



**MEETING OF THE
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION**

DATE

DECEMBER 5, 2023

1 Tuesday, December 5, 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 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you very much. Good
6 morning, Ms. Miller.

7 MS. MILLER: Good morning, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: How are we today?

9 MS. MILLER: Very well, thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you. And that brings
11 us to the end of Agenda Items 1 through 8. We'll stand in a
12 short recess.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: This is Agenda Item 9,
14 Estimated Unemployment Trust Fund Balance.

15 CHRIS NELSON: Good morning, chairman,
16 commissioners, Mr. Townsend. For the record, Chris Nelson, chief
17 financial officer. This morning for informational purposes only
18 I have the final October 1st trust fund balance, and I'll walk
19 through it quickly with you. We started last October 1st with a
20 balance of 2.13 billion. We received revenue of 2.3 billion on
21 1.07. We paid out almost 2.3 billion in benefits during that
22 same time period leaving an ending balance of 2.2 billion for
23 the year. That is above the trust fund floor of 1.34 billion
24 which alleviates any need for a deficit or obligation tax to
25 bring the trust fund to the floor. It's also below the ceiling

1 so—which is right where we want it to be. On the ETIA account,
2 the Employment and Training Investment Assessment, we started
3 the year with 112 million. We collected 135 million, removed our
4 collection cost out of it and since we were above the floor, we
5 transferred—are going to transfer 28.4 million to cover the
6 Skills appropriation since we were above the floor leaving an
7 estimated about [inaudible] 218 million as of October 1st. That's
8 the final balance as of October 1st. We just got the
9 comptroller's estimates. They've updated their unemployment
10 insurance estimates for this year and next year so looking to
11 bring the first October 1, 2024, balance here probably in
12 January. Again, this is just for informational purposes only so
13 that concludes my comments. I'll be happy to answer any
14 questions.

15 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

16 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here. Thanks,
17 Chris.

18 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

19 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Are we closer to the floor
20 or closer to the ceiling?

21 CHRIS NELSON: We're actually closer to the
22 ceiling than the floor.

23 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you.

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1 CHRIS NELSON: The ceiling would be about
2 2.6 billion so we're 400 million below the ceiling but we're
3 roughly 900 million above the floor.

4 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Got it, thank you. No
5 other questions? Thank you, Chris.

6 CHRIS NELSON: Next item?

7 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Agenda Item 10,
8 Modifications for Program Year 2023/Fiscal 2024 Allocations and
9 Distributions for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers.

10 CHRIS NELSON: Again, for the record, Chris
11 Nelson, chief financial officer. This morning you have before
12 you the Fiscal Year 2024/Program Year 2023 WIOA adult and youth
13 allocation modifications that were previously adopted on May 23,
14 2023, for the contracts that started July 1, 2023. It's been
15 discovered there was an error in the excess unemployment factor
16 used in the adult and youth allocations that inadvertently
17 provided Alamo Workforce area with \$147,003 of additional adult
18 funding, and \$156,127 in additional youth funding. The
19 modification corrects that error and redistributes the funding
20 using the correct data factors by the counties. The net effect
21 of the total allocation is unaffected. This just redistributes
22 the funding the way it should have been done the first time so
23 that concludes my remarks and I'd be happy to answer any
24 questions.

25 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

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COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: No questions.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move we adopt the proposed order modifying the Program Year 2023/Fiscal Year 2024 allocations and distributions for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Adult and Dislocated Worker Program as recommended today by staff.

COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and seconded. The motion carries. This is Agenda Item 11, Redistribution of Program Year 2023-2024 Adult Education and Literacy Funds.

KERRY BALLAST: Good morning, Chairman Daniel, Commissioner Treviño, Commissioner Esparza, and Mr. Townsend. For the record, Kerry Ballast, Workforce Development Division. This morning we have for your consideration a recommendation to redistribute AEL funds. Presently we have about 1.2 million dollars in funds available for redistribution. Table 1 in your notebook materials outlines the proposed AEL providers who meet criteria outlined in TWC Rule 800.80, and the amounts associated with the redistribution of funds to each eligible entity. Staff are also recommending additional targets to accompany the funds as outlined in Table 2 of your notebook

1 materials. This concludes my remarks and I'm happy to answer any
2 questions you have.

3 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

4 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

5 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

6 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

7 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move we
8 approve the plan for redistribution of Program Year 2023-2024
9 Adult Education and Literacy Funds as follows: One, redistribute
10 \$1,153,446 of recaptured funds to AEL grant recipients as shown
11 in Table 1 of the discussion paper, and two, adjust the Program
12 Year 2023-2024 performance targets for AEL grantees receiving
13 redistributed funds as distributed in the discussion paper and
14 recommended today by staff.

15 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

16 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
17 seconded, and the motion carries. This is Agenda Item 12, Adult
18 Education and Literacy Career Pathways Professional Development
19 Center.

20 KERRY BALLAST: Good morning again. For the
21 record, Kerry Ballast, Workforce Development Division. We have
22 for your consideration a recommendation to increase the budget
23 for the Career Pathway Professional Development Center. Staff
24 are recommending a new request for application with a total
25 budget of \$1,000,000 as outlined in your notebook materials.

1 This would be an increase of 250,000 above what was approved by
2 the commission on June 13, 2023. This adjustment is in
3 preparation for the anticipated outcomes of the upcoming request
4 for applications which will likely result in more grant awards
5 to manage. Consequently, the AEL team has recognized the
6 necessity to increase funding for technical assistance which is
7 a required activity outlined in WIOA 223(C) that details use of
8 state leadership funds. This concludes my remarks. I'm happy to
9 answer any questions you have.

10 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

11 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

12 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

14 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move we
15 approve the increase in the Adult Education and Literacy Career
16 Pathways Professional Development Center funding to 1,000,000 as
17 described in the discussion paper and recommended today by
18 staff.

19 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
21 seconded, and the motion carries. This is Agenda Item 13,
22 Recertification of CRPs to participate in the Purchasing from
23 People with Disabilities Program.

24 KELVIN MOORE: Good morning, commissioners,
25 Mr. Townsend. For the record, I'm Kelvin Moore with the VR

1 Division. This morning we would like to consider possible action
2 for CRPs applying for recertification to participate in the
3 Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program. All four CRPs
4 meet the requirements for recertification and are paying minimum
5 wage or higher. Staff recommends the recertification of the
6 following four CRPs that are listed in the discussion paper:
7 Camino Real Community Services, Lytle, Texas; Permian Basin
8 Community Centers, Midland, Texas; Professional Contract
9 Services Incorporated, Austin, Texas; SDR and Associates,
10 Edgewood, Texas. That concludes my comments. Are there any
11 questions?

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

14 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

15 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

16 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move that
17 we approve the recertification of the following Community
18 Rehabilitation Programs for participation in the Purchasing from
19 People with Disabilities Program as recommended today by staff:
20 Camino Real Community Services; Permian Basin Community Centers;
21 Professional Contract Services Incorporated; and SDR and
22 Associates.

23 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I second.

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1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
2 seconded, and the motion carries. This is Agenda Item 14, Board
3 Nominations.

4 COURTNEY ARBOUR: Good morning, Chairman
5 Daniel, Commissioner Treviño, Commissioner Esparza, and Mr.
6 Townsend. Courtney Arbour, Workforce Division. Today we have for
7 you board member nominations for Borderplex, Brazos Valley,
8 Capital Area, North Central Texas, North Texas, Northeast Texas,
9 and South Plains boards. I'm happy to answer any questions.

10 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

11 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move that
14 we approve the local Workforce Development Board member nominees
15 presented today for the following Workforce Solutions:

16 Borderplex, Brazos Valley, Capital Area, North Texas, North
17 Central Texas, excuse me, North Texas, Northeast Texas, and
18 South Plains.

19 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I second.

20 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
21 seconded, and the motion carries. This is Agenda Item 15, Child
22 Care Local Match for Board Contract Years 2023 and 2024.

23 SANDRA WILLIAMS: Good morning,
24 commissioners, Mr. Townsend. For the record, Sandra Williams,
25 Workforce Development Division. Boards submit annual local match

1 pledge amounts for child care local needs. The supporting
2 documents include one Board Contract Year 2024 donation and 30
3 Board Contract Year 2024 match agreements from nine boards.
4 Those boards are Central Texas, Dallas, Gulf Coast, Lower Rio,
5 North Central Texas, North Texas, Panhandle, South Plains, and
6 South Texas. Boards have secured 32.39 percent of the statewide
7 local-child care local match target with three of these nine
8 boards securing at least 100 percent of the target. Staff
9 recommends that the commissioners accept child care pledges for
10 donations, transfers, and certifications for BCY24 in the amount
11 \$8,002,055. I'm happy to answer any questions.

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any comments or questions?

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

14 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

15 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

16 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move we
17 approve the acceptance of child care pledges for donations,
18 transfers, and certifications of expenses for Board Contract
19 Year 2024 in the amount of \$8,002,055 as recommended today by
20 staff.

21 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I second.

22 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
23 seconded, and the motion carries.

24 SANDRA WILLIAMS: Thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there an executive
2 director's report today?

3 MR. TOWNSEND: Just a brief report,
4 chairman, commissioners. For the record, Randy Townsend sitting
5 in for Ed this morning. I just wanted to highlight our highly
6 successful 2023 annual workforce conference just to mention we
7 had almost—a little over 1,400 attend in person, and then 260
8 participated virtually so it was a lot of hard work, an
9 outstanding job by Lowell, Jennifer, and the entire team to make
10 that a great success so I just wanted to mention that this
11 morning to you.

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Well, it was definitely
13 worth mentioning. It was a great conference.

14 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Any other order of
16 business to come before the commission?

17 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Chairman, if I may.

18 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Please.

19 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I also want to
20 commend all the work that was put into that conference. It was a
21 great successful conference and we got a lot of ideas and
22 understanding from—about this agency and with momentum moving
23 forward. Internally in our office, in the employer's office, I
24 also want to introduce, we've got new staff. Veronica Rivera, we
25 have coming in. She's our executive assistant. She'll be

1 reaching out and I guess designated party planner for the office
2 but she comes in from the great county of Bee County, the pride
3 of Bee County coming right here to Austin so we're happy to have
4 her, and we ask that Veronica just push us around as needed and
5 make sure we're on time and on schedule. Thank you,
6 commissioner. That's it.

7 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: If I could ask a
8 clarifying question, you brought in a party planner from Bee
9 County, and you somehow think this agency's ready for that move.

10 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Bee County loves a
11 party.

12 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Yeah, welcome.

13 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I just also wanted to
14 say great job to the staff for that conference. It was my first
15 conference, and you all made it go seamlessly but especially to
16 my team, Julia, Elena, Forrest, Rebecca, Ronnie, Jade, and
17 Sidnee. You all made it just go flawlessly, and I appreciate it
18 so just kudos to the whole TWC staff. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Yeah, let me triple down
20 on this because lots of moving parts, the meeting has just
21 during my tenure here has always run effectively but we kind of
22 handed the reins over this year and so I've got to say we look
23 good once again. I think we definitely made our mark on Houston.
24 I never did—my only significant disappointment was with Lowell.
25 The fish never did get put in the lazy river. I checked several

1 times but he said he caught them all so he just told me. No, it
2 was a great effort and there's a lot of work that goes into
3 that. I think we all appreciate that. I hope most of the 1,400
4 people that came appreciate what goes on behind the scenes. Lots
5 of effort on the part of everybody, and you know, these guys
6 know this too, it's pulling together your super session is
7 something that kind of goes on all year and so to all the
8 offices, my crew particularly but what you guys were doing,
9 Commissioner Esparza and Commissioner Treviño, great panel that
10 you had there. A lot of work goes into that. I for one
11 appreciate a lot of the information that I pick up there, and
12 [inaudible], it really was. All right, anything else? We're
13 getting out of here in record time today.

14 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move to
15 adjourn.

16 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
18 seconded to adjourn and that vote is unanimous. We're adjourned.

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