



Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley Board Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2024 -12:00 PM

Center for Regional Services

Board Room/Via: ZOOM

3991 East 29th Street, Bryan, TX 77802

MINUTES

Member

Amy Jurica
 Andy York
 Angie Alaniz
 Ann Boney
 Ann Chapman
 Bert Miller
 Bill Ard
 Christopher Densley
 Crystal Crowell
 Dianne Ryder
 Elena Fortaneli
 Frank Perez
 Jared Patout
 John Brieden III
 Josh Isenhour
 Liz Dickey
 Marsha Skinner
 Mary Hensley
 Mary Valadez
 Melinda Berlan
 Michael Anderson
 Nester Leamon
 Robert Orzabal
 Roby Somerford
 Silas Garrett
 William "Bill" Parten

Representing

Private Sector - Burleson
 CBO - Brazos
 Post-Secondary Education Representative – Brazos Valley Region
 CBO-Brazos
 Burleson
 Private Sector - Grimes
 TWC – Public Employment – Brazos Valley Region
 Private Sector – Child Care Representative - Brazos
 Vocational Rehabilitation Representative - Brazos
 Vice-Chair-Private Sector-Leon
 Private Sector – Madison
 Grimes
 Grimes
 Private Sector – Washington
 Private Sector - Brazos
 CBO – Brazos
 Leon
 Literacy Representative – Washington
 Public Sector – Public Assistance Regional
 Private Sector – Robertson
 Public Sector - Economic Development – Leon
 Private Sector-Robertson
 Private Sector - Brazos
 Private Sector – Brazos
 Private Sector – Brazos
 Adult Basic & Continuing Education – Madison

Attendance

Absent
 In-Person
 Zoom
 Excused
 Zoom
 In-Person
 In-Person
 Absent
 Zoom
 In-Person
 Zoom
 In-Person
 Excused
 In-Person
 In-Person
 Absent
 Absent
 In-Person
 Absent
 Zoom
 In-Person
 In-Person
 In-Person
 In-Person
 In-Person

Guest Attendees

Dora Lopez	SERCO Operations Manager	In-Person
Gayle Mann	SERCO	In-Person
Latresia Williams	SERCO Project Director	Absent
Andrea DeLa Garza	SERCO	Absent
Deidra Simmons	SERCO	In-Person
Ambyr Weidner	Region 6	In-Person
Becky Collet	Region 6	In-Person
Kristi Hayman	Region 6	In-Person
Kelly Carnline	Region 6	In-Person
Ethan Stroud	Region 6	In-Person
Billy Wilson	Garrett Mechanical	In-Person

Staff Attendance

Michael Parks, Roger Sheridan, Vonda Morrison, Barbara Clemmons, Erica Hightower, Jodi Cobler, Karen Sanders, Sandera Perez, Summer Knight, Dolly Rosas, Janet Davis, Tiffany Love, Michelle Eckert (Zoom)

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley Board Meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm by Chairman Robert Orzabal.

Members were able to join the meeting via Zoom or call in by location (346) 248-7799 (Houston) Meeting ID: 883 1132 4013 with passcode: 381455. Board members accessing zoom utilized the chat function to confirm attendance and verified phone numbers of those that called in and acknowledged as attending.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. Public Comment

IV. Consider for Approval Previous Board Meeting Minutes

- A.** Board Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2024, were presented by Chairman Robert Orzabal. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Nester Leamon and seconded by Mr. Silas Garrett. Motion carried.

V. Board Overview

A. Financial Reporting of Workforce Services

Ms. Michelle Eckert provided an overview of the Brazos Valley Workforce financial report, highlighting the cumulative expenditures across all workforce contracts through September 30, 2024. These financials include 11 new contracts for the 2025 fiscal year, which overlap with contracts from the previous fiscal year, including a new type of contract, the Childcare Quality Formula. She noted that we are on track with six contracts and have funds obligated for the Childcare Quality fund, which closes out on October 31, 2024. Additionally, the RESEA Unemployment program received an extra \$10,000 in funding, extending its duration to February 28, 2025. Employment Services was also allocated an additional \$43,000 in funding. Ms. Eckert pointed out that we are underspent on the WIOA Youth contract due to the prior year's closeout. She emphasized the need to increase spending to meet the target, especially as we were granted a new \$147,992 contract for the new fiscal year. The floor was then opened for discussion.

B. Program Director Report

Ms. Vonda Morrison informed the board that we do have performance reports which compares each board's performance and includes a detailed report of Brazos Valley. It was noted that our area is comparatively above average when looking at total measures. Ms. Morrison pointed out that though we have struggled with the youth population, we have some new strategies going into the new year to attempt to increase activity. AEL is meeting and exceeding performance and has several success stories of how we are working with businesses within our community to better serve our customers. The floor was then opened for discussion.

VI. Executive Report

Mr. Michael Parks provided updates on the Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) and the Texas Association of Workforce Boards (TAWB), highlighting the efforts of the reunification committee to bring these two groups back together. He announced a major remodel project in the SERCO subcontractor office area, which will include new cubicles, paint, and carpeting. Mr. Parks assured the board that services will continue during the remodeling process. He also mentioned the upcoming TWC Conference, where board officers will represent the organization. Additionally, in March and April, board officers will attend the NAWB meeting to learn from other workforce boards and share best practices. The Hiring RED, White, and You event was a massive success, attracting 234 attendees and nearly 50 employers, resulting in seven on-the-spot hires, with additional statistics forthcoming. Mr. Parks noted an expanded contract with Impact Marketing Group to include social media management, aiming to enhance our presence and public engagement. Finally, he shared the positive news that TWC has removed us from the TAP (Technical Assistance Program), signaling satisfaction with our improved goals and performance.

VII. Regular Meeting Agenda

The following recommendations for approval were presented, discussed, and voted on:

- A. Recommend Approval to Modify WIOA Target Occupations List by Adding Construction Laborers & Paving, Surfacing and Tampering Equipment Operators
Motion to accept item A was made by Mr. Roby Somerford and seconded by Mr. Nester Leamon.
Motion carried.
- B. Recommend Approval for Solicitation for Lease of Space for the Madisonville, Workforce Center Office
Motion to accept item B was made by Mr. Roby Somerford and seconded by Mr. Silas Garrett.
Motion carried.
- C. Recommend Approval for FY2025 Child Care Quality Expenditures
Motion to accept item C was made by Mr. Bill Parten and seconded by Mr. Bert Miller.
Motion carried.
- D. Recommend Approval to Amend Vendor Contract for Pre-Apprenticeship Bridge Program November 2024 MDX Safety Inc.
Motion to accept item D was made by Mr. Josh Isenhour and seconded by Mr. Silas Garrett. Motion carried.
- E. Recommend Authorization to Amend Serco's Contract to Deliver Child Care Services for FY25
Motion to accept item E was made by Mr. Bill Parten and seconded by Mr. Bert Miller with Bill Ard obtaining. Motion carried.
- F. Recommend Authorization to Amend SERCO's Contract to Deliver Workforce Center Services and Business Services for FY25
Motion to accept item F was made by Mr. Bert Miller and seconded by Mr. Silas Garrett with Bill Ard obtaining. Motion carried.

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VIII. Executive (Closed) Session

IX. No- Action Items
Roll Call Follow-up

X. Meeting adjourned
Chair Orzabal adjourned the meeting at 1:01pm

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