a need if we applied it now?

EMILY: I think the motion that I was infer--or questioning, if we could--yes, if we made a motion to basically allow the split to reflect applications received, then we would be able to award additional ISD grants utilizing those additional IHE funds, physically moving it from that IHE pot over to the ISD pot.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Yeah, so we got two issues kind of going simultaneously here. I think we've got Mario's motion [unintelligible] which would, for the future, based on his intent, would reset it to 60-40. It would not apply today based on his intent for the motion. What I would suggest is that we both, on this measure, to see where we want to be moving forward. Then it would be perfectly in order to take a motion to consider the current pool of funding to reconsider our previous recommendation for a 50-50 split, fund whatever portion of the IHEs we want and then any surplus funds on the basis of that motion could definitely be awarded to the other pool. We put these parameters on ourselves as an advisory board, therefore by, you know, just a simple motion and a vote of the Advisory Board, we can re-advise ourselves whenever we're ready to do that.

```
1
                         So if there's not an objection, I'd say
2
   that we should probably call the question on Mario's motion, go
   ahead and take the vote on that and then if we want to come back
3
4
   with this additional motion that I've alluded to, I think that
5
   would probably be the best order that we could take these up in.
6
                         So if there's no objection, Emily, call the
7
   roll and let's take a vote on Mario's motion.
8
                         EMILY: Mario Lazoya.
9
                         MARIO LAZOYA: Yes, present. And I made
10
   the motion.
11
                         EMILY:
                                Will Connelly.
12
                         WILL CONNELLY: Yes.
13
                         EMILY: Gerald Booker.
14
                         GERALD BOOKER: Yes.
                         EMILY: Scott Norman.
15
16
                         SCOTT NORMAN: Yes.
17
                         EMILY: And Steve Leshlo.
18
                         STEVE LESHLO: Yes.
19
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: That's a unanimous vote.
20
   We'll reflect this in the minutes and ask staff to include that
21
   particular split as we move forward.
22
                         STEVE LESHLO: And, Mr. Chairman, I would
23
   make the motion that you suggested in your last comment, and I
24
   would make it in whatever way that you think is best
```

articulated. So if you could re-articulate what you suggested, then I will so move.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Okay. Well, what I suggested was that, honestly, based on the totals, there was \$4 million available to IHDs. They only had—using the 60-point threshold, I only see 2-point, roughly, 7 million, which would leave 1.3 million and some change available that could then be applied to applications that met the 60-point threshold on the ISD side. That would be how I would articulate it.

STEVE LESHLO: So moved.

SCOTT NORMAN: Second.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: We got Scott Norman

seconding it.

MALE: Question--I have a question

[unintelligible] does that affect--and I am for, I think, doing
what's been moved. But in the--based on your earlier comments
about needing to be maybe a little more judicious with funds in
light of the crisis we find ourselves in, does staff have any
concerns they want to articulate on making this move or spending
that money right now that we need to be aware of before we vote?

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: I'm going to take that as
a no.

STEVE LESHLO: Yeah, and the other thing that I would say, Scott, and again, this is just from the district's perspective, we know that we're going to--as school

districts, we're going to be hurting if not next school year, whenever the next legislative session starts, in preparation for the next biennium. And so while--what I would say is that every dollar is going to help ameliorate the likely significant impacts that Covid is going to have on the long-term funding for school districts. And so even though it may be one more step to get to--away from the direct impact on Covid, these dollars would unquestionably help remove at least a little bit of the strain by called by the pandemic from school districts. CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Other discussion?

Hearing no further discussion, let's proceed to a vote.

EMILY: So I would just like to remind the Advisory Board, when making a Motion on allowing staff to award grants according to the -- [audio cuts out 00:30:39 through 00:35:33].

STEVE LESHLO: --community has been touched by the pandemic but to watch what it's done to the ISDs. I also have three young kids and so, you know, living it from every perspective and it's--it's something else. Really is.

SCOTT NORMAN: Yeah, I noticed they kicked you out of the house.

STEVE LESHLO: Yes. Yes, they have. Y'all don't want to go in there. I have a six year old and a three year old at home and a wife that works full time. And so we are

25

24

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

constantly balancing who's taking a shift here and who's wrangling or kids.

SCOTT NORMAN: Oh, yes. It's different. It is very different. Unfortunately, my wife was raised by two professors and it's right up her alley. But that said, you know, challenging for her. She would've met, as well. I can only imagine what a great deal of other parents are going through, as they go through this challenge. So it's something. And while we're here, you know, hats off to-- [audio cuts off 00:36:50 through 00:41:25].

EMILY: Go to--

SCOTT NORMAN: I think she just joined us. Okay. It doesn't matter.

EMILY: Okay. So going through the discussion and what's needed for action. The action needed, I think, to make it a little bit more of a simple action is for staff to move forward down--or to award the grants according to the mass lists, move down accordingly and any additional funds from the IHE amount maybe moved over to award additional ISD grants.

SCOTT NORMAN: This is Scott Norman. I'll make a motion to amend the motion that's on the table to reflect that.

STEVE LESHLO: Second, the amendment.

```
1
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
   seconded on the Amendment. Is there any discussion? Hearing no
2
3
   discussion, this vote is on the amendment.
 4
                         EMILY: Okay.
 5
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Call the roll.
 6
                         EMILY: Mario Lazoya.
7
                         MARIO LAZOYA: Yes.
8
                         EMILY: Will Connelly.
9
                         WILL CONNELLY: Yes.
10
                         EMILY: Scott Norman.
11
                         SCOTT NORMAN: Yes.
12
                         EMILY: Steve Leshlo.
13
                         STEVE LESHLO: Yes.
14
                         EMILY: Gerald Booker.
15
                         GERALD BOOKER: Yes.
16
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right. That vote's
17
   unanimous. The vote's now--barring any discussion, the vote
18
   would be on the motion as amended. Is there any discussion?
19
   Hearing no discussion, let's proceed to vote. Call the roll.
20
   EMILY: Gerald Booker.
21
                         EMILY: Mario Lazoya.
                                                Mario?
22
                         MARIO LAZOYA: Yes.
23
                         EMILY: Thank you. Will Connelly.
24
                         WILL CONNELLY: Yes.
25
                         EMILY: Scott Norman.
```

1 SCOTT NORMAN: Yes. 2 EMILY: Steve Leshlo. 3 STEVE LESHLO: Yes. 4 EMILY: Gerald Booker. 5 GERALD BOOKER: Yes. 6 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Okay. Is there any other 7 item of business that needs to come forward? 8 EMILY: Under Item 4, no sir. 9 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Under Item 4. We, for the 10 most part, have taken up Item 5. If there's any further 11 discussion on Item 5, this would be the appropriate time to hear 12 this. Hearing none, we'll move to Item 6. This is Discussion, 13 Consideration and Possible Action on Future Board Meetings. 14 EMILY: So we--the next Advisory Board 15 Meeting that will have planned is to come back together to 16 discuss program parameters for the \$8 million available for FY 17 '21. And we will have--that will--we do not have a date for 18 that but I will reach out at a later date this year. Hopefully, 19 it would be an [unintelligible] meeting but we will reach out to 20 schedule that again and if there's any need for a special 21 Advisory Board meeting, we will reach back out to that, as well. 22 So no update at this time. 23 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: All right. Any further 24 discussion on Agenda Item 6? Mario.

MARIO LAZOYA: Not necessarily on six but just requesting an update since the prior motion was to move dollars from IHE to ISD, will then the Board get an update of what that looks like for ISD? So I think you mentioned 29 awards but I think that's gonna change.

the RFA is closed and grants have been awarded, we, of course, will give you the names and the grant am--you know, all of that information but we will send an additional [unintelligible] so you that you are aware of what that kind of split's like. And again, that's going to include any recaptured funds, you know, so if it's a--be a little bit more than the eight million. Um, but we will make sure that the Advisory Board gets those final numbers.

MARIO LAZOYA: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Questions or comments?

Any further business to come before the Advisory Board?

SCOTT NORMAN: I just wanted to say, Scott Norman, one, welcome, Gerald. Sorry didn't get to meet you in person but hopefully, we do soon. And two, I don't think you were on the line, Mr. Chairman, but we were all talking about what a fantastic job you all were doing in unplanned circumstances.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Well, thank you.

```
1
                         SCOTT NORMAN: I know it's a challenge and
2
   very much so.
3
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: [Unintelligible] but
4
   thank you.
 5
                         STEVE LESHLO: Yeah, and one more shout out
6
   to the staff for accommodating a virtual Zoom meeting when this
7
   is not typical operating procedure. So to Emily and everyone
8
   else at the agency who stepped up and made it run relatively
9
   smoothly, I mean, this is, like someone said, the new normal and
10
   it's appreciated to accommodate us and to accommodate the work
11
   in that way.
12
                                              Yes, thank you.
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL:
13
                         SCOTT NORMAN: Absolutely.
14
                                 Thank you all.
                         EMILY:
15
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: ALL RIGHT.
16
                         MALE: Motion to Adjourn, Mr. Chairman.
17
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It is very much in order,
18
   a motion to adjourn.
19
                         MALE: Second.
20
                                Second.
                         MALE:
21
                         CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It has been moved and
22
   seconded to adjourn. Is there any opposition to adjournment?
23
   Hearing no opposition, this Advisory Board Meeting is adjourned.
24
```