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## **Workforce Solutions North Texas Board Meeting Minutes June 26, 2025**

The Workforce Solutions North Texas Board met at noon on Thursday, June 26, 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  
Steve Holloway, Wichita Falls Trades and Labor Council  
Chelsea Lewis, Lewis Learning Center  
Anthony Louis, Pratt & Whitney  
Kenny Miller, Region 9  
Alicia Myrick, Child Care Partners  
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  
Scotty Sproles, NOV Fiber Glass Systems  
Michelle Wood, Wichita Falls ISD  
Julie Young, Wichita Adult Literacy

### MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Marsha Anderson, Rolling Plains Management Corporation  
Lauren Bush, Seymour Economic Development Center  
Dori Dockery, United Regional Health Care System  
Dr. Cheryl Groves, Groves Mechanical  
Vicki Holland, Holland Land & Cattle  
Maria Jaimes-Contreras, Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce  
Kristin Little, American National Bank & Trust  
Terry McAdams, MacTech Solutions  
Jim Sjolander, Berend Brothers  
Dirk Welch, Midwestern State University  
Linda Whitaker, Archer Supply

### GUESTS PRESENT:

Tiffany Jones, Workforce Solutions Childcare  
Donna Adams, Workforce Solutions Childcare



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Sandi Stahr, Equus, Workforce Solutions Center  
Crystal Keel, Equus Wichita Falls Center  
Cynthia Humphrey, Equus Wichita Falls Center  
Ginger Hannah, Equus Wichita Falls Center  
Sherry Dunn, Texas Veterans Commission  
Shana Ferguson, Nortex Regional Planning Commission  
Dennis Wilde, Nortex Regional Planning Commission

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director  
Sharon Hulcy, Contract Manager / EO Officer  
Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager  
LeAnne Baird, Texas Regional Pathways Network Coordinator  
Karen Fite, Technology Manager  
Robin Read, Technology Asst. Manager  
Dakota Mize, Community Engagement Specialist  
Kayla Crowley, Child Care Contract Manager  
Sydney Clement, Administrative Assistant / EO Officer

Mrs. Rhonda Schrieber, Madam Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm and did roll-call. It was noted there was a quorum present.

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, introduced our new board member, Alicia Myrick, the new Director for Child Care Partners and our new board staff member Mrs. LeAnne Baird, who came over from the Workforce Center.

Mrs. Schrieber asked if there was anything for public comment. Glenda Ramsey from Harper Perkins Architect wanted to thank the members of the Workforce Child Care Services that took care of one of her new employees that needed daycare right away. Glenda and her new employee were very much appreciative.

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 April 2025 Board meeting. Billy Clark made a motion to accept and Michelle Wood seconded (motion passed).

Mrs. Lisa McDaniel, Executive Director, discussed Form 990 and that Edgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming who was procured by Nortex Regional Planning Commission to do their Fiscal audit which includes our 990. This was for the year starting October 2023 and ending in September 2024. Ms. Julie Young, Wichita Adult Literacy, asked how it is not lobbying when Mrs. McDaniel went to D.C and Austin, etc. Mrs. McDaniel explained that when she went, she was educating about what Workforce does instead of "asking" to vote a certain way or persuade them to vote a certain way. Mrs. McDaniel indicated that the information she took with her was statistics and information that occurred in our region to make them aware of exactly what workforce does. Mrs. Schrieber asked for approval of Form 990. Billy Clark made a motion and Glenda Ramsey seconded. (motion passed).

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Mrs. Lisa McDaniel went on to discuss the Grant Spending Report ending May 31, 2025. She shared that we have started receiving new contracts for the new year, two of them that will be starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. She also shared that Workforce nationwide took a 35% hit in some of the funding cuts and locally the only numbers and figures we have right now have been the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) dollars. We were impacted negatively by around \$195,000 with the WIOA funding. The other funding we will not have numbers until the end of July is the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The Texas Workforce Commission is supposed to take this to the commissioners on July 8<sup>th</sup> for a vote and we should have numbers after that. Although we got hit hard, we are in good shape compared to a lot of boards. One question was asked about why some of the grant's ending period was coming up and none of the funding was being spent. Mrs. McDaniel explained that they will be expended and are not reflected in this month's report. Mrs. McDaniel shared the Procurement List, no questions asked.

Next, Mrs. McDaniel went over the Exit Conference Report from the TWC Monitoring that took place in May. One of the programs they monitored was the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment Program (RESEA). It was a new program they had never monitored before, there were no findings but instead more technical assistance for the team to know what they will look for and where some improvements can occur. The second item they looked at was the Single Audit where they indicated the Board did not provide documentation to verify that the Single Audit desk review had been completed by the Board monitor and was reviewed by the Board. Mrs. McDaniel explained to everyone that we have our audits done by an outside company to do that; we do review it and then sign off on it. What we did not do was issue a management "formal" letter. This is something brand new across all the Boards, not just ours, where a letter has to be stating that we had been reviewed and had these findings. We will be more prepared for this next time. Continuing with the Exit Conference Report, there were a couple of cases in our Child Care PIRTS/Recoupment System. One was about a case note that was not done to support the reason for the delay where the fact finding was not done within the 90-day period. We will not receive our final report from the Texas Workforce Commission until later this year, however, Mrs. McDaniel shared that this was a great audit as there were not many findings this year. Ms. Crystal Sanders, Texas Workforce Commission, asked who the management letter had to be sent to. Mrs. McDaniel said that she was informed the letter had to be sent back to the recipient. No other questions asked.

Mrs. McDaniel shared that the Fiscal audit for Nortex Region Planning Commission (NRPC) and for the Workforce was audited by Edgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming. The letter we received on June 23<sup>rd</sup> stated that it was a clean audit in their opinion and that there were no findings and no questions costs for either NRPC or Workforce Solutions North Texas. No questions asked.

Mrs. Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager, announced the Board Award Nominations. For the local employer of excellence, we nominated Allegiance Electric & Controls. We have collaborated with them for the last couple of years, hosting & training those with disability onsite with the Summer Earn & Learn program. They also participate in the Teacher Externship Program, and we also support them by providing labor market comparisons and help them with filling their job openings. The nominee for the large employer of the year is Sealed Air. We have worked with them for the last couple of years. Last year, they had asked us to assist them with creating a workbook to help their employees improve their resume and interview skills, so we got to advise them with that. They also partnership with Vernon College where they specialize in training for their workers

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and they offer educational reimbursement for college degree and certificate programs. For the Hire Ability Employer of the Year nominee, we nominated Market Street/United Supermarkets. They participate in our Summer Earn & Learn Program, they have training opportunities that they do on their own, they participate in our Transition Fair, not only as a resource but managers have attended to help with mock interviews and much more! For the small employer of the year, we nominated Lewis Learning Center, they impact Archer, Jack & Young counties. They have three learning centers in rural communities, and they accept Workforce Solutions subsidies for helping with the financial burden for families.

Mrs. McDaniel then introduced one of our new staff members at the board office, Mrs. LeAnne Baird, she came to us from the contractor level from the Workforce Center where she worked as the Disability Navigator. She began at the board office on June 1, 2025, as our Texas Regional Pathways Network Coordinator. She will oversee the new TEA grant where Workforce Solutions North Texas is the convener for the North Texas Region and represents the local interest of industry, education and workforce. This grant will create meaningful pathways from K-12 to post-secondary and into the industry.

Ms. Kayla Crowley, Child Care Contract Manager, started off by updating everyone with the Child Care report. The new TX3C system is still having some issues with payments and eligibility cases but we are continuing to send out help tickets for the system's operations so it will be resolved soon. TWC is offering communications to providers in the form of bi-weekly updates and providing technical assistance with one-on-one meetings. The Child Care Advisory Council last meeting was held on June 17<sup>th</sup> via zoom where Marvin Peevey with United Ways shared their Texas School Ready grant has been funded for two more years. Ms. Crowley also shared the new Texas Rising Star Outreach Collateral material will consist of TRS educational videos for parents and programs, social media toolkits for boards with downloadable content and guidelines to help promote Texas Rising Star to childcare programs, families and communities. There will also be a welcome packet and social media toolkit for TRS certified childcare programs and an updated TRS style guide coming soon.

Mrs. Donna Adams, Workforce Solutions Childcare, shared that eight more providers have become TRS certified those including Kid Central Learning Center Too, KNA Daycare, Lynn's Play Station, Mabelle's Daycare, St. Paul Lutheran School, Stepping Stones in Development, Teresa Love & YMCA Dillard. As of June 6, there were 132 children on the waiting list for childcare services. The estimate wait time is currently 8-9 months. The waitlist consists of 128 low-income families and 3 priorities. As of the end of May there were 1,132 children placed in childcare. For the Provider Service's Training there were 5 in person attendees and 2 online for the Directors luncheon that was held on May 21, 2025, where it covered Texas Rising Star Facility Assessments. In April they had 15 in person attendees and 15 online for the Infant/Toddler Trainings and in May they had 17 in person attendees and 10 online. The Infant/Toddler Trainings is held once a month where attendees receive multicultural and real-life items that they can take back to their centers and with them with their assessments. The next Infant/Toddler training session will be held on June 24, 2025, and will cover Core Competencies for Practitioners: Area 5: Observation and Assessment.

Ms. Crystal Keel, Equus Wichita Falls Center, shared the Workforce Center report. In May they had 79 placements and 32 went to work that totaled 111 entering employment. The Career & Resource Fair for Young Adults that was held on May 15<sup>th</sup> had 31 job seekers and 23 employees and the Veteran Career & Resource Event that was on May 22<sup>nd</sup> had 30 job seekers and 36 employees. Both were great turnouts. The success story

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of the month is about a 23-year-old, Mia Ortiz, she came to the WIOA program seeking assistance with LVN training from Vernon College. She received help paying for tuition, books, uniforms, gas cards and incentives. She completed her training on December 12, 2024. Mia took and passed her LVN test on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, obtaining her LVN license. She went to work for Swan Health on February 12, 2025, making \$27 an hour and working 36-48 hours per week. She is now putting herself through the transition program at Vernon College from LVN to RN. She is very grateful for the assistance that WIOA was able to provide for her.

Mrs. Kendra Ball, Business & Outreach Manager, shared the Rapid Response Report. There have been 39 employees who have received rapid response services and a total of 414 employees impacted by either a layoff or closure since January 2025. Those closures include Nocona Daycare, Kaitlyn Solorio Daycare and CVS located on Seymour Highway. Discussion was had about other services that have and can be provided to the daycare centers since that also impacts other employers and employees if no childcare is available in these areas.

Ending the board meeting with great news, Wichita Falls is growing! With new investments like United Supermarket, HomeGoods and Bealls Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce shared that there will soon be more job opportunities that are underway, including Amazon Distribution Center, Panda BioTech, Vitro Architectural Glass and Sealed Air. For more information you can visit their website at [www.wichitafallschamber.com](http://www.wichitafallschamber.com).

Mrs. Schrieber announced the next board meeting will be on August 28, 2025, at noon. All offices will be closed July 4<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Whitaker". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Linda Whitaker, Secretary