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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
BEFORE THE  
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

PUBLIC MEETING )  
FOR THE TEXAS )  
WORKFORCE COMMISSION )

COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT at 9:00 a.m. on  
Tuesday, the 13th day of February, 2018, the above-entitled  
matter came on for hearing at the Texas Workforce  
Commission, TWC Building, 101 East 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 244,  
Austin, Texas, before ANDRES ALCANTAR, Chairman; JULIAN  
ALVAREZ and RUTH R. HUGHS, Commissioners.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

(9:00 a.m.)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, everyone.

This meeting is called to order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action  
Regarding Whether to Assume Continuing Jurisdiction on  
Unemployment Compensation Cases, Wage Claim Cases, and/or  
Tax Liability Cases and Reconsideration of Unemployment  
Compensation Cases, Wage Claim Cases, and/or Tax Liability  
Cases, if Any

No Discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action  
Regarding Tax Liability Cases Listed on the Texas Workforce  
Commission Docket 7

The Commission considered and took action on  
all tax liability cases listed on Docket 7.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action  
Regarding Fair Housing Cases listed on the Texas Workforce  
Commission Docket 7

No Discussion.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action  
Regarding Higher Level Appeals in Wage Claim Cases Listed on  
the Texas Workforce Commission Docket 7

The Commission considered and took action on  
all wage claim cases listed on Docket 7.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action  
Regarding Higher Level Appeals in Unemployment Compensation  
Cases Listed on the Texas Workforce Commission Docket 7

The Commission considered and took action on  
all unemployment compensation cases listed on Docket 7

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, everyone.  
We're back in session. Les, has anyone signed up for public  
comment? No, no public comment.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 8, Discussion,  
Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Acceptance  
of Pledges for Child Care for Board Contract Year 2018.

Jennifer. Good morning.

MS. TROKE: Good morning Chair and  
commissioners. For the record, Jennifer Troke, Workforce  
Development Division.

Annually local Workforce Development Boards

1 submit local match pledges to secure federal child care  
2 funds pursuant to Commission Rule 800.73.

3 Today staff requests Commission acceptance of  
4 child care pledges for donations, transfers, and  
5 certifications of expenses in the amount of \$6,428,681.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

7 COMM. HUGHS: Thank you. Thank you, and I  
8 understand we are over 100 percent on our state fund, you  
9 know, with the match requirements, which is great news, but  
10 please keep us updated on the few remaining boards that are  
11 a little bit behind 100 percent going forward.

12 But with that I move that we accept the  
13 pledges for Board Contract Year 2018 Child Care Matching  
14 Funds. Thank you.

15 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous.

17 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 9, Discussion,  
19 Consideration, Possible Action Regarding the Estimated  
20 Unemployment Trust Fund Balance Pursuant 204.061, Randy  
21 Townsend. Good morning, Randy.

22 MR. TOWNSEND: Good morning, Chairman,  
23 commissioners. For the record, Randy Townsend, Chief  
24 Financial Officer.

25 This morning, commissioners, I'm presenting

1 an update on our Unemployment Trust Fund projection for  
2 October 1st of this year. This is our month -- regular  
3 monthly update.

4           Just by way of reminder, point out that we  
5 began the year in our Unemployment Trust Fund with a balance  
6 of just over 1.1-billion. We expect to add about 2.4-  
7 billion through the year from collection from our employers.  
8 Earnings and interest probably will total up right around  
9 \$30-million and then when we account for the bond proceeds  
10 that are -- that are going to be added to -- or the  
11 obligation assessment that's being deposited directly to the  
12 trust fund at this point, with the bonds being repaid,  
13 that'll be about 60-million.

14           And then when you take into account that  
15 we'll probably pay out right around 2.2-billion for the year  
16 that will leave our trust fund with a balance of 1-billion,  
17 465-million, is our current estimate.

18           Compare that to the floor that we're  
19 estimating of just over 1.1-billion that means the trust  
20 fund on October 1st will be 336-million above the floor,  
21 which is good news, of course.

22           Just kind of interesting I just noted that  
23 when you look at what we estimate the low point to be the  
24 for this coming spring we think that'll be about 650-million  
25 now. If you recall last year we thought that number was

1 gonna be closer to 200-million, so quite a bit of  
2 improvement in terms the low point of the balance of the  
3 trust fund, so -- and that 650-million would pay benefits  
4 for approximately 15 weeks, is our current estimate.

5 Let me share with you some recent trends for  
6 the trust fund, and for the payouts. The total weekly  
7 benefits paid for -- this will be a six-week period ending  
8 January 27th was just over 45-million, 18 percent of the  
9 one-year-ago total for benefits paid.

10 Initial claims was about 13,560 for the last  
11 six weeks. That was about eight percent below the one year  
12 ago for initial claims.

13 Our continued claims were even a larger  
14 decline; 133,000, roughly, with the -- was the continued  
15 claims, six-week average. Almost 14 percent decline from  
16 the prior year.

17 All in all, you know, the trends still looked  
18 good for the trust fund. So if there's any questions or  
19 comments this morning?

20 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners?

21 COMM. HUGHS: No. Thank you for the update.

22 COMM. ALVAREZ: Thank you, Randy.

23 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Randy.

24 MR. TOWNSEND: Cool.

25 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10



1 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 10, we have no  
2 updates.

3 AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

4 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 11, Discussions,  
5 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Statutory and  
6 Regulatory Changes to TWC Programs Under Titles I, II and IV  
7 of the WIOA, TANF, SNAP, Child Care and UI. Reagan Miller.  
8 Good morning, Reagan.

9 MS. MILLER: Good morning, commissioners.  
10 For the record, Reagan Miller.

11 Today we are presenting federal issues that  
12 staff have identified for your consideration. We briefed  
13 each of your offices, so I'm just going to highlight these  
14 issues and see if you have any questions or comments.

15 So starting on Page 2, we begin with Child  
16 Care. We've identified two Child Care related issues. Do  
17 you have any questions or comments on these?

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Relative to Item 1,  
19 Reagan, I'd like for -- with my fellow commissioner's  
20 concurrence -- to ask that staff evaluate the provisions in  
21 the budgets. And given the additional estimate come back  
22 with some thoughts on moving forward with this one. Or any  
23 amendment hereto in terms of the need to be so specific in  
24 terms of the changes, and so forth.

25 Commissioners? Okay.

1 MS. MILLER: We could do that. Next we have  
2 four issues related to Title IV, Vocational Rehabilitation.  
3 Any questions or comments on those?

4 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: I have no questions.  
5 Commissioners?

6 COMM. HUGHS: Nope.

7 COMM. ALVAREZ: Nope.

8 MS. MILLER: Following that are our Workforce  
9 Development WIOA Title I issues. We've identified three  
10 issues here. Any questions or comments?

11 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners?

12 COMM. HUGHS: Unh-unh.

13 COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions.

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We have no questions,  
15 Reagan.

16 MS. MILLER: Okay. We have two Adult  
17 Education and Literacy WIOA Title II issues.

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners?

19 COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions, Chairman.

20 MS. MILLER: Okay. And then I'll take the  
21 next two; we have two TANF issues, and three SNAP E&T  
22 issues.

23 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners? Comments?  
24 Questions?

25 COMM. HUGHS: No.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. We're good.

2 MS. MILLER: All right. We'll close it out  
3 with the two unemployment insurance issues and the -- and  
4 the two issues related to performance and data collection.

5 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners?

6 COMM. ALVAREZ: Nothing, your honor.

7 COMM. HUGHS: Ma'am. I wondered if only  
8 inexplicitly was doubling down on the statute, or what the  
9 requirements were, but I think the entity there is clear  
10 that we're basically saying, let's make sure we're following  
11 the statute. We're not trying to be more restrictive like  
12 DOL had been previously.

13 MS. MILLER: That's correct.

14 COMM. HUGHS: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Okay do we -- do we have  
16 a motion?

17 MS. MILLER: With that we would ask for  
18 approval of these key issues described in the discussion  
19 paper so that staff can share them with external  
20 stakeholders when opportunities present themselves and  
21 request your approval.

22 COMM. HUGHS: Okay. I move that we accept  
23 staff's recommendations to allow them to share these issues  
24 as laid out in the discussion paper with external  
25 stakeholders when opportunity presents itself.

1                   COMM. ALVAREZ: I would agree we need to  
2 identify and eliminate burdensome mandates under WIOA, VR,  
3 SNAP and TANF. With that, I'll second that.

4                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
5 you, Reagan.

6                   MS. MILLER: Thank you.

7                                   AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

8                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 12, Discussion,  
9 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding an Amendment to  
10 the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 SNAP State Plan for Submission  
11 to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jason, good  
12 morning.

13                   MR. VADEN: Good morning, commissioners. For  
14 the record Jason Vaden, Workforce Division.

15                                   For your consideration today is an amendment  
16 to the SNAP E&T State Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2018.  
17 The plan is being amended to reflect the able-bodied adults  
18 without dependents allocation that Texas was awarded in the  
19 amount of \$3,771,930. This brings the total SNAP E&T Budget  
20 for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 to over \$21-million in total.

21                                   Staff have also taken the opportunity to make  
22 a few modifications to the body of the plan reflecting  
23 ongoing transition efforts with the Health and Human  
24 Services Commission.

25                                   This morning staff request your approval to

1 submit the amended SNAP E&T State Plan for Federal Fiscal  
2 Year 2018 to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

3 That concludes my remarks, and I'm happy to  
4 answer questions if you have any.

5 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

6 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we approve the  
7 discussed amendment to the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 SNAP E&T  
8 State Plan and for staff to be able to make any technical  
9 corrections before submitting it to the U.S. Department of  
10 Agriculture.

11 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

12 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
13 you, Jason.

14 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

15 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 13, Discussion,  
16 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Publication for  
17 Public Comment of Proposed Rules Relating to Child Care  
18 Program. Jason.

19 MR. VADEN: Again, for the record, Jason  
20 Vaden, Workforce Division.

21 Last year the Commission approved a policy  
22 concept regarding modifications to TWC's Chapter 809 Child  
23 Care Rules around three key issues; excessive absences,  
24 program violations and waiting periods.

25 A number of Workforce boards commented on the

1 policy concept and those comments were taken into  
2 consideration.

3           This morning staff is seeking direction on  
4 proposed Chapter 809 rule modifications as reflected in your  
5 materials, including defining excessive absences as 40  
6 absences over the 12-month eligibility period, allowing  
7 boards to terminate child care during the 12-month period if  
8 there are excessive absences, allowing for the termination  
9 of care when a parent fails to pay their parent share of  
10 cost, and requiring a mandatory waiting period of 60 days  
11 after termination of services due to a program violation.

12           With your approval the proposed modifications  
13 for the Chapter 809 Child Care Rules will be published in  
14 the Texas Register for a 30-day public comment period.

15           That concludes my remarks. I'm happy to  
16 answer questions if you have any.

17           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Do we have any questions?

18           COMM. HUGHS: No.

19           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

20           COMM. HUGHS: I move that we approve the  
21 proposed rules relating to Chapter 809 to be published in  
22 the Texas Register for public comment.

23           COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

24           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous.

25   AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

1                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR:  Item 14, Discussion,  
2 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Approval of  
3 Proposed Four-Year Rule Reviews.  Jason.

4                   MR. VADEN:  And again, Jason Vaden, Workforce  
5 Division.

6                   State agencies are required to review their  
7 rules every four years.  During this review process an  
8 assessment is made as to whether the reasons for adopting or  
9 re-adopting rules continue to exist.

10                  Additionally, the assessment includes the  
11 determination of whether the rules are obsolete, whether  
12 they reflect current legal and policy considerations, and  
13 whether they reflect the Commission's current procedures.

14                  In accordance with the Rule Review  
15 Requirements staff is seeking direction on publishing a  
16 notice in the Texas Register notifying the public of our  
17 intent to review Chapter 819 and 837.  After a 30-day public  
18 comment period staff will bring forward the results of the  
19 assessment.

20                  Again, happy to answer questions if you have  
21 any.

22                  CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR:  Commissioner Hughs.

23                  COMM. HUGHS:  I move that we approve the  
24 proposed rules relating to chapters 819 and 837 to be  
25 published in the Texas Register for public comment.

1 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

2 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
3 you.

4 AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

5 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 15, there is no  
6 update.

7 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

8 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 16, Discussion,  
9 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Approval of  
10 Products Offered by CRPs Under the Purchasing from People  
11 with Disabilities State-Use Program. Kelvin, good morning.

12 MR. MOORE: Good morning, commissioners.  
13 Good morning, Mr. Serna. For the record, my name's Kelvin  
14 Moore, Program Manager Purchasing from People with  
15 Disabilities at the Texas Workforce Commission.

16 We have before you Agenda Item 16 regarding  
17 approval of products offered by community rehabilitation  
18 programs. There are eight community rehabilitation programs  
19 recommending 28 revised products for approval.

20 Staff recommend postponing approval of the  
21 following products pending price research; Items 17, 18, 19,  
22 20, 21, 22 and 23. Staff is recommending approval of price  
23 revision for the remaining products.

24 Are there any questions?

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners?



1                   COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions.

2                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

3                   COMM. HUGHS: I move that we approve staff's  
4 recommendations for products offered by certified community  
5 rehabilitation programs under the Purchasing from People  
6 with Disabilities State-Use Program.

7                   COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

8                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous.

9                                   AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

10                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 17, Discussion,  
11 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Approval of  
12 Services Offered by COPs under the Purchasing from People  
13 full -- People with Disabilities State-Use Program. Howard.

14                   MR. JOSEPH: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
15 commissioners, Mr. Serna. For the record, my name is Howard  
16 Joseph. Program Manager Purchasing from People with  
17 Disabilities Program.

18                                   We have before you Item 17 for the approval  
19 of services. In regards to services there are 12 contracts  
20 included under Temporary Authority employing 42 individuals  
21 being paid above minimum wage. There are 315 new and  
22 renewal contracts employing 1,383 individuals being paid at  
23 or above minimum wage. There was one renewal contract that  
24 paid below minimum wage, however, the CRP holds a 14-state  
25 certificate. There were 7 transferred contracts employing

1 106 individuals. All are paid at or above minimum wage.

2 Staff recommends postponement of approval of  
3 pages 38 through 41 in renewal contracts for A Lift for Life  
4 until the issue resolving the recertification is resolved.  
5 Staff recommends approval of all other service contracts.

6 I'll be happy to answer any questions.

7 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Questions?

8 COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions.

9 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

10 COMM. HUGHS: Thank you, Mr. Joseph. I  
11 approve that we -- I move that we approve services offered  
12 by certified community rehabilitation programs under the  
13 Purchasing from People with Disabilities State-Use Program  
14 as recommended by staff.

15 COMM. ALVAREZ: I second that.

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
17 you, Howard.

18 AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 18, Discussion,  
20 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Recertification  
21 of CRPs to Participate in the program. Kelvin.

22 MR. MOORE: For the record, Kelvin Moore,  
23 Program Manager Purchasing from People with Disabilities at  
24 the Texas Workforce Commission.

25 You have before you Agenda Item 18 for the

1 recertification of one community rehabilitation program.

2 Staff recommend approval for recertification  
3 of Enterprise Professional Service Incorporated.

4 Are there any questions?

5 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: I move that we approve  
7 the certification of the community rehabilitation programs  
8 as recommended by staff.

9 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

10 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
11 you.

12 AGENDA ITEM NO. 19

13 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We have no update on Item  
14 19.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 20

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 20, Discussion,  
17 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Approval of  
18 local board nominees. Cam, good morning.

19 MR. BELL: Morning, Mr. Chairman,  
20 commissioners, Mr. Serna.

21 Before you for consideration and approval are  
22 Workforce Development Board nominations for Workforce  
23 Solutions Cameron County, Gulf Coast, Coastal Bend and Rural  
24 Capital.

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: I move that we approve  
2 local Workforce Development Board nominees for Cameron  
3 County, Gulf Coast, Coastal Bend and Capital Area.

4 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

5 MR. BELL: Thank you, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
7 you. Thank you, Cam.

8 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Yeah, Rural Capital Area,  
9 just to-

10 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Second?

11 COMM. ALVAREZ: Yes, I'll second that.

12 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous, thank  
13 you.

14 AGENDA ITEM NO. 21

15 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 21, Report and  
16 Update Regarding State and Federal Legislation. Tom  
17 McCarty.

18 MR. McCARTY: All right.

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: That mic.

20 MR. McCARTY: Good morning Mr. Chairman,  
21 commissioners. For the record, Michael Britt, Governmental  
22 Relations.

23 Last week Congress passed HR 1892, the Bi-  
24 partisan Budget Act of 2018. This measure funds the federal  
25 government through March 23rd of this year and also set

1 spending caps for Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019.

2 Also, yesterday, the White House released the  
3 President's budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2019 as well.  
4 Summary was sent around to -- to your offices.

5 For this week GR will be monitoring several  
6 congressional hearings related to the President's budget  
7 proposal. Today at 10:00 a.m. the U.S. Senate Budget  
8 Committee will be holding a hearing, and then tomorrow at  
9 10:30 the U.S. Senate Finance Committee will hold a hearing  
10 and on Thursday at 10:00 the U.S. House Ways and Means will  
11 hold a hearing again all on the President's budget proposal.

12 Also on Thursday GR will be monitoring the  
13 Texas House Committee on General Investigating and Ethics  
14 with their hearing here in Austin.

15 That concludes my remarks. I will be happy  
16 to answer any questions you have.

17 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We have no questions.

18 MR. McCARTY: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Mike. We're  
20 gonna go back to the -- an update on Hurricane Harvey.

21 MS. TROKE: Hi. Good morning again, Jen  
22 Troke. For the record, Workforce Division. There we go.

23 So I'm bringing two Harvey items for your  
24 approval this morning.

25 The first request relates to the Harvey

1 Upscaling Grants, which were originally approved by you all  
2 on November 7, 2017 for up to 1.2-million in Dislocated  
3 Worker Grant funds with the individual grants totaling no  
4 more \$100,000 each. The goal of those grants is to leverage  
5 local resources that have been made available to address the  
6 Harvey disaster and which are being used to upscale the  
7 local workforce by expanding skills training into demand  
8 industries critical to the state's economic recovery.

9           The grants address skill shortages and  
10 industry needs created by Hurricane Harvey through  
11 collaborations between local boards and community  
12 organizations.

13           The boards are seeing an increased need from  
14 these local partners who are expressing an interest in  
15 submitting applications, so today we are requesting your  
16 approval to lift the January 31 deadline previously approved  
17 and allow staff to continue receiving applications on a  
18 first come first served basis.

19           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

20           COMM. HUGHS: Is this an item number on our  
21 agenda? I remember this briefing. I'm just not finding it  
22 in my book.

23           COMM. ALVAREZ: Nineteen. Nineteen.

24           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Nineteen. It's Hurricane  
25 Harvey.

1                   COMM. HUGHS: Yes, yes. Thank you.

2                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Okay.

3                   COMM. HUGHS: One question I have was that by  
4 extending the deadline or opening that up are we still gonna  
5 meet the federal expenditure obligation deadlines on the  
6 overall Dislocated Worker Grant? Because I understand that  
7 would be September?

8                   MS. TROKE: It's September 30th, 2019. Yes,  
9 ma'am. We should be fine.

10                  COMM. HUGHS: All right, and so we're  
11 thinking about making it open-ended? Is that the thought  
12 here? Do we think we have interest, or not?

13                  MS. TROKE: We do. The boards are letting --  
14 telling us that they're having lots of local organizations  
15 come forward, and so they've asked that we consider  
16 extending that application open period.

17                  COMM. HUGHS: Okay. Because I also know we  
18 talked about putting this out there, but if there wasn't an  
19 interest maybe revisiting how we would use the funds in  
20 another way, so I'm supportive of the effort, especially if  
21 we think there's interest, but I would ask for maybe  
22 quarterly updates, so we don't have an open-ended.

23                  MS. TROKE: Sure.

24                  COMM. HUGHS: And also just to make sure we  
25 don't end up not being able to really put this forward given

1 the deadline and how that's gonna back up, or back into  
2 this.

3 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Sure. Think that'd be  
4 great.

5 COMM. HUGHS: But with that I'd move that we  
6 lift the current ending of the upscaling project to allow  
7 for additional time for applicants to develop and submit  
8 applications for funding as discussed by staff.

9 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

10 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
11 you. Appreciate the update on that. Tell us what's next?

12 MS. TROKE: The second request relates to  
13 training for boards serving Harvey impacted individuals.

14 On September 5th, 2017 you all voted to  
15 approve the initial funding allocation to eight boards  
16 totaling 16.5-million out of the \$30-million DOL Hurricane  
17 Harvey National Dislocated Worker Disaster Grant.

18 Those boards most directly impacted were  
19 approved to provide WIOA career and training services  
20 including training and temporary jobs for disaster cleanup,  
21 supportive services, and childcare.

22 The boards that were not directly impacted,  
23 but which receive evacuees who were impacted by the storms,  
24 were limited to providing career services and supportive  
25 services. These boards have indicated a need to provide



1 training services to certain participants. All other  
2 limitations and restrictions that apply to the original  
3 grant apply, and if approved this expansion enables these  
4 boards to better support Harvey impacted individuals in  
5 their communities.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs.

7 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we allow boards to  
8 provide training to individuals that have relocated to a new  
9 board area that's outside the Harvey impacted local  
10 Workforce Board due to impact of Harvey as recommended by  
11 staff.

12 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

13 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
14 you, Jennifer.

15 MS. TROKE: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Appreciate the updates.

17 AGENDA ITEM NO. 22

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 22, Report and  
19 Update by the Executive Director. Ed.

20 MR. SERNA: Good morning commissioners. Just  
21 a couple of items real quickly. First of all, just to make  
22 sure that the commission all knows we did execute a contract  
23 with Geo-Solutions for the Work in Texas replacement. We  
24 executed that contract at the end of July.

25 And the next major deliverable is the

1 development of the detailed project plan that's due by the  
2 end of March. Our staff is working on input into that plan  
3 right now.

4           The other thing that we'll do is we will  
5 develop a mechanism for communicating updates to the  
6 Commission formally as well as keep the commission informed  
7 with regular status reports. And we'll also create a  
8 mechanism for making sure that we stay on track with the  
9 Commission's -- commissioner's direction for that particular  
10 project. So we'll work through that.

11           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Okay, and to clarify, for  
12 the record, the contract was signed at the end of January,  
13 not July.

14           MR. SERNA: At the end of -- yeah, I'm sorry,  
15 January. Did I say July? I'm sorry.

16           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Yes sir.

17           MR. SERNA: 1-31.

18           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right, thank you.

19           MR. SERNA: The second thing I wanted to  
20 report was that this week starting today at 1:00 Vocation  
21 Rehabilitation Managers State-wide Manager Meeting is  
22 occurring at the Criss Cole Center. Will be going on until  
23 Friday, so there's an opportunity to meet with the managers.  
24 They have a full agenda, but I'm sure if any of y'all are  
25 interested in at least saying hi to them you can probably

1 pop by there and I'm sure they can squeeze you into the  
2 agenda. So --

3 AGENDA ITEM NO. 23

4 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. Thank you,  
5 Ed. The Commissioners will be going into Executive Session  
6 pursuant to Government Code 551.04(a)(1) regarding the  
7 Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties  
8 and Discipline of the Exec Director, Internal Auditor,  
9 Executive Staff and other personnel. Thank you.

10 AGENDA ITEM NO. 24

11 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: It's 9:58, we are back in  
12 session. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

13 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we adjourn.

14 COMM. ALVAREZ: Second.

15 (Proceedings concluded at 9:59:07 a.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF TEXAS        )  
COUNTY OF TRAVIS    )

I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Vendor and Notary in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the above-mentioned matter occurred as hereinbefore set out.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the proceedings of such were reported by me or under my supervision, later reduced to typewritten form under my supervision and control and that the foregoing pages are a full, true, and correct transcription of the original notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of February, 2018.

/s/ Kimberly C. McCright  
Kimberly C. McCright  
Certified Vendor and Notary Public

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