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Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Meeting Minutes April 24, 2025

The Workforce Solutions North Texas Board met at noon on Thursday, April 24, 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
Michael Blevins, Tower Extrusions
Billy Clark, Helping Electra's Local People
Dr. Cheryl Groves, Groves Mechanical
Dori Dockery, United Regional Health Care System
Steve Holloway, Wichita Falls Trades and Labor Council
Vicki Holland, Holland Land & Cattle
Maria Jaimes-Contreras, Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce
Chelsea Lewis, Lewis Learning Center
Kristin Little, American National Bank & Trust
Terry McAdams, MacTech Solutions
Kenny Miller, Region 9
Debbie Powell, Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation
Glenda Ramsey, Harper Perkins Architects
Mileasha Rizan, Work Services Corporation
Crystal Sanders, Texas Workforce Commission
Rhonda Schriber, Humana
Jim Sjolander, Berend Brothers
Scotty Sproles, NOV Fiber Glass Systems
Dirk Welch, Midwestern State University
Linda Whitaker, Archer Supply
Michelle Wood, Wichita Falls ISD
Julie Young, Wichita Adult Literacy

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Marsha Anderson, Rolling Plains Management Corporation
Anthony Louis, Pratt & Whitney
Lauren Bush, Seymour Economic Development Center

GUESTS PRESENT:

Tiffany Jones, Workforce Solutions Childcare
Sandi Stahr, Equus, Workforce Solutions Center
Crystal Keel, Equus Wichita Falls Center
Cynthia Humphrey, Equus Wichita Falls Center



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Ginger Hannah, Equus Wichita Falls Center
Sherry Dunn, Texas Veterans Commission
Shana Ferguson, Nortex
Darla Silva, Equus
Alisa Durham, Workforce Solutions North Texas
Gabby Cook, Workforce Solutions Childcare
Cherisa Price-Wells, Equus Wichita Falls Center

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director
Sharon Hulcy, Contract Manager / EO Officer
Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager
Karen Fite, Technology Manager
Robin Read, IT Systems Support
Dakota Mize, Community Engagement Specialist
Kayla Crowley, Child Care Contract Manager

Mrs. Rhonda Schrieber, Madam Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm and begin roll call.

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

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

Mrs. Schrieber asked for approval of the consent agenda and the minutes from the February 2025 Board meeting. Glenda Ramsey made a motion and Steve Hollaway seconded (motion passed).

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, went over the Board Office Lease Agreement Plan for approval. This has been a process since February due to the Board Lease coming to an end on May 31, 2025. Mrs. McDaniel shared they have been working with a broker since February to determine if there is any other commercial space to accommodate the board staff and their needs. The lease for the board office, located on Midwestern Parkway, is currently 0.56¢ a square foot for a little over 4,000 sq ft. The few places that the broker had found ranged from \$1.34 to \$1.71 per sq ft. That does not include any remodeling that would need to be done. Mrs. McDaniel also had the IT Department get an average estimate of how much it would cost to move all the IT equipment from the phone banks to the server that work with our Workforce Center computers, it would cost around an average of \$10,000. There had been a consideration to see if there was space in the Galaxy Center located on Jacksboro Highway, but there are certain requirements the board office must meet, for example, its own entrance. Mrs. McDaniel shared that the broker is working with the current landlord, Karl Klement Properties. The Board Lease is currently \$2,300 a month and the landlord is wanting to increase \$100 per month. The Board office has been approved for a new three-year lease with Karl Klement Properties starting from June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2028, with an option of a three-year renewal that would start June 2028 – May 2031. At that point the rent would go up to \$2,700. Billy Clark made a motion and Glenda Ramsey seconded. (motion passed).



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Mrs. Sharon Hulcy, Contract Manager / EO Officer, went over the Monitoring Committee Report. The North Texas Workforce Development Board had been under a Technical Assistance Plan (TAP) where we have met the requirements for the BCY 2024 WIOA Youth Employed/ Enrolled Q2 Measures and implemented all the TAP's provisions. No questions asked. Next, Mrs. Hulcy discussed the 2024 Equus Program Monitoring Report from Diaz, Smith & Associates. There were several areas that had no issues, which was good. They did a preliminary report for RESEA (Reemployment Services & Eligibility Assessment), a program that is getting more action from TWC to be monitored. Mrs. Hulcy did discuss the findings with the Choices program, the Timely and Reasonably Attempt (TRA) is in a corrective action plan including daily time tracking and penalties not being entered timely. Another repeat finding was with SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), the daily time tracking did not match the items in the files and the HHSC forms are not being documented correctly. No questions asked. There were no issues found for the 2024 Equus Financial Evaluation or the 2024 Rolling Plains Child Care Financial Review.

Mrs. Hulcy went over the 2024 Rolling Plains Child Care Program Review, where there were issues found including the income calculations to determine eligibility along with the PIRTS Fraud Recoupment. No questions asked. Mrs. Hulcy continued with the Grant Spending Report and the Board Procurement List No questions asked.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, announced that Workforce Solutions North Texas will be having upcoming audits with Edgin Parkman Fleming & Fleming. They will be giving their fiscal agent review starting April 28, 2025, and the Texas Workforce Commission will be monitoring starting the week of May 6, 2025. Mrs. McDaniel also shared more news from the last board meeting that was held in February about the board member vacancy for Child Care. A replacement has been found, and the paperwork has been submitted to TWC to fill the remaining term by the end of September. We are waiting for Judge Johnson of Wichita County to sign the appointment form. More information to come soon.

Mrs. McDaniel then shared the news that they were notified on March 18, 2025, from the Texas Education Agency that we were selected to receive the award in the amount of \$200,000 for the 2025–2026 Tri-Agency Grant for Regional Conveners to benefit the students, employers, and community of the North Texas WDA. This funding will enable us to create and implement a coordinated program that brings together multiple community organizations to improve work-based learning opportunities across education, industry, and higher education. By streamlining existing efforts into a unified program, we will better address regional workforce needs and build a sustainable talent pipeline for local employers. We have a position posted to hire staff at board level to oversee this position.

Mrs. McDaniel shared with everyone that she, Sharon Hulcy and Kendra Ball had the privilege of attending the Washington National Association of Workforce Boards in Washington, D.C. She said they found the forum educational and appreciated the opportunity to participate in Advocacy Day on April 1 & 2. Although meetings with the senators and representatives did not occur, Congressional staffers were engaged and attentive, providing a positive experience. More than 120 advocates met with 128 Congressional offices from 31 states. They carried a unified message of the vital role that workforce boards play in convening and connecting local stakeholders, helping local businesses find talent, and helping individuals find life-changing employment. She met with staffers from both Senator Cruz & Senator Cornyn's office in addition to staffers from Representative

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Ronny Jackson, Lizzie Fletcher, and Pat Fallon. She was able to provide them all with our 1 pager Impact Report, a 1 pager customer testimonials from both employers and job seekers, as well as her business card.

Ms. Kayla Crowley, Child Care Contract Manager, went over the Workforce Child Care Report. She announced program updates where we have six new providers that have become TRS certified. Those including Little World, Mimi's Play House, McBride's, Cherished Dreams, First Baptist Church in Henrietta and Nocona Day Care. Ms. Crowley also shared news in welcoming Mark Cisneros, TRS Mentor, back to the Workforce Solutions Child Care family who is a Wichita Falls native that attended Midwestern State University where he received a bachelor's in education and Masters in Curriculum & Instruction. She also announced that as of April 14th there are 64 children waiting for childcare services and the estimated wait time is currently 2 – 3 months.

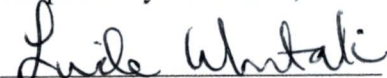
Ms. Crystal Keel, Equus Wichita Falls, shared they had 33 placements and 23 went to work giving a total of 56 entering employment in March. They held the 4th Annual Community Job Fair on March 18th at the MPEC in Wichita Falls with 97 employers and 347 job seekers. It was a very efficient, well-organized operation and held a comfortable space for vendors. Ms. Keel announced upcoming events including the Archer County job fair on April 30th, the Young County job fair on May 1st and for the first time a Career & Resource Fair for young adults ages 16 – 24 on May 15th.

Ms. Keel shared the news that two of our very own Texas Veteran Commission employees received awards. District Coach Melayia Crum was honored with a diamond recognizing 5 years of service with TVC and received the Veterans Career Advisor Star Performer of the Quarter Award. Sherry Dunn, Veterans Employer Liaison received the VEL Star Performer of the Quarter Award from TVC and the Powerhouse Performer Award from her District Coach. This month's success story was about Alisa from our resource room, who connected Ms. Gabriella to an open position in the Child Care department. Gabriella had been facing challenges and needed a stable and rewarding job. Alisa felt strongly that the childcare position could be a great fit for her, so she had encouraged Gabriella to apply. Gabriella is now one of the childcare case workers and had said it 100% changed her life for the better. Gabriella stated that if it hadn't been for Alisa to encourage her to apply for the position, she wouldn't have had this job.

Mrs. Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager, went over the Rapid Response Report. We have had several layoffs and closures recently. One of them being Durham School Services, this is the WFISD bus service. It is also becoming a contract change starting in June 2025. They do not know how many jobs will be retained and how many layoffs may take place yet. The other closure includes US Cellular who has been bought out by T-Mobile, that will also transition in June. Family Dollar & Dollar Tree are downsizing nationwide, local management has stated that they may reopen as a Family Dollar -only store. Small local business closures include EntertainMart, Holder's Jewelers, Keeno's Jerky and Endurance House.

Mrs. Schrieber announced the next board meeting will be on June 25, 2025, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda Whitaker, Secretary

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