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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
BEFORE THE  
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

PUBLIC MEETING )  
FOR THE TEXAS )  
WORKFORCE COMMISSION )

COMMISSION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2017

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT at 10:00 a.m. on  
Wednesday, the 4th day of January, 2017, 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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1 Commission Dockets 52 and 1.

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 Dockets 52 and 1.

7 The Commission considered and took action on  
8 all wage claim cases listed on Dockets 52 and 1.

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 Dockets 52  
13 and 1.

14 The Commission considered and took action on  
15 all unemployment compensation cases listed on Dockets 52 and  
16 1.

17 AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

18 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Good morning, everyone.  
19 Happy New Year. Good morning, Les. Has anyone signed up  
20 for public comment?

21 MR. TROBMAN: No, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We have no public  
23 comment. Thank you.

24 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 8. Discussion,

1 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Acceptance  
2 of Pledges for Board Contract Year 2017 Child Care Matching  
3 Funds. Angie, good morning.

4 MS. NELSON-WERNLI: Good morning, Chairman,  
5 Commissioners, Mr. Temple. Happy New Year. For the record  
6 Angie Nelson-Wernli, Workforce Development Division.  
7 Annually the Boards submit local match budgets to secure  
8 federal match pursuant to Commission Rule 800.73. As you  
9 know, this is a standing agenda item. They have until  
10 January 31st to secure their funds.

11 Today staff request your acceptance of child  
12 care pledges for donations, transfer and certifications and  
13 the expense in the amount of \$4,338,749.

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs?

15 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we accept and  
16 approve the Board contract year 2017 child care local  
17 matching funds.

18 COMM. ALVAREZ: I'll second that.

19 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
20 you.

21 MS. NELSON-WERNLI: Thank you.

22 AGENDA ITEM NO. 9, 10 & 11

23 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: There is no updates on --  
24 there are no updates on Items 9, 10 or 11.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We now get to Item 12. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Report to the Legislature Concerning the Effectiveness of the Child Care Program as Provided in the Texas Labor Code. Jason, good morning.

MR. VADEN: Good morning, Commissioners. For the record Jason Vaden, Workforce Development Division. By January 15th of each odd-numbered year the Commission is required to submit a report to the legislature on the effectiveness of child care. Texas Labor Code 302.0043 change -- charges TWC with evaluating the effectiveness of the program in helping parents who receive subsidized child care enter and maintain employment. It also requires TWC to compile information regarding wage and employment status of parents receiving TWC funded child care, measure improvements of our child care professionals and facilitate collaboration with other state agencies.

Senate Bill 208 from the 84th legislative session amended state law to require reporting on additional information including employment results by local Workforce development areas and five-year trends on the information collected and analyzed by TWC. Subsidized child care provides a vital support to both TANF and non-TANF families helping them enter and retain employment in the Texas

1 workforce. For parents receiving both TANF and child care  
2 support in 2014, 86 percent found employment within the year  
3 and for non-TANF working parents receiving only child care  
4 support, 87 percent main -- maintained -- retained  
5 employment throughout the year. Both are increases from the  
6 prior biennial report.

7 The report also highlights collaboration  
8 efforts with other state agencies, identifies several key  
9 program initiatives, addresses the requirements set forth in  
10 Senate Bill 208 and includes a study on incentives to  
11 encourage parents to choose providers with a Texas Rising  
12 Star designation. Today we're seeking your approval to  
13 submit the child care effectiveness report to the  
14 legislature. That concludes my remarks, and I'm happy to  
15 answer questions if you have any.

16 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioners, any  
17 questions? Commissioner Hughs?

18 COMM. HUGHS: Just a comment. I'm really  
19 pleased that we're making a difference and by providing the  
20 service, we are really helping parents to provide for their  
21 families as well as to contribute to the economy of our  
22 great state. So I really appreciate the staff's work on  
23 gathering all this information and producing this report.

24 And with that, I move that we approve the  
25 evaluation of effectiveness of subsidized child care program

1 reports to the 85th Texas legislature and submit it to the  
2 legislature.

3           COMM. ALVAREZ: I, like Commissioner Hughs,  
4 want to thank you for compiling this information for us,  
5 Jason. You did a great job along with your staff. I second  
6 that.

7           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous.

8                           AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

9           CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 13. Discussion,  
10 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Statewide  
11 Initiatives Funded with WIOA, TANF or AEL or Child Care or  
12 Other State Funds. Patricia, good morning.

13           MS. GONZALEZ: Good morning, Chairman,  
14 Commissioners, Mr. Temple. And happy New Year to everyone.  
15 For the record Patricia Gonzalez, Workforce Development  
16 Division. On July 27th, 2016, the Commission approved  
17 \$1 million in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF,  
18 funds for the Governor's Summer Merit Program for FY17.

19                           The purpose of the program is to provide  
20 scholarships for Texas middle school and high school  
21 students between the ages of 14 and 21 years to increase the  
22 number of students served in science, technology,  
23 engineering and math skills related summer camp programs.  
24 Students who attend the day or residential camps receive  
25 information and gain experience pursuant -- pertinent to

1 postsecondary opportunities that lead to STEM careers.

2                   Requests for proposals for 2017 Summer Merit  
3 Program resulted in proposals exceeding the FY17 approved  
4 budget. To expand the availability of STEM skills related  
5 summer camp programs throughout Texas, staff is recommending  
6 increasing the FY17 operating budget from \$1 million to  
7 1,372,462 in TANF funds to support all sufficiently  
8 responsive proposals. This concludes my presentation, and  
9 I'm happy to answer questions, if any.

10                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs?

11                   COMM. HUGHS: I move that we approve the  
12 expansion of STEM skill related -- skills related summer  
13 camp programs and increasing the FY17 operating budget from  
14 1 million to 1,372,462 in TANF funds to support all  
15 sufficiently responsive proposals.

16                   COMM. ALVAREZ: I second that.

17                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
18 you, Patricia.

19                   AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

20                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 14. There is no  
21 update regarding issues related to child care  
22 reauthorization.

23                   AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

24                   CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: 15. Discussion,  
25 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Approval

1 Local Board Nominees, John Fuller. Good morning, John.

2 MR. FULLER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
3 Commissioners, Mr. Temple. For the record John Fuller,  
4 Workforce Development. Commissioners before you today, you  
5 have nominees from Alamo, Borderplex, Deep East Texas, North  
6 Central Texas, Golden Crescent and Southeast Texas for your  
7 consideration.

8 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Commissioner Hughs?

9 COMM. HUGHS: I move that we approve the  
10 local Workforce Development Board nominees for Alamo,  
11 Borderplex, Deep East Texas, North Central Texas, Golden  
12 Crescent and Southeast Texas.

13 COMM. ALVAREZ: I second that.

14 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We are unanimous. Thank  
15 you, John.

16 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

17 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 16. Discussion,  
18 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the Legislative  
19 Proposals by TWC to the 85th Texas Legislature, Tom McCarty.  
20 Good morning, Tom.

21 MR. McCARTY: Good morning. How are you,  
22 sir? No -- and I have no presentation for this item, but I  
23 do for the next.

24 AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 17. Discussion,

1 Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Enacted,  
2 Proposed Federal or State Legislation, Tom McCarty.

3 MR. McCARTY: Good morning, Chairman  
4 Alcantar, Commissioner Hughs, Commissioner Alvarez. Tom  
5 McCarty, External Relations. Since we're not meeting next  
6 week, I wanted to kind of remind you all that congress, the  
7 115th Congress, was sworn in yesterday. We do have two new  
8 congressional members from the state of Texas. Jodey  
9 Arrington is the new representative from Congressional  
10 District 19. And then Vicente Gonzalez is the  
11 representative for Congressional District 15. Next Tuesday  
12 at noon the Texas legislature will begin the legislative  
13 session, and we'll be ready for it. And I'm happy to answer  
14 any questions you have.

15 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Any questions?

16 COMM. HUGHS: No, sir.

17 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Thank you, Tom,  
18 appreciate it.

19 MR. McCARTY: Thank you.

20 AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

21 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 18. Report and  
22 Update by the Executive Director. Larry, good morning.

23 MR. TEMPLE: Nothing to report, Mr. Chairman  
24 and Commissioners.

25 CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: All right. Thank you.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 19

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: Item 19. Executive Session. The Commissioners will be going into executive session under Agenda Item 19(d) pursuant to Government Code 551.071(1) to discuss the pending litigation regarding Eric Mahroum versus TWC.

(Off the Record from 10:44 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: It's 11:17. We are back in session. Is there a motion to adjourn?

COMM. HUGHS: I move that we adjourn.

COMM. ALVAREZ: I second that.

CHAIRMAN ALCANTAR: We're adjourned. Thank you.

(Proceedings concluded at 11:19 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 8th day of January, 2017.

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

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