

	PAGE
1	
	TABLE OF CONTENTS
2	
3	4
4	4
5	
6	4
7	4
8	
9	4
10	5
11	
12	5
13	6
14	
15	5/7
16	NO UPDATE
17	
18	9
19	NO UPDATE
20	
21	10
22	12
23	
24	NOT HEARD
25	

1	TABLE OF CONTENTS	
2		PAGE
3	AGENDA ITEM NO. 14	NOT HEARD
4	FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS	
5	AGENDA ITEM NO. 15	13
6	ADJOURNMENT	
7	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	15
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

3 (9:00 a.m.)

4 AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

5 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning,
6 everyone. This meeting will now be called to order.

7 AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

8 Discussion, consideration and possible
9 action regarding whether to assume continuing
10 jurisdiction on unemployment compensation cases, wage
11 claim cases, and/or tax liability cases and
12 reconsideration of unemployment compensation cases, wage
13 claim cases, and/or tax liability cases, if any.

14 No discussion.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

16 Discussion, consideration and possible
17 action regarding tax liability cases listed on the Texas
18 Workforce Commission Docket 15.

19 The Commission considered and took action
20 on all tax liability cases listed on Docket 15.

21 AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

22 Discussion, consideration and possible
23 action regarding higher level appeals in wage claim
24 cases listed on the Texas Workforce Commission Docket
25 15.

1 The Commission considered and took action
2 on all wage claim cases listed on Docket 15.

3 AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

4 Discussion, consideration and possible
5 action regarding higher level appeals in unemployment
6 compensation cases listed on the Texas Workforce
7 Commission Docket 15.

8 The Commission considered and took action
9 on all unemployment compensation cases listed on Docket
10 15.

11 (The Commission paused, then continued
12 with the remainder of the agenda)

13 (Off the record: 9:00 a.m. to 9:24 a.m.)

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning,
15 everyone. We're back in session.

16 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

17 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Jewell, has anyone
18 signed up for public comment?

19 MS. PATRICIO: No comment, Mr. Chairman.

20 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you.

21 AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

22 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 7, discussion,
23 consideration and possible action regarding the
24 estimated unemployment trust fund balance pursuant to
25 Texas Labor Code Section 204.061 and the ETIA holding

1 fund balance, Randy Townsend.

2 Good morning --

3 STAR AWARD PRESENTATION

4 MS. ARBOUR: Chairman, we had a Star Award
5 presentation this morning.

6 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Oh, that's right.

7 MS. ARBOUR: If I could --

8 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: That is right. Thank
9 you for reminding me.

10 Courtney, we have a Star Award
11 presentation this morning.

12 (Laughter)

13 MS. ARBOUR: Good morning, Chairman,
14 Commissioners, Ed. Nice to see everybody this morning,
15 and thank you.

16 For the second quarter of the fiscal year
17 TWC is recognizing one individual Star Award winner.
18 Steve Rye is the Director of both the Integrated Service
19 Area Managers and Career Schools and Colleges
20 Departments.

21 He oversees a number of programmatic
22 responsibilities and provides policy and operational
23 information and clarification to Boards, their one-stop
24 operators, career schools and agency staff.

25 Mr. Rye consistently provides exceptional

1 customer service and ongoing support to public, state
2 and federal entities by providing -- by representing the
3 agency in a positive manner, promoting a team approach
4 to problem solving and demonstrating substantial
5 workforce and career school knowledge.

6 He's also known for his personal
7 contributions in the community through volunteerism.
8 For his exceptional customer service and dedication to
9 supporting the public Steve was nominated by Lester
10 (Earl) Woolbright for this individual Star award.

11 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Congratulations,
12 Steve.

13 (Photos taken)

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 (CONT'D)

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. Item 7.
17 Discussion and update on the unemployment insurance
18 trust fund balance, Randy Townsend.

19 Good morning.

20 MR. TOWNSEND: Good morning, Chairman,
21 Commissioners.

22 For the record, Randy Townsend, Chief
23 Financial Officer. Presenting the estimated
24 unemployment trust fund balance for October 1, 2015.

25 Beginning with the cash balance last year

1 we were just under 1.9 billion, adding the collections
2 we expect of right around 2.3 billion and the estimated
3 payout of approximately 2.2 billion.

4 We're now estimating that the trust fund
5 cash balance on September 30th will be \$2 billion.
6 After accounting for the obligation assessment balance
7 as of September and the status of our unemployment
8 revenue bond obligations, that would bring the net
9 position of the trust fund to 1,452,000,000 on October
10 1, 2015. That would put the net position about
11 400 million above the floor on that date.

12 I also wanted to share with you the
13 employment and training investment assessments
14 holding -- or the holding fund status. Just as a
15 reminder, we began the year with a \$31 million balance,
16 adding the collections we estimate for the year and then
17 the assumption for funding the appropriation for the
18 skills for the '16-'17 biennium.

19 That would leave a balance in the holding
20 fund as of this coming September of just over 85
21 million -- 85.6 million. Let me share with you some
22 recent statistics regarding our unemployment trust fund
23 activity.

24 This is for the six weeks that ended
25 March 28th. The benefits paid averaged 46.1 million per

1 week. That was up 5.4 percent over the one year-ago
2 average for six weeks.

3 Initial claims averaged 17,397, again, for
4 the six weeks. That was up a little over 20 percent
5 from the one year-ago average. Finally, the continued
6 claims averaged 142,385.

7 That number for continued claims was
8 4 percent below the one year-ago average. We have taken
9 all of these numbers into account as we put the
10 projection together for this coming October, and I'll be
11 happy to answer any question or if you have comments.

12 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners, any
13 questions or comments?

14 COMM. CONGLETON: No questions. Thank
15 you.

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Randy.

17 MR. TOWNSEND: Thank you.

18 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 8. We have no
20 update on the LAR.

21 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

22 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 9. Discussion,
23 consideration and possible action regarding approval of
24 local Board nominees, John Fuller.

25 Good morning, John.

1 MR. FULLER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
2 Commissioners, Mr. Serna.

3 For the record, John Fuller, Workforce
4 Development Division. Commissioners, before you today
5 you have nominees from Gulf Coast and Middle Rio Grande
6 for your consideration.

7 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner
8 Congleton.

9 COMM. CONGLETON: I move that we approve
10 the nominees from Gulf Coast and Middle Rio.

11 COMM. ANDRADE: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: It's unanimous. Thank
13 you, John.

14 MR. FULLER: Thank you.

15 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 10, discussion
17 regarding proposals to the 84th Legislature. No update
18 on this one, Tom?

19 MR. McCARTY: No update.

20 AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

21 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 11. Discussion,
22 consideration and possible action regarding enacted or
23 proposed or considered federal or state legislation, Tom
24 McCarty.

25 MR. McCARTY: Good morning, Chairman

1 Alcantar, Commissioner Congleton and Commissioner
2 Andrade. Tom McCarty, External Relations.

3 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, Tom.

4 MR. McCARTY: This afternoon the Senate
5 HELP Committee at the federal level will be having a
6 hearing on WIO technical amendments.

7 That will be at 2:30 eastern time. Here
8 at the state level the Senate is expected to take up the
9 budget on the Senate floor today. So we'll be watching
10 that for you.

11 And then on Thursday the House Economic &
12 Small Business Development Committee will have a hearing
13 at 8:00 to hear HB 3685 by Representative Anderson.
14 This is TWC's legislative initiative on Rehabilitation
15 Service Employment Exception.

16 And then also on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. the
17 Senate version of the Sunset bill will be up. So we'll
18 be over at the Senate Natural Resources and Economic
19 Development Subcommittee for that hearing.

20 That -- oh. And then also we have HB 1657
21 by Vo which is the Surplus Credit Rate is also set for
22 the local calendar on the House side on Thursday.

23 That concludes my remarks, and I'm happy
24 to answer any questions you have.

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners, do you

1 have any questions for Tom?

2 COMM. CONGLETON: No questions. Thank
3 you, Tom.

4 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Tom.

5 MR. McCARTY: Thank you.

6 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

7 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 12, report and
8 update by the Executive Director.

9 Ed, what do you have for us this morning?
10 Good morning.

11 MR. SERNA: (Mic off) Good morning. I
12 think -- Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I think the only
13 thing to report is that staff continues to work
14 diligently on the transfer of the DARS functions to TWC.

15 We did get some information from the
16 Legislature that the implementation date would be
17 September 1st of 2016, but staff continues to work to
18 prepare plans because it's a significant move, and we'll
19 continue to work with the DARS staff.

20 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Great. Ed, how are we
21 doing on the IT projects? Are those still improving in
22 terms of where we were?

23 MR. SERNA: (Mic off) I think that for
24 the most part we've made improvements on the IT
25 projects. We have one project in particular, though,

1 that we're negotiating -- not negotiating -- but
2 discussing and assessing with the vendors their ability
3 to meet deadlines and actually complete the project.

4 We're analyzing alternatives on that one
5 project. It is specifically the benefit user interface
6 project, which is one of the larger ones. The one where
7 we have had problems in the past, the tax modification
8 project, that one we seem to have turned around.

9 While it's a very complicated project,
10 we're still moving forward, and currently our deadline
11 for that is November of this year. It looks like we're
12 plus or minus a few weeks still on track for that, and
13 the rest of them are moving on track.

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Great. Appreciate the
15 focus on those projects and encourage you to keep up the
16 good, hard work there. Thank you for your leadership.

17 MR. SERNA: (Mic off) We'll have an
18 update at our upcoming --

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Great. Any questions,
20 Commissioners, of Ed?

21 All right. We have no Executive Session.

22 AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

23 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Is there a motion to
24 adjourn?

25 COMM. CONGLETON: So made.

1 COMM. ANDRADE: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We're adjourned.

3 (Proceedings concluded at 9:34 a.m.)

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 STATE OF TEXAS)

3 COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

4 I, William C. Beardmore, Certified Shorthand
5 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby
6 certify that the above-mentioned matter occurred as
7 hereinbefore set out.

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

13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14 and seal this 21st day of April 2015.

15

16

17

WILLIAM C. BEARDMORE
Certified Shorthand Reporter
CSR No. 918 - Expires 12/31/16
Firm Registration No. 276

19

Kennedy Reporting Service, Inc.
7800 North MoPac, Suite 120
Austin, Texas 78759
512.474.2233

20

21

22

23

24

25