



**COMMITTEE OF SIX
MEETING MINUTES**

Alamo Area Council of Governments
AACOG Plaza Building, Conference Room
8200 Perrin Beitel Rd., Suite 100C
San Antonio, TX 78218
August 25, 2021
12:00 P.M.

To protect the health of the public and limit the potential spread of COVID 19 as directed by Governor of Texas, Bexar County and City of San Antonio, C of 6 will hold this meeting via videoconferencing. The meeting will be held in compliance with the suspended provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act. For those members of the public that would like to participate, please call toll-free 1-877-858-6860, which will provide two-way communications through a speaker phone. For additional information, please call Linda G. Martinez, (210) 581-1093.

Below is the WebEx information:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/159887733>

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Access Code: 159-887-733

Committee of Six: Councilwoman Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, Councilman Manny Pelaéz, Judge Chris Schuchart, Commissioner Trish DeBerry, Commissioner Rebeca Clay-Flores, Commissioner Wolverton (attending for Judge Kyle Kutscher), and Judge Richard Evans

WSA Board Members: Chair Leslie Cantu

Partners: Pooja Tripathi, Alex Lopez, Diane Rath

WSA Counsel: Frank Burney

Staff: Adrian Lopez, Mark Milton, Linda Martinez, Andrea Guajardo, Angela Bush, Cristina Bazaldua, Barbara Marques

- I. Call to Order and Quorum Determination
Presenter: Chair Judge Richard Evans
At 12:03 p.m., Chair Evans called the meeting to order.
- II. Roll Call: The roll was called, and a quorum was declared present.
Presenter: Linda G. Martinez, Executive Assistant II/Board Liaison
- III. Public Comment:
Presenter: Chair Judge Richard Evans
None
- IV. Discussion and Possible Action on the Minutes of January 27, 2021
Presenter: Chair Judge Richard Evans
Upon motion by Judge Schuchart and second by Comm. Clay-Flores, the Committee unanimously approved the January 27, 2021 Minutes.
- V. FY 21 and FY 22 Budget
Presenter: Angela Bush, Interim CFO
 - a. Budget FY 21 Amendment #2
 - Ms. Bush reviewed the proposed amendment #2 to the Budget.
 - The Fiscal Year Budget will increase by \$20,738,238. This change will increase the agency budget from \$130,393,384 to \$151,131,622.
 - This amendment will additionally increase the budget reserve by \$2,380,564 from \$7,672,362 to \$10,052,926.Upon motion by Comm. DeBerry and second by Comm. Clay-Flores, the Committee unanimously approved Amendment #2 for the FY 21 budget.
 - b. Budget FY 22
 - CEO Lopez briefed the Committee on the proposed FY22 Budget. This budget allows for the operation of 30 programs, numerous facilities, partnerships with many local non-profits and educational organizations, and hundreds of jobs fairs/meetings. Additional COVID funds have been allocated by TWC to WSA for child-care needs for hospitality workers.
 - CEO Lopez also stated that WSA has received a clean audit for the 3rd year in a row, a clear monitoring audit from the Texas Workforce Commission, and WSA has maintained its TWC Certification for Internal Program and Financial Monitoring
 - Ms. Bush presented a comparison of last year's budget against the proposed budget.

She noted that additional funds for child-care have been allocated to WSA, with reserves built into the budget, due to outstanding performance in administering funds. 94% of funds went into direct support with only 6% administrative.

- Judge Evans asked if there were additional funds to allocate into the rural areas work centers and how many families are waiting for services? 3500 families are on childcare waiting list.
- Comm. Wolverton asked about level of reserves? Reserves are being set aside to insure full funding throughout the year and to largely pay for childcare services.
- Comm. Clay-Flores asked if the needs of the rural areas are being met? Based on budget allocations, needs of rural areas are being met but there always are more needs than resources. Based on the approved budget and what was allocated for the rural areas, the actual expenditures demonstrated that the rural areas were receiving what was approved by the Board and Committee of Six.
- Comm. Clay-Flores also asked about personnel vacancies and additional hires? Staff went over the details in the Budget PPT to address the questions.
- Councilwoman Dr. Rocha-Garcia asked what the reasoning behind moving the two Disability Navigator positions to contractor side. The reasoning for this transition is these two positions are providing direct services to clients and it is a better fit since Board Staff is not providing direct services to clients.
- Personnel costs are projected to increase by 6% or \$195,480, if all positions are filled.
- No increase in staff compensation is in this budget but may be addressed in future budget amendments. Current increases were in the range of 3—5% (\$100,000 projected cost). Future recommendation will go to WSA Board and C of 6 for approval.
- Some of the facilities and resource rooms will be upgraded.
- CM Pelaez commented if additional funds are received as a result of COSA Ready to Work allocations, then such funds should be used for providing services in Bexar County.
- Comm. Wolverton commented that budget presentation is better but there still some questions that need to be answered. The liaisons between Workforce, City, County and AACOG need to be move involved.

Upon motion by Judge Schuchart and second by Comm. DeBerry, the Committee unanimously approved the FY 22 budget subject to future discussions if personnel costs are added to budget.

VI. Fiscal Matters Reports

Presenter: Angela Bush, Interim CFO

a. Financial Reports

- Ms. Bush discussed increases to some project expenses required for additional services. She also noted WSA is expecting some additional TWC funds. Rural expenses are on-going through end of CY
- Judge Schuchart asked if there are any problems in the budget. No. He also asked about HR personnel, which have been outsourced to a Professional Employer Organization, (PEO). Chair Cantu advised him that there is a Board HR Committee that reviews all HR issues.

- b. Audit Update
 - Ms. Bush also advised that TWC had approved the audit.

VII. 2021-2024 Local Plan

- a. Local Plan Implementation
 - Dr. Guajardo provided an update on Local Plan implementation. She also briefed the Committee on outreach to employers to evaluate Plan. Finally, she briefed Committee on next steps.
- b. Return on Investment Economic Study Report
 - She also commented on the Return on Investment (ROI) study requested by C of 6. Ex. Summary:
 - (i) WSA is having a positive impact on economy
 - (ii) WIOA: 1.05
 - (iii) Child Care: .92
 - Judge Evans asked how to increase Return on Investment (ROI) for childcare: train childcare recipients to be able to obtain higher paying jobs. He commented that we are spending more for childcare than return on investment. Difficult to measure the impact that providing jobs to parents will have on children's ability to find jobs in future.
 - Ms. Rath commented that childcare has historically been a program to move parents with children off welfare. That savings must be evaluated in any analysis of ROI.
 - Councilwoman Dr. Rocha-Garcia asked what are the benchmarks, who do we compare to? How are we sharing information with others and not staying in silos.
 - Councilwoman Dr. Rocha-Garcia also asked if they are offering the minimum \$15/hr. Dr. Guajardo and her team will take a deeper dive into that industry sector and see what jobs those represent.
 - Councilwoman Dr. Rocha-Garcia also commented we need to empower woman and request additional support.
 - Councilmember Clay-Flores asked if WSA is tracking how long clients are staying in placement jobs. TWC requires WSA to track two quarters post exit training which was used for the study.

VIII. Adjournment

Presenter: Chair Judge Richard Evans

Due to lack of a quorum when the members representing the City of San Antonio left the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 pm. Judge Evans asked that all C of 6 members set aside sufficient time for the meetings.