



Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Administration
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Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2022, 12:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Madam Chair, Kristin Little, called the Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

II. Roll Call

Members present (in person or via Zoom): Toni Alonzo, Mary Aranda, Michael Blevins, Billy Clark, Taylor Davis, Keri Goins, Steve Halloway, Synthia Kirby, Brandon Litteken, Anthony Louis, Debbie Powell, Glenda Ramsey, Mileasha Rizan, Crystal Sanders, Jim Sjolander, Dirk Welch, Linda Whitaker, and Julie Young.

Madam Chair, Kristin Little noted a quorum of members present.

Members not present: Marsha Anderson, Lauren Bush, Tracey Jennings, Michelle Nelson, Lee Ritchie Jr., Rhonda Schreiber.

Guests present: Donna Adams, Kendra Ball, Ebonie Batts, Kevin Benton (Judge), Leneva Clark, David Dohme, Moneisa Downs, Karen Fite, Christine Gerber, Josie Gonzalez, Woodrow Gossom Jr., (Judge), Ginger Hannah, Scotty Henderson, Sharon Hulcy, Cynthia Humphrey, Maria Jaimes-Contreras, Lisa McDaniel, Crystal Ojeda, Brenda Roland, Darla Silva, Sandi Stahr, and Dennis Wilde.

III. Declaration of Conflict of Interest (COI)- There was none declared

IV. Approval of Minutes

- Billy Clark made the motion and Taylor Davis seconded to accept the minutes from the Board Meeting held on August 2022 (18 in favor).

V. Committee Reports

- ***Monitoring Committee Update:***
 - No updates from TWC from the previous monitoring review held earlier this year in April. Sharon noted that we did have our Fiscal Integrity Review from Diaz Smith and Associates. During the review of all sections, Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (EWS) and Rolling Plains Management Corp (RPMC) were materially in compliance with the requirements of the TWC provisions. TWC will review when they visit in May before issuing new contracts to either sub-recipient.

- Richard Rogers is our program monitor; he will start the risk assessment monitoring for the Childcare Program. This review will be completed before TWC visits in May of 2023.
 - The Choices Outreach Program was behind on performance, we have made changes, we were low as 15% and now the month of September we are 80%. Overall year outcome at 50.18%.
 - Procurement List: This list shows year-to-date spending for each vendor we utilize.
 - Grant Spending Report: The report shows a list of grants with amounts and expiration dates.
- ***Youth Advisory Committee Update:***
 - Brenda Roland reports the Youth Advisory group met that morning, chaired by Mr. Billy Clark. They discussed two events they had; Job's Yall Career Expo on September 8th this even helped 8th graders to explore possible career paths and hear from, those working in those industries There were 978 students in attendance from 17 different schools, and we had 13 Career Sessions and over 50 volunteers.
 - Brenda reported that on October 12th they had their 15th Annual Transition Fair. This event is held for Juniors and Seniors with disabilities or those with 504 plans. This event helps students and their families to connect them to resources that help them build successful lives after high school. There were 116 students that attended from 18 schools and/or districts. There were 30 educators (staff), 15 vendors, and 12 presenters that offered 19 sessions to the students.
 - Brenda reports a few upcoming events with North Texas Works, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Region 9 Education Center. Brenda also noted that Early Intervention Support groups will start at the middle schools in January.
- **Executive Director Report** – Lisa McDaniel updated the Board on the following:
 - ***Update on Priddy Foundation Grant*** – Lisa McDaniel explained that the application that was sent to the Priddy Foundation on August 31st was not accepted as they felt we had too much government funding. The Priddy Foundation did not deny the application, they gave us the opportunity to formally withdraw the application. The apprenticeship program is still in process, we will continue to look for more funding in different avenues.
 - ***Update on Co-location*** – Lisa McDaniel reported the co-location will more than likely be ready to be publicly introduced at the first of the year. It is still under construction. They are still waiting on the furniture from the resource room. The signage for the outside of the building is going to be completed this week. Lisa noted all major items have been completed. Debbie Powell agreed that the reconstruction looks good. Lisa added that the ribbon cutting will be after the beginning of the year.
 - ***Update on Big Blue Lawsuit*** – Lisa McDaniel stated that Big Blue's attorney filed the petition with the Supreme Court on August 30th. September 28th our attorney filed a letter waving to respond, due to this we are waiting to hear from the Supreme Court on how they would like to proceed regarding the petition that was filed. Taylor Davis asked the specifics about how the Supreme Court would handle the case, whether they would retry the case or check to see if the case was handled correctly. Lisa replied they could overturn it, but this would be highly unlikely from her knowledge.

- **Sheppard Air Force Base** – Lisa explains in May they applied to adopt a squadron from Sheppard Air Force Base (SAFB). In 2017 we established a military family support program where we served active-duty spouses of those individuals. We really learned there needed to be more of a connection with the SAFB community. We have set up our Military Liaison which works closely with SAFB. Lisa states that we were chosen to adopt a squadron and are invited to attend a luncheon tomorrow.

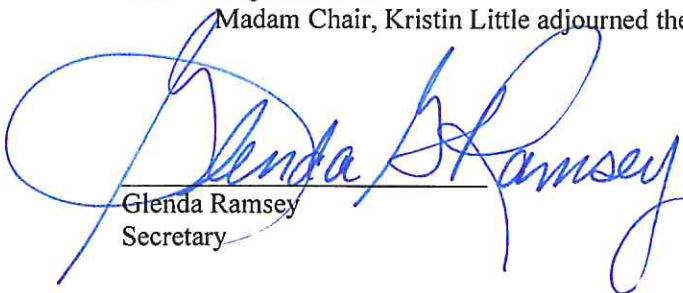
Workforce Solutions Workforce Center – Crystal Ojeda reports her team has been busy, they served over 1387 customers in September 52 entered employment. North Texas State Hospital had a job fair on August 10th with 6 job seekers; Tower Extrusions had a job fair on August 19th with 8 job seekers, 1 veteran; Texas Department of Criminal Justice had a job fair on August 23rd with 8 job seekers, 1 veteran; Foard and Cottle County Job Fair was held on August 24th with 3 employers, 7 job seekers; Midwestern State University Part Time Job Fair was on August 24th MSU Campus with 80 job seekers; University Park Nursing & Rehabilitation had a job fair on, September 20th with 6 job seekers; Texas Department of Criminal Justice had a job fair on September 22nd in Graham with 15 job seekers, 1 veteran; Texas Department of Criminal Justice had a job fair on September 27th at Workforce Solutions in Wichita Falls with 15 job seekers, 1 veteran; North Texas State Hospital had a job fair on October 6th with 37 job seekers, 3 veterans; Jack County Job Fair was held on October 11th, Concerned Citizens of Jack County in Jacksboro with 12 job seekers. The Hiring Red, White, & You Job Fair will be held on November 10th at the YMCA. Crystal Ojeda spoke about the support of Isabella at the Wichita Falls Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome Awareness; she is the daughter of our accountant. Crystal expressed employee appreciation throughout all departments with cookies and a goodie bag. Crystal shared this month's success story of Henrietta Uyigue. She was seeking to obtain her RN license. Henrietta graduated in June 2022 and is now working at Texoma Christian Care Center making \$36/hr. Mrs. Ojeda shared that the positive feedback for June and July was 97.32%.

Workforce Solutions Child Care – Donna Adams explained her team has been working hard to get children on the waiting list placement. All existing children have been outreached. The estimated waiting time for childcare placement was 2-3 months, it is now 2 weeks. The success story was from Shameka Brown, she wanted to say thank you to all and to keep up the good work. Mrs. Brown is the only TRS Provider from North Texas.

VI. Announcements – Next board meeting is on December 15, 2022.

VII. Adjournment

Madam Chair, Kristin Little adjourned the meeting at 12:48 PM.


Glenda Ramsey
Secretary