



MINUTES STRATEGIC COMMITTEE MEETING

Workforce Solutions Alamo
100 N. Santa Rosa St., Suite 120,
Boardroom San Antonio, TX 78207
May 8, 2026
10:00 AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Eric Cooper, Anthony Magaro. Jim Robertson, Angelique De Oliveira

WSA STAFF: Adrian Lopez, Gabriela Navarro-Garcia, Eric Vyrn, Edmundo Patoni, Dr. Ricardo G. Ramirez, Victoria Rodriguez, Dan Wallace, Quadrat Ali, Juan Palencia, Mike Ramsey, Gabriela Horbach, Brenda Garcia, Chakib Chehadi, Ramsey Olivarez, Sylvia Perez

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.

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Meeting link: <https://wsalamo.webex.com/wsalamo/j.php?MTID=m1560ba4edc46efa356cafc6b66d5f4966>

Meeting number: 2481 360 4394

Meeting password: 4F2a8Zm3mwM

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

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Eric Cooper, Committee Chair.

II. ROLL CALL AND QUORUM DETERMINATION

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

The roll was called, and a quorum was 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 November 7, 2025

b. Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2026

The Strategic Committee meeting minutes for November 7, 2025, and January 23, 2026, were presented for approval by Mr. Eric Cooper. Motion to approve both sets of meeting minutes was made by Angelique De Oliveira and seconded by Anthony Magaro

VI. MARKETING (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Presenter: Adrian Lopez, CEO for Penny Benavidez, Director of Public & Government Relations

a. Media, Marketing, and Communications Update

b. 2026 Fiesta Medal and Student Design Contest Recognition Events

c. 2026 ACE Race Sponsorship

d. 2025 Annual Report

Mr. Adrian Lopez, CEO, provided the agenda item in the absence of Penny Benavidez, Director of Public & Government Relations. Mr. Lopez provided an update that included the following: Media, Marketing, and Communications; 2026 Fiesta Medal and Student Design Contest Recognition Events; 2026 ACE Race Sponsorships; and the 2025 Annual Report.

VII. DATA UPDATE (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Presenter: Dr. Ricardo Ramirez, Director of Quality Assurance

a. Data Release Overview

Dr. Ricardo Ramirez presented an overview of recent labor market and unemployment data for the Workforce Solutions Alamo region. Key findings included declines in federal government employment and food manufacturing jobs, while transportation equipment manufacturing continued to show long-term growth despite seasonal fluctuations. The presentation also highlighted unemployment trends noting that five industries account for approximately 53%

of workforce dislocations, workers ages 25-44 represent the largest affected age group, and Hispanic workers comprise approximately 49.3% of the region's unemployment population. Dr. Ramirez emphasized the use of labor market data to support workforce planning, service delivery, and strategic decision-making. Dr. Ramirez reported that follow-up analysis and collaboration with workforce partners will continue.

VIII. PROGRAMS UPDATE (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Presenter: Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services

- a. Strategies for Employment Outcomes
- b. Industry Collaboratives – Construction Overview

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services presented strategies to improve outcomes by leveraging Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimant data and real-time labor market information. The presentation highlighted the use of claimant data, including work history, wage levels, and duration of unemployment, to identify priority populations and provide targeted outreach and re-employment services. She also discussed aligning training investments with verified high-demand occupations to better meet employer needs and prepare job seekers for sustainable career opportunities. The presentation also emphasized strengthening employer partnerships, enhancing data-driven job matching, and expanding work-based learning opportunities such as On-the-Job Training (OJT) and apprenticeships. Ms. Rodriguez also reported that the proposed approach is intended to reduce time-to-employment, increase placement into high-wage, high-demand occupations, improve employer satisfaction, and strengthen long-term wage and retention outcomes for participants.

Mr. Edmundo Patoni, Community Initiatives Manager, provided an overview of the Construction Industry Collaborative, which brought together thirty-one representatives from construction employers, education providers, public sector partners, and workforce organizations to support workforce development and talent pipeline strategies within the construction sector. The collaborative focused on workforce demand, skill gaps, credential alignment, and hiring challenges. Employers emphasized the need for skilled trades workers, improved alignment between training programs and industry requirements, and support for filling hard-to-fill positions. Participation from partners, including Alamo Colleges District, helped strengthen coordination between training providers and employer expectations. Mr. Patoni also reported that the collaborative supports ongoing employer engagement and workforce alignment efforts to ensure training programs remain responsive to industry needs. Future efforts will focus on expanding employer participation, incorporating industry feedback into workforce strategies, and providing updates to leadership and the Strategic Committee.

VIII. CEO REPORT (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Presenter: Adrian Lopez, Chief Executive Officer

- a. Impact Awards – Honoring Those Who Took the Chance

Adrian Lopez, CEO, provided a brief update on the upcoming Impact Awards event. He reported that approximately 350 individuals had registered as of the previous day and noted that the event is expected to be a high-energy celebration recognizing workforce and community achievements.

IX. CHAIR REPORT (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

a. Board Retreat

Eric Cooper provided a brief discussion regarding key priorities for the Board's workforce strategy and future planning efforts. Key themes identified included strengthening employer engagement, improving labor market data quality, enhancing coordination among workforce partners, and expanding access to services in rural and underserved areas. Mr. Cooper also reported that the Board will incorporate identified priorities into the development of a strategic framework and future planning 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.

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Presenter: Eric Cooper, Committee Chair

Committee Chair Eric Cooper adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

