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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
AUSTIN, TEXAS

PUBLIC MEETING)
FOR THE TEXAS)
WORKFORCE COMMISSION)

COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT at 8:30 a.m. on Monday,
the 19th day of March, 2018, the above-entitled matter came
on for hearing at the Texas Workforce Commission, TWC
Building, 101 East 15th 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

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018

(8:30 a.m.)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, everyone.

This meeting is now called to order. Good morning, Ms. Miller.

MS. MILLER: Good morning.

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 12.

The Commission considered and took action on all tax liability cases listed on Docket 12.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

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

1 Commission Docket 12.

2 No Discussion.

3 AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

4 Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action
5 Regarding Higher Level Appeals in Wage Claim Cases Listed on
6 the Texas Workforce Commission Docket 12.

7 The Commission considered and took action on
8 all wage claim cases listed on Docket 12.

9 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

10 Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action
11 Regarding Higher Level Appeals in Unemployment Compensation
12 Cases Listed on the Texas Workforce Commission Docket 12.

13 The Commission considered and took action on
14 all unemployment compensation cases listed on Docket 12.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, everyone.
17 We are back in session. Les, has anyone signed up for
18 public comment?

19 MR. TROBMAN: No, sir.

20 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Alvarez, we
21 have a couple guests you want to recognize?

22 COMM. ALVAREZ: I do. I have some guests
23 here from the Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, Texas. The newly
24 sworn in Molina -- Mayor Molina is here in town making some
25 visits that follow our meeting here. Today we have -- I

1 know you have a meeting with the Governor's office, EDC, and
2 so congratulations, Mayor, and thank you for being here
3 today.

4 Joining him is our new EDC from Edinburg and
5 that's Joey Trevino who went to high school with me. And
6 Joey played football, or at least tried to. But Joey's here
7 visiting and Joey, congratulations to both of you and thank
8 you for both being here today.

9 MAYOR MOLINA: Thank you.

10 MR. TREVINO: Thank you, Commissioner.

11 COMM. HUGHS: Welcome.

12 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Welcome to both of you.

13 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 8, Discussion,
15 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding on state level
16 initiatives. We have -- we have no updates.

17 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We have no update on 9.

19 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

20 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: There is an update on
21 number 10, Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action
22 Regarding the response to Hurricane Harvey. Jennifer, good
23 morning.

24 MS. TROKE: Good morning, Commissioners and
25 Mr. Serna. For the record, Jen Troke, Workforce Division.

1 I seek your guidance and approval on two amendments to the
2 Harvey Upskilling Grant Discussion Paper that you all
3 originally approved on November 7th, 2017, for up to 1.2-
4 million in national dislocated worker grant funds.

5 Boards are seeing an increase need from local
6 partners who are expressing an interest in submitting
7 applications and I wanted to share with you that we have
8 received two applications to date, totaling \$180,000. The
9 match for those two awards totals \$226,000, which is
10 exciting. And we will continue to update you as we receive
11 additional applications going forward.

12 We received your approval to lift the January
13 31 deadline and allow Staff to continue receiving
14 applications on a first come first serve basis on February
15 13th, 2018, and we have reflected that change in the
16 original discussion paper by amending line 8 on page 2.

17 I am seeking your guidance on amending line
18 10 of the original discussion paper to increase the limit of
19 each grant from 100,000 to 250,000 up to the 100 percent
20 match of the partner for the upskilling of workers in
21 Hurricane Harvey impacted areas.

22 Any questions? And thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners, any
24 questions?

25 COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions.

1 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs?

2 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we remove January
3 12th, 2018 as the application deadline and leave the
4 application period open as previously discussed. I also
5 move that we approve increasing the limit of each grant from
6 100,000 to 250,000, up to the 100 percent match of the
7 partners for the upskilling of workers in Hurricane Harvey
8 impacted areas as recommended by Staff.

9 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

10 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank
11 you, Jen. Have a good day.

12 AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

13 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 11, we have no board
14 nominees.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 12, Discussion, and
17 Update on Federal and State Legislation. Tom McCarty, good
18 morning.

19 MR. MCCARTY: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
20 Commissioner Hughes, Commissioner Alvarez. Tom McCarty,
21 External relations.

22 We should expect to see a language filed
23 today -- or a release today at least on what the budget will
24 look like for after Friday. As you recall, the deadline for
25 the funding expires this Friday, so Congress has to get

1 something figured out this week.

2 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. Any
3 questions?

4 COMM. HUGHS: No. Thank you for the update,
5 Tom.

6 MR. MCCARTY: Thank you.

7 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

8 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 13, report and
9 update by the Executive Director. Good morning, Larry --
10 Good morning, Ed.

11 (Laughter)

12 MR. SERNA: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, Ed.

14 COMM. HUGHS: Acting Larry.

15 MR. SERNA: Commissioners. Acting Larry.

16 Just two very quick things. One on Mr. Temple's progress.
17 I spoke with him last week a couple of times and also met
18 him at his house for lunch, took some lunch over. He's
19 doing -- he's doing well, progressing well, is what -- also.
20 Everything else is -- is moving along according to schedule,
21 according to his doctors, so we're very encouraged by that.

22 And then the other thing, just to give each
23 of y'all a heads up that Staff will be setting up meetings
24 for each of your offices regarding a Work In Texas update --
25 not an update, but a meeting with Staff, kind of a -- sort

1 of an individual office establishing base level for the
2 project, and then also to meet with some key representatives
3 of the firm that we partnered with. So that will be coming
4 up in the next couple of weeks. And that's all I have, Mr.
5 Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. Any
7 questions?

8 COMM. ALVAREZ: No questions, Chairman.

9 COMM. HUGHS: No questions.

10 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Ed.
11 Appreciate the Staff's good work.

12 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

13 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Do we have a motion to
14 adjourn this meeting?

15 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we adjourn.

16 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

17 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are adjourned. Have a
18 good day.

19 (Proceedings concluded at 8:57:58 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 24th day of March, 2018.

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

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