



**MINUTES STRATEGIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

Workforce Solutions Alamo  
100 N. Santa Rosa St., Suite 120, Boardroom  
San Antonio, TX 78207  
November 7, 2025  
10:00 AM

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Eric Cooper, Jim Robertson, Anthony Magaro, Leslie Cantu

**WSA STAFF:** Adrian Lopez, Teresa Chavez, Paul Briseno, Dr. Ricardo G. Ramirez, Gabriela Navarro Garcia, Penny Benavides, Victoria Rodriguez, Sandra Alvarez, Kristen Rodriguez, Rebecca Espino Balencia, Gregory Villines, Eric Vryn, Avis Burrow, Vanessa Garcia, Ruby Sanders, Qudrat Ali, Trema Cote, Manuel Ugues, Gabriela Horbach, Brenda Garcia, Sylvia Perez, Ramsey Olivarez

**PARTNER STAFF:** Joel Morgan

**AGENDA**

*Agenda items may not be considered in the order they appear.*

Citizens may appear before the Committee to speak for or against any item on the agenda in accordance with procedural rules governing meetings. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes on each topic (6 minutes if translation is needed) if they register at the beginning of the meeting. Questions relating to these rules may be directed at Janel Santos at (210) 850-2160.

*The Chair of the Committee will be at the Host Location. The Host location is specified above. Meetings will be visible and audible to the public at the Host location, and there will be a visual or audio recording of the meeting. There will be a two-way audio and video of the meeting between each Board member sufficient that Board members and public can hear and see them. WSA will comply with all Videoconferencing Guidelines.*

Please join WebEx meetings from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.  
You can also dial using your phone. United States (Toll Free): 1-415-655-0002  
Meeting link: <https://wsalamo.webex.com/wsalamo/j.php?MTID=ma571724887e57a6f2d2db1e81ddef614> Meeting  
number: 2480 700 0370  
Meeting password: vRiMu5Rtp85

During the Public Comments portion of the meeting (Agenda Item 4), the public may type their name into the chat box or unmute themselves and state their name. The host of the meeting will call each member of the public for comments in order that their names are submitted.

Workforce Solutions Alamo is an equal opportunity employer/program. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special accommodation should contact Janel Santos at (210) 850-2160 so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Relay Texas: 1-800-735-2969 (TDD) or 711 (Voice).

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**At 10:00 AM, Anthony Magaro, Acting Committee Chair called the meeting to order.**

**II. ROLL CALL AND QUORUM DETERMINATION**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**The roll was called, and a quorum was declared present.**

**III. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**NONE.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**NONE.**

**V. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MEETING MINUTES**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

- a. Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2025

**Motion to approve the meeting minutes by Eric Cooper, seconded by Leslie Cantu. All in favor of approving the minutes of the meeting held on August 8, 2025.**

**VI. MARKETING (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Presenter: Penny Benavidez, Director of Public & Government Relations

- a. Media, Marketing, and Communications Update
- b. Local Plan 2025 – 2028 Campaign
- c. O’Connor Update
- d. Fiesta Medal

**Penny Benavidez, Director of Public & Government Relations, provided a media, marketing, and communications update that included the following: Media Coverage; Social Media; TWC Chairman, Joe Esparza: Manufacturing Meet & Greet; October Events & Celebrations; WSA Local Plan 2025 – 2028; Priority of Service Banners; Hiring Red, White & You!; O’ Connor Update and 2026 Fiesta Medal Design Contest: Theme is “Creating Careers. Connecting Communities”.**

**Eric Cooper thanked CEO Lopez and Penny and emphasized the value of the one-page monthly PDF as a highly effective communications tool. He recommended further refining the messaging and associated talking points to ensure clarity and consistency, particularly given the volume of public narratives surrounding employment conditions. Lopez noted that while jobs reports provide important insights, they are inherently lagging indicators. He suggested that strengthening the talking points would allow the organization to proactively contextualize labor market data and clearly communicate accurate, fact-based information to the community. Jim Robertson recommended a tool that provides a real-time monthly pulse for each of their respective market employer collaboratives, enabling them to hear feedback pulled from different databases.**

## **VII. PROGRAMS UPDATE (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Presenter: Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services

- a. Contractor Showcase
- b. Unemployment Data and Strategy and Warn Notices Update
- c. Policy Updates

**Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services provided the following updates: On October 30th, WSA hosted the 2nd Annual Contractor Showcase, bringing together our four key partners overseeing childcare, quality, youth, and adult programs. Participants reviewed past year accomplishments and challenges, discussed upcoming priorities, and clarified expectations across IT, facilities, quality assurance, marketing, and fiscal responsibilities. Aligning standards and expectations strengthens collaboration, trust, and program coordination. Unemployment Data and Strategy and WARN Update: WSA uses unemployment data and WARN notices to track workforce trends and support services. Data guides outreach, while WARN alerts enable early employer engagement and worker support. These tools inform REEMS, which tracks reemployment within 10 weeks and signals those nearing unemployment benefit exhaustion. Policy Changes: In May, WSA updated the Oversight Committee on data validation requirements under TEGL 23-19 Change 2. These guidelines cover participant eligibility verification across DOL-funded programs, including Wagner-Peyser, JVSG, RESEA, MSFW, WIOA Title I programs, Statewide Initiatives, National Dislocated Worker Grants, TANF/Choices, TAA, and SNAP E&T.**

## **VIII. CEO REPORT (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Presenter: Adrian Lopez, Chief Executive Officer

- a. Alamo Colleges & WSA Partnership
- b. Impact of Government Shutdown

**Mr. Lopez provided an update on the Alamo Colleges and Workforce Solutions Alamo partnership, highlighting the use of Workforce Pell dollars for short-term training and discussing collaboration with Alamo Colleges to improve outcomes in key industries and support local facilities. He also addressed the impact of the government shutdown on workforce programs and partner organizations.**

## **IX. CHAIR REPORT (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**Community Needs and Response Efforts**

## **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Committee may move into Executive Session for discussion on any issue for which there is an exception to the Act as set out in section 551.071 et. seq. including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Government Code §551.072 – Discussions Regarding Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property if Deliberation in an Open Meeting Would Have a Detrimental Effect on the Position of Workforce Solutions Alamo in Negotiations with a Third Party;
- b. Government Code §551.071 – All Matters Where Workforce Solutions Alamo Seeks the Advice of its Attorney as Privileged Communications Under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas, Pending or Contemplated Litigation; and/or Settlement Offer.
- c. Government Code §551.074 – To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee of Workforce Solutions Alamo.

**NO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

**On a motion by Eric Cooper and Seconded by Leslie Cantu, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.**