

Workforce Solutions - Deep East Texas
415 S. First Street, Suite 110B
Lufkin, TX 75901
Business Services Committee Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2022

I. CHAIR TYANE DIETZ CALLED THE BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER AT 12:33 P.M.

CHAIR TYANE DIETZ ANNOUNCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION (WD LETTER 28-19) DATED NOVEMBER 19, 2019, REGARDING THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 551 ALLOWING THE USE OF VIDEOCONFERENCING AS A METHOD FOR CONDUCTING BOARD MEETINGS, THE BOARD IS PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ITS COMMITTEE MEETING AT THE ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE AND VIA VIRTUAL MEETING WEB LINK. SHE ALSO SAID THE MEETING IS BEING RECORDED AND THE OPEN SESSION PORTION OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST. PRESIDING OFFICER, TYANE DIETZ, WAS PHYSICALLY PRESENT.

AFTER THE ROLL CALL, MS. DIETZ CONFIRMED THAT A QUORUM WAS PRESENT:

Members Present: Lisa Balty, TJ Colwell, Tyane Dietz, Tim Ditoro, Staci Hodges, Eddie Hopkins, Quincy Martindale

Members Absent: Wayne Haglund, Anita Humphreys, Laurie King, Matthew Lowery, Rich Scott

Board Staff Present: Mark Durand, Debb Homman, Aubrey Jones, Lauren Phipps, Karen Stubblefield, Misty Woodard

Visitors: Scott Amey, LaTreaser Cartwright, Rhonda Cartwright, Michelle Kennedy, Monica Peters-Clark, Shakia Roberts

CHAIR TYANE DIETZ REMINDED THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION.

Chair Tyane Dietz asked that all members sign a conflict of interest declaration regardless of whether they have a conflict and send the form to Board Staff.

WELCOME OF GUESTS:

None

II. Public Comments

None

III. Discussion/Action: Approval of Minutes – April 11, 2022

Motion: Quincy Martindale made the motion to approve the minutes as presented.
Second: Lisa Balty
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

IV. Information and Briefing Items

A. JET Grant Update

Mark Durand and Karen Stubblefield provided updates regarding the Job & Education for Texans (JET) Grant. Mr. Durand stated two responses were submitted by the April 28, 2022 deadline regarding Request for Application (RFA) 32022-00045 for public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and public state colleges. Angelina College submitted a response regarding the Electromechanical Technology Associate of Applied Science and Level 1 Certificate Program. Lamar State College Port Arthur submitted a response regarding the Rural Licensed Vocational Nursing Program in partnership with Deep East Texas College and Career Academy. Ms. Stubblefield noted the upcoming deadline of June 9, 2022 for Texas independent school districts, open-enrollment charter schools and Windham School District to submit responses to RFA 32022-00194. Board staff have been communicating with and encouraging ISDs to submit applications. Ms. Stubblefield reported 10 ISDs to date that were working on their applications. Following the Board staff's updates, Ms. Tyane Dietz inquired about the Port Arthur entity, and how training would be offered to high school students. Mr. Durand answered that six school districts formed a consortium and Lamar Port Arthur would provide training at a central site location. Mr. Quincy Martindale asked if Brookeland ISD has reached out regarding submitting applications. Mr. Durand responded that Brookeland ISD has not communicated interest in the JET Grant Program, but he will reach out to some contacts within the ISD.

V. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Action Item 22-13 Employer of the Year Nominees

The Business Services Committee reviewed and discussed multiple employers for each Employer of the Year category. The Committee based their nominations on the Employer's use of WorkinTexas.com for job postings, the Employer's partnership with Workforce Solutions Deep East Texas (WSDet) and the Employer's utilization of WSDet services.

1. Large Employer of the Year

Motion: Lisa Balty made the motion to nominate Tyson Foods for Large Employer of the Year.

Second: Tim Ditoro

In Favor: All

Oppose: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passes

2. Small Employer of the Year

Motion: Lisa Balty made the motion to nominate Turner Fabrication for Small Employer of the Year.

Second: Staci Hodges

In Favor: All

Oppose: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passes

3. Veteran Friendly Employer of the Year

Motion: Lisa Balty made the motion to nominate Provalus for Veteran-Friendly Employer of the Year.

Second: Eddie Hopkins

In Favor: All

Oppose: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passes

4. HireAbility Employer of the Year

Motion: Eddie Hopkins made the motion to nominate Advance'd Temporaries Staffing Agency for HireAbility Employer of the Year.
Second: Lisa Balty
In Favor: All
Oppose: None
Abstain: None
Motion: Passes

5. Local Employer of Excellence

Chair Tyane Dietz recommended the Business Services Committee reconvene at a later date for discussion and selection of Local Employer of Excellence nominee due to time constraint.

B. Open Session Action, if any, as a result of Closed Session

None

VI. Reports

A. Business Services Initiatives

Business Services Reports were not presented to Committee to avoid delay in commencement of the following Committee meeting.

VII. Take Up Other Action, As Needed

None

VIII. Adjourn

Tyane Dietz adjourned the Business Services Committee Meeting at 1:28 p.m.

Duly passed and approved on this 8th day of June 2022



Tyane Dietz, Chair

Attest



Lauren Phipps, Planning and Policy Specialist