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Special General Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Time: 5:30 p.m. MST

Location: Workforce Solutions Borderplex, Inc.
304 Texas Avenue, 1st Floor Conference Room, El Paso, Texas 79901

Board Members Present

Bobby Blanco, Chair	Chelsie Evaldi	Emma Nevarez
Dr. Armando Aguirre	Ernestina Fauntleroy	Mary Jo Ochoa
Robert Alcala	Eduardo Garcia	Mica Short
Dr. Carlos Amaya	Leonard Goodman	Frank Spencer III
Satish Bhaskar	Luis Hernandez	
Ruben Chavez	Elizabeth Moya	

Teleconference

Bob Gear
Dan Dunlap
Michelle Fenton

Board Members Absent

Chrystal Davis	Randall Kinzie	Adam Valdez
Art Garza	Ruby Maldonado	Melissa Zamora
Christina Gonzalez	Ruben Torres	

Staff Members Present

Leila Melendez	Jessie Kelley	Odette Flores-Rivera
Abigail Ruiz	Karina Castillo	Roxanne Reta
Adriana Salpas	Laura Avalos	Ryan Solis
Angela Martinez	Marisela Correa	Saray Lozano
Esther Becerra	Myriam Guerrero	

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Board Chair, Bobby Blanco called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. MST. Quorum was cited.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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No items

4. REGULAR AGENDA

A: Discussion and update on childcare activities:

(Odette Flores-Rivera, Parent Services Director and Ryan Solis, Data Analyst)

- Budget & Forecast
- Enrollment Update and Plan
- Waitlist Information

Ms. Odette Flores-Rivera, Parent Services Director, presented general information regarding the childcare program, where the program was at, where it is now and where the program is going. Some of the key points that Ms. Flores-Rivera announced is that staff have already saved about \$3.8M in FY2025 and the new enrollment began in March 2025. Ms. Flores-Rivera presented a breakdown of how much a child enrolled in the program costs per month in FY2025. Mr. Ryan Solis, Data Analyst, presented information regarding the FY2026 forecast.

B: Discussion and update of childcare Quality Plan:

(Marisela Correa, Provider Services Director)

- Child Care Quality Purpose & Requirements
- Child Care Quality Budget
- Child Care Quality Initiatives & Status

Ms. Marisela Correa, Provider Services Director, informed that TWC requires at least 2% of annual childcare services budget to be dedicated to “quality care” activities. TWC increased the amount to 4% to provide additional “targeted quality care” activities: Substitute pay/reimbursement tied to staff attending school or training during work hours, and comprehensive curriculum support accompanied by overarching training. Ms. Correa presented the childcare quality budget.

C: Discussion and update of new provider payment system and services.

(Marisela Correa, Provider Services Director)

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Board within the jurisdiction of the Board. The comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes per subject, regardless of the number of those wishing to speak. Anyone desiring to address the Board under “Public Comment” must submit a “Request to Speak” form prior to the meeting. There can be no deliberation by Board members and no action taken on issues or items raised during Public Comment unless the issue or item is covered by a posted agenda item.*

Jacqueline Reza from Flowers in the Garden Child Development Center discussed that there are a lot of issues they are experiencing, and there are many moments in her center where they don't have staff as they can't pay them enough to stay in the industry. She stated that she makes a comparison where people who work at McDonald's make more money than childcare providers, also dog groomers make more money than childcare providers.

Deborah Jefferson from Angel Keeper Daycare addressed why recertifications are taking so long. Parents are calling stating they talked to staff, but staff don't call the childcare provider. She focused on the lack of communication between staff and childcare providers.

Al Velarde, CEO of Paso Del Norte Children's Development Center, said they opened a new state-of-the-art facility at 1410 Bob Hope on the east side of town to serve children with disabilities.

6. ADJOURN

Motion (Spencer/Bhaskar) to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:18 pm. MST