



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

1501 Midwestern Pkwy, Suite 101  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302  
Phone: 940.767.1432  
Fax: 940.322.2683  
[www.ntxworksolutions.org](http://www.ntxworksolutions.org)

## **Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Meeting Minutes February 27, 2025**

The Workforce Solutions North Texas Board met at noon on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Workforce Solutions North Texas, 4309 Jacksboro Hwy., Entrance 5, in Wichita Falls, in the Lonestar conference room.

### MEMBERS PRESENT (via in person or zoom):

Toni Alonzo, Communities in Schools Greater Wichita Falls Area  
Marsha Anderson, Rollings Plains Management Corporation  
Michael Blevins, Tower Extrusions  
Lauren Bush, Seymour Economic Development Director  
Dori Dockery, United Regional Health Care System  
Billy Clark, Helping Electra's Local People  
Vick Holland, Holland Land & Cattle  
Kristin Little, American National Bank & Trust  
Anthony Louis, Pratt & Whitney  
Chelsea Lewis, Lewis Learning Center  
Debbie Powell, Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation  
Crystal Sanders, Texas Workforce Commission  
Rhonda Schreiber, Humana  
Jim Sjolander, Berend Brothers  
Scotty Sproles, NOV Fiber Glass Systems  
Dirk Welch, Midwestern State University  
Linda Whitaker, Archer Supply  
Julie Young, Wichita Adult Literacy Michelle Wood, WFISD CTE  
Cheryl Groves, Groves Mechanical  
Terry McAdams, MacTech Solutions

### MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Steve Halloway, Wichita Falls Trades and Labor Council  
Mileasha Rizan, Work Services Corporation  
Glenda Ramsey, Harper Perkins Architects  
Maria G. Jaimes, Wichita Falls Chamber  
Kenny Miller, Region 9 ESC

### GUESTS PRESENT:

Tiffany Jones, WS Childcare  
Sherry Dunn, Texas Veterans Commission David Dohme, Texas Veterans Commission  
Ginger Hannah, Equus, Wichita Falls Center  
Cynthia Humphrey, Equus, Wichita Falls Center



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

1501 Midwestern Pkwy, Suite 101  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302  
Phone: 940.767.1432  
Fax: 940.322.2683  
[www.ntxworksolutions.org](http://www.ntxworksolutions.org)

Crystal Ojeda, Equus, Wichita Falls Center  
Darla Silva, Equus, Wichita Falls Center  
Sandi Stahr, Equus, Wichita Falls Center  
Tom Ostovich, Texas Workforce Commission  
Dennis Wilde, Nortex Regional Planning Commission  
Shana Ferguson, Nortex Regional Planning Commission  
Xochitl Pruitt, Region 9 ESC  
Scotty Henderson, Texas Veterans Leadership Program

BOARD STAFF MEMBERS' PRESENT:

Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director  
Sharon Hulcy, Contract Manager/EO Officer  
Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager  
Karen Fite, Information Technology Manager  
Robin Read, Information Technology Asst. Manager  
Dakota Mize, Community Engagement Specialist  
Kayla Crowley, Childcare Contract Manager  
Josie Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant (Temp)

Mrs. Rhonda Schreiber, Madam Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

Self-introductions were made by all members and guests both in-person and virtually.

Mrs. Schreiber asked for public comment, which there was none.

Mrs. Schreiber asked for any declaration of conflict of interest and there was none noted.

Mrs. Schreiber asked for approval of the consent agenda and the minutes from the November 2024 Board meeting. Billy Clark made a motion to approve, and Michelle Wood seconded (motion passed).

Mrs. Schreiber then went to the next agenda item for discussion and approval of the Board Plan 2025-2028.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, indicated that the Board Plan 2025-2028 comes up every four to five years. It's the economic and workforce analysis for the future of the workforce to see what our plans are going to be moving forward for the workforce and education. The public commentary was posted for fifteen days to the public and Board members as well and closed on February 21, 2025. There were no public comments received. All the planning that we intend to do with grants and funding over the course of the next four years, there will be an opportunity if things change to do an addendum to this in the two years. We do have to align with the Texas Workforce Investment Council, that is the State Board that is mandated to assist the Governor and legislature with strategic planning and the evaluation with the Texas Workforce system. This plan is due on March 15, 2025, to the Texas Workforce Commission and they will submit it to the State to be approved by the Governor by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Mrs. McDaniel asked for comments, there were none and Rhonda Schreiber asked



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

1501 Midwestern Pkwy, Suite 101  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302  
Phone: 940.767.1432  
Fax: 940.322.2683  
[www.ntxworksolutions.org](http://www.ntxworksolutions.org)

for approval for the Board Plan 2025-2028, Billy Clark made a motion and Lauren Bush seconded. (motion passed).

Mrs. Sharon Hulcy, Contract Manager / EO Officer, discussed the monitoring report that was issued back in May 2024 over the Bowie Workforce Lease which is now closed due to corrective actions taken adequately. The current landlord agreed to a 60-month lease effective September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2029. The Board provided a copy of the signed and dated lease agreement with no renewal options, along with all related procurement documentation including but not limited to needs determination, broker's search, procurement timeline and checklist. No questions asked.

Mrs. Hulcy also made it aware that TWC Monitoring will be in the first week of May, 2025 and are currently under review for Diaz, Smith & Associates, our external monitoring that comes in and monitors Equus and Rolling Plains. Mrs. Hulcy also shared that we are also in the middle of an EO monitoring and a SNAP review. No questions asked. Mrs. Hulcy then went on to discuss the Grant Spending Report, and one question was asked if there were any grants that rolled over. Mrs. Hulcy explained that TWC pulls the unused funds back to reallocate.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, shared she was notified in January that there was a change in leadership with Childcare Partners. Keri Goins is no longer with Childcare Partners. We are currently looking for a new board member to fill that role to represent Childcare.

Mrs. McDaniel discussed this is the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature we are currently in. It runs from January 14<sup>th</sup> – June 2nd. There is a lot of focus right now on the Workforce Education Funding. Each board across the state was asked to advocate and share to the public what it is we do “behind the scenes” so people can understand why it's so important. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program (WIOA) is up for reauthorization this year. There has been a lot of discussion about funding cuts. We are meeting with local representatives to help spread the word about why it's so important not to cut our funding. In 2024, we served 9,400 participants in our career development program. We served 1,135 veterans, and so many more. Mrs. McDaniel shared that she will be traveling to Washington, D.C in March to meet with the National Association of Workforce Boards to be able to share what we do here in our area. The National Association had previously sent out an email stating that there was going to be a hearing for the house committee to meet to discuss not cutting funding. No questions asked. Mrs. McDaniel also announced that everyone should be receiving the 2024 Annual Report very soon.

Mrs. McDaniel mentioned that we applied for four grants in the fall. The Board was recently awarded the Military Civilian Employment Project Grant for \$210,514.00 that will focus on assisting the transitioning service members, recently separated veterans and military spouses on Sheppard AirForce Base and within our North Texas WDA. She also shared that we received the Externship for Teachers grant again this year. Our goal this year is to have 35 teachers placed during the summer of this year. This program and supporting partnerships will ensure teachers are equipped with relevant knowledge of high-demand, high-growth industries as they influence the future workforce of Texas. We applied for the TEA Convener Grant, which is a two-year grant for around \$300,000. Another one we applied for is an internship grant to work with high school students. We have not been informed of these two grants at this time.

*Texas Workforce Commission, in partnership with 28 local workforce development boards, forms Texas Workforce Solutions. Workforce Solutions North Texas is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Relay Texas: (800)735-2989 (TDD) or (800)735-2988(Voice) or 711*



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

1501 Midwestern Pkwy, Suite 101  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302  
Phone: 940.767.1432  
Fax: 940.322.2683  
[www.ntxworksolutions.org](http://www.ntxworksolutions.org)

Mrs. McDaniel discussed the board office lease located on Midwestern Parkway in Wichita Falls, TX, which is coming up on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Mrs. McDaniel shared that she has already started working with a broker and has identified some other commercial sites, however they are very expensive compared to what we pay now. The new landlord they have on Midwestern Parkway would like to retain the board staff in that space and the broker is currently working with the Landlord to develop a new Lease Agreement.

Mrs. McDaniel announced the 2025 Seal Program is around the corner. This program is a statewide initiative where students with disabilities are offered work readiness training and work experience during the summer for six weeks. If you are interested in hosting a student for up to 5 weeks during the summer, please contact Mrs. McDaniel. She also announced that we are having our Transition Fair 2025 at the MPEC that will be hosting around 250 students.

Ms. Kayla Crowley, Childcare Contract Manager, announced the local TXAEYC, Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, is up and running. Ms. Crowley serves as the membership leader alongside Beth Barnard, Christi Kelton, Jane Ann Bruener, Nikki Davis, Kelly Medellin and April Crutcher. There is currently a lot of planning and exciting things coming soon. There is going to be an event called, "The Week of the Young Child" in April. There will also be a website, delegations, weekly check-in meetings locally and a lot of opportunities for growth within our early education community.

The new TX3C system was launched on January 13<sup>th</sup>, with like any other new systems there are a few bugs to be fixed but will be taken care of. We are working as much as we can on our end to alleviate any issues that have come up for these providers, but TWC assures us that they are taking the proper precautions as they continue to work out the bugs. More to come soon.

The Childcare Advisory Council met on February 18th and decided that all future meetings will be held on Tuesdays to ensure at home daycare owners are able to attend. This past meeting was to update everyone about the new system implementation and for our providers to address and voice any concerns that they had in working with the new system.

Ms. Crowley also shared that as of last week we were informed Childcare Partners Vernon was closing. This was a decision made by the Child Care Partners Board. Since, there has been news coverage over closing. There are some internal issues that we don't have much information on, and we were concerned on placements for these children since there is little to no child care options in the Vernon area. In the meantime, our client services staff as well as provider services have been working diligently to alleviate some of the stress of the center closing. St. Paul's in Vernon is opening two additional rooms to accommodate the children that now have nowhere to go from Childcare Partners Vernon. One of our TRS mentors has reached out and met with the director to do a needs assessment for the two classrooms since Childcare Partners Vernon was contracted with us. Our client services staff have been ending care for the children we have in this center to ensure their care ends before tomorrow, and they are able to find placements elsewhere.

Ms. Crowley then went over Workforce Childcare Services. As of February 24, 2025, there are 50 children waiting for childcare services and the estimated waiting time for childcare services is currently 2- 3 months.



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

1501 Midwestern Pkwy, Suite 101  
Wichita Falls, Texas 76302  
Phone: 940.767.1432  
Fax: 940.322.2683  
[www.ntxworksolutions.org](http://www.ntxworksolutions.org)

Providers Services held a Directors Luncheon on February 26, 2025, and covered Program Administration, Family Involvement, and Family Education. The Early Childhood Intervention Trainings are on hold until we hire an ECI Specialist. The Infant/Toddler Trainings was held on January 20, 2025, where we had 7 in person attendees and 11 online attendees. The next Infant/Toddler training is scheduled for March 27, 2025.

Ms. Crystal Ojeda, Equus, Wichita Falls Center shared in January 2025 Work In Texas had 72 placements and 32 went to work. She also shared their event results where 215 job seekers at the Sealed Air-Cryovac Hiring Event that was held on January 23, 2025, and 31 were hired. At the Red, White & You event held on November 14, 2024, there were 56 employees, 85 job seekers and 56 hired. This month's success story is about Timothy, who was laid off from his employer in April 2022. Timothy was desired to get training in the psychology field and his career goal was to find employment as a clinical and counseling psychologist. Timothy and his case manager, Cindy, collaborated with the training institution to ensure his enrollment was secured in a timely manner. He completed his training and utilized the Workforce Center's computer lab to perform job searches until employment was found. He received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis from Purdue Global on October 2, 2024, and was employed with the Wichita Falls Independent School District on November 1, 2024. He is now a Behavior Technician in the local school district. He plans to enroll in a master's program to further his education and increase his knowledge to gain more experience.

Tom Ostovich, Texas Workforce Commission, shared the news about the upcoming community job fair at the MPEC on March 18, 2025.

Mrs. Kendra Ball, Business and Outreach Manager, shared the Rapid Response Report that there were a lot of closures in 2024, including Karate Bar & Bistro, Party City, The Highlander and many more. There were 24 employees receiving Rapid Response Services and 138 total employees were impacted by a layoff/closure.

Mrs. Schreiber announced the next board meeting will be on April 24, 2025, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Linda Whitaker, Secretary