

Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board of Directors

MINUTES

August 10, 2017
Uvalde Fairplex

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.
Nueces Conference Rm.

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mr. Juan Martinez, Chair, Private Sector, Uvalde
Ms. Maria Martinez, Vice Chair, Private Sector, Del Rio
Ms. Rachel Hanson, Secretary, Private Sector, Uvalde
Mr. Skip Baker, Treasurer, Private Sector, Del Rio
Mr. Raul Perez, Parliamentarian, Economic Development, Eagle Pass

MEMBER(S) PRESENT:

Ms. Jeanette Ball, Education, Uvalde
Mr. Glen Bradley, Private Sector, Leakey
Mr. Billy Joe Brice, Private Sector, Leakey
Dr. Terry Carson, Education, Uvalde
Mr. Richard Diaz, CBO, Crystal City
Mr. Manuel Estrada, CBO, Carrizo Springs
Mr. Michael Garcia, Private Sector, Encinal
Ms. Lytia Gonzalez, Private Sector, Eagle Pass
Ms. Monica Gonzalez, Rehabilitation Agency, Del Rio
Mr. Michael Grooms, Private Sector, Rocksprings
Mr. Johnny Guzman, Literacy, Eagle Pass
Mr. Mark Leinweber, Private Sector, Uvalde
Ms. Laura Lopez, Private Sector, Crystal City
Mr. Arturo Mancha, Private Sector, Eagle Pass
Mr. Efren Peña, Private Sector, Eagle Pass
Mr. Matthew Sealy, Private Sector, Cotulla

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Pablo Aguillon, CBO, Crystal City
Ms. Patricia Alvarado, THHSC, Uvalde
Ms. Romelia Aranda, Adult Basic/Con't Ed, Uvalde
Mr. Joel Barajas, Private Sector, Crystal City
Mr. Ernest Flores, Private Sector, Carrizo Springs
Mr. Jose Garcia, Organized Labor, Carrizo Springs
Mr. Rogelio Gonzalez, Education, Del Rio
Mr. Timothy Grant, TWC, Eagle Pass
Ms. Patricia Hope, Private Sector, Brackettville

MEMBER(S) ABSENT CON'T:

Mr. Carl Hyde, Private Sector, Rocksprings
Ms. Dana Johnson, Private Sector, Brackettville
Ms. Blanca Larson, Private Sector, Del Rio
Mr. Frank Larson, Private Sector, Del Rio
Mr. Adolfo Lozano, Private Sector, Eagle Pass
Mr. David Ojeda, CBO, Carrizo Springs

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the WFSMRG Board of Directors was called to order at approximately 4:39 p.m. by Mr. Juan Martinez, Chairman.

II. Invocation

Mr. Ricky McNiel did the invocation.

III. Roll Call

Ms. Tolie Quesada called roll and the twenty one (21) Board members listed above were determined to be present. Having established a quorum, the following business was transacted

IV. Introduction of Guest(s)

Mr. Juan Martinez welcomed Mr. Polo Leal with Texas Workforce Commission to the meeting.

V. Public Comments (3 minutes per comment)

There were no public comments at this time.

VI. Approval of the June 8, 2017 minutes

Mr. Juan Martinez entertained a motion to approve the June 8, 2017 minutes. Mr. Skip Baker made the motion to approve the minutes as presented.....motion was seconded by Mr. Raul Perez.....motion passed.

VII. New Business

**A. Executive Committee.....Mr. Juan Martinez
Information Item(s):**

**1. Recognition of WFSMRG Board of Director New Appointment(s) and/or
Reappointment(s)**

There were no new appointments and/or reappointments at this time.

2. TWC correspondence on acceptance of August 31, 2017 audit

Mr. Ricky McNiel stated that a correspondence from Texas Workforce Commission had been included in the meeting packet for the Board's review. The August 31, 2016 audit conducted by Garza/Gonzales & Associates had been a clean audit and TWC had accepted the audit and file was closed.

Action Item(s):

1. Acceptance of Board members resignation(s)/declaration of vacancy(s)

There were none at this time.

2. Authorization to approve the Fiscal Integrity review of the Workforce Delivery System and Child Care programs for the period of September 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018

Mr. Ricky McNiel stated that the Fiscal Integrity review is required to be conducted on the Operator, Middle Rio Grande Development Council to ensure that several provisions are being met on financials and performance measures. If the Fiscal Integrity review is clean then the Board would recommend an extension of the Child Care and Workforce Delivery System contracts with Middle Rio Grande Development Council .

Mr. Manuel Estrada made the motion to approve the Fiscal Integrity reportmotion was seconded by Mr. Arturo Mancha.....motion passed.

3. Authorization to approve the A-133 report for the period of September 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018 on WFSMRG & MRGDC, Audit

Mr. Glen Bradley made the motion to approve the A-133 report for the period of September 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018 on WFSMRG & MRGDC, Audit.....Mr. Michael Grooms seconded the motion.....motion passed.

4. Recommendation to extend the Child Care Contract between the Board and MRGDC, Operator. This extension begins October 1, 2017 and ends on September 30, 2018. This is the second extension of three extensions on a 4 year awarded contract. This extension is contingent upon a satisfactory Fiscal Integrity review.

Mr. Arturo Mancha made the motion to extend the Child Care Contract between the Board and MRGDC, Operator. This extension begins October 1, 2017 and ends on September 30, 2018. This is the second extension of three extensions on a 4 year awarded contract. This extension was contingent upon a satisfactory Fiscal Integrity review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Skip Baker.....motion passed.

5. Recommendation to extend the Workforce System Contract between the Board and MRGDC Operator. This extension begins October 1, 2017 and ends on September 30, 2018. This is the first extension of three extensions on a 4 year awarded contract. This extension is contingent upon a satisfactory Fiscal Integrity review.

Ms. Maria Martinez made the motion to extend the Workforce System Contract between the Board and the MRGDC, Operator. This extension begins October 1, 2017 and ends on September 30, 2018. This is the first extension of three extensions on a 4 year awarded contract. This extension was contingent upon a satisfactory Fiscal Integrity review. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rachel Hanson.....motion passed.

6. Authorization to grant outgoing Executive Director a onetime separation payment at the end of August 2017.

Mr. Ricky McNiel stated that it was written in the agreement when he was hired that at time of separation he would be granted a onetime ninety (90) days payment. It was the suggestion of the Auditors and TWC monitors that it would be brought before the board for approval as a onetime separation payment. He also stated that the payment had been included in the original budget that the Board approved at the beginning of the fiscal year as well as in the mid-year budget amendment. The Auditors had reviewed it as well as the TWC monitors and there were no objections. Mr. Manuel Estrada made the motion to grant the outgoing Executive Director a onetime separation payment of 90 days at the end of August 2017.....motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Leinweber.....motion passed.

**B. Finance Committee.....Mr. Billy Brice
Information Item(s):**

- 1. Summary of Fund Balances on Workforce Programs**
- 2. Workforce Board's Expenditure Report**

Mr. Ricky McNiel reported that the budget at the present time was 2.4 million and not all grants were in house as of yet but all would be loaded into the expense report by the October meeting.

Action Item(s):

- 1. Authorization to approve the PY' 17 – PY'18 Year Annual Board Budget**

Mr. Ricky McNiel reported that the PY' 17 – PY '18 Year Annual Board budget was \$ 11,388 below the budget that had been approved at mid-year. He went on to say that he had included extra money in the budget incase Mr. Richard Rogers wanted to hire additional staff. Mr. Glen Bradly made the motion to approve the PY '17 – PY '18 Year Annual Board Budget.....motion was seconded by Ms. Lytia Gonzales.....motion passed.

- 2. Authorization to extend Mr. Ed Taylor & Associates Financial Contract. The extension is from October 11, 2017 through October 10, 2018. This is 2nd extension of 3 extensions. The total of contract not to exceed \$ 15,000.**

Ms. Maria Martinez made the motion to extend Mr. Ed Taylor & Associates Financial Contract. The extension is from October 11, 2017 through October 10, 2018. This is the 2nd extension of 3 extensions. The total of contract not to exceed \$15,000.....motion was seconded by Mr. Arturo Mancha.....motion passed.

**C. Child Care Committee.....Mr. David Ojeda, Jr.
Information Item(s)**

1. Director of Child Care Program Report

Ms. Marisa Cervantes elaborated on the Child Care Program Report. She went on to say that currently Middle Rio was not meeting the enrollment performance measure because of over enrollment, as reported by TWC. Marisa went on to explain to the Board on how last December staff had to recertify the children currently enrolled and would stay certified for 12 months. At the present time there were 204 children on the waiting list and the waiting list will continue until the enrollment decreases.

**D. Planning Committee.....Mr. Skip Baker
Information Item(s)**

- 1. Workforce Solutions MRG Board’s Performance Analysis & Reporting**
- 2. Overall 28 Boards Performance Measures**

Mr. Ronnie Rivera gave a quick rundown of the performance reports listed above.

3. Approval of Local Workforce Dev. Board plans for PY 2017-2020

Mr. Ricky McNeil reported that on page 65 of the Board packet was a notice from TWC congratulating the Boards for having the PY 2017 – 2020 plans approved by Governor Abbott. This is the first full plan under WIOA.

4. Report on Summer Earn and Learn Program

Mr. Ronnie Rivera stated that this had been a successful program. Ms. Monica Gonzales thanked the Operator and those involved for partnering with DARs and making the first Summer Earn and Learn Program locally a success. She went on to say that the “real” world of work experience these consumers gained is invaluable and they were as well very satisfied in their specific employment positions. With joint partnerships like the Summer Earn and Learn, their consumers are one step closer to independence and a suitable employment.

5. Director of Workforce System Report

Mr. Ronnie Rivera elaborated on his report that started on page 66 of the board packet. He elaborated on the activities such as the Careers in Texas Industries Week, this event would invite employers to participate in a relevant way to help students explore career opportunities in their industries. Mr. Rivera also reported on the hiring of two employment specialists in Del Rio that will be under the supervision of Ms. Ofelia Reyes, Del Rio Center Manager. The two individuals are part of the Military Family Support Pilot Program.

a. Data Fund Technicians Report

The Data Fund Technicians report was on page 70 of the packet and Mr. Ronnie Rivera reported on it as well.

**E. Monitoring Committee.....Ms. Monica Gonzales
Information Item:**

1. TWC Choices TA report on the visit conducted July 10 – 12, 2017

Ms. Rosie Lozano reported that technical assistance had been provided to the Board and Operator staff on the Choices and SNAP Employment & Training programs. The report was included in the Board packet.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT

A. Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande Board: Mr. Ricky McNeil, Executive Director

Mr. Ricky McNeil was happy to report that the DARS staff are in the Del Rio, Eagle Pass & Uvalde centers and we are now fully integrated in these centers. These individuals will be a big part of our Workforce System. The moves had gone very smooth and DARS staff are happy in their new offices.

Mr. Ricky McNeil introduced the new Executive Director that would be taking his place, Mr. Richard Rogers.

Mr. Rogers gave the Board members a brief overview of how he is wanting to construct the board meetings and go to a consent agenda and is wanting to bring in some speakers and experts that will inform the Board members on current situations. He elaborated on his vision on how the Board will be playing a big role as a promoter of workforce development through partnership with educational institutions, labor, employers, business and industry associations.

At this time Mr. Michael Garcia updated the Board of Directors on the oil situation around the region.

1. Workforce Programs/Child Care Administrator Report

The Workforce and Child Care report was included in the packet for the Board's review.

B. MRGDC Operator: Mr. Nick Gallegos, Executive Director

Mr. Nick Gallegos thanked the Board of Directors for extending the Child Care and Workforce Contracts for another year.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Juan Martinez entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Arturo Mancha made the motion to adjourn the meeting.....motion was seconded by Mr. Glen Bradley.....meeting was adjourned.

