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## Rural Subcommittee Meeting

*date* Wednesday, April 26, 2023

*time* 9:00 am MST

*place* Workforce Solutions Borderplex, Inc.  
304 Texas Avenue, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, El Paso, Texas 79901

**This will be a teleconference meeting, see Notes section below the enumerated Agenda items for further instructions.**

*Committee Members Present:*

Randall Kinzie, Chair  
Dr. Jose Manuel De la Rosa  
Dan Dunlap  
Peggy O'Brien  
Marco Tristan

*Committee Members Absent:*

Mary Jo Ochoa

*Staff Members Present:*

Leila Melendez  
Abigail Ruiz  
Ivette Alvarado  
Marisela Correa  
Myriam Guerrero  
Yvonne Lopez  
Zonia Sigala

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## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTE OF ATTENDANCE

*(Randall Kinzie, Rural Subcommittee Chair)*

*Mr. Randall Kinzie, Rural Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 am MST. Quorum was cited.*

### 2. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

**A:** Report and update on Unemployment Insurance metrics in the rural areas  
*(Denisse Arrieta, Deputy Director, Grant Associates)*

*Ms. Zonia Sigala, Business Services Manager, Grant Associates, presented an update on the unemployment insurance in the rural area and mentioned that from October to March, there have been 64 unemployment claimants, out of which 35 have been served,*

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Relay Texas: 711 (Voice) or 1-800-735-2989 (TTY) Igualdad de oportunidades de Empleo/Programas. Equipo auxiliar y servicios de apoyo están disponibles para personas con discapacidad al ser requeridos. Relay Texas: 711 (Voz) o 1-800-735-2989 (TTY)

*15 have been sent job referrals, 5 have been assisted with resume assistance, there have also been 22 Work in Texas registrations and 12 have been serviced with unemployment orientation.*

- B:** Discussion and update on Business Services Unit activities in the rural areas  
(Denisse Arrieta, Deputy Director, Grant Associates)

*Ms. Sigala discussed the outreach the business services unit has been working on within the region and presented the job postings broken down by zip code.*

- C:** Update on Rural Activities (Yvonne Lopez, Rural Development Project Manager)

*Ms. Yvonne Lopez, Rural Development Project Manager, shared the activities staff has done in the rural areas for the last two months and mentioned that staff has visited the County Judges and Sul Ross University.*

- D:** Discussion and update on rural childcare services  
(Ivette Alvarado, Workforce Project Specialist II Family Services Department)

*Ms. Ivette Alvarado, Workforce Project Specialist II Family Services Department, discussed that she visited the Alpine ISD Directors for the child care center and was able to connect the Health and Human Services Child Care Regulations evaluator with the Alpine Directors.*

- E:** Discussion and update on May 18<sup>th</sup> General Board Meeting in Marfa, TX  
(Leila Melendez, CEO)

*Ms. Leila Melendez, CEO, presented the May 18th General Board Meeting agenda to be held in Marfa, TX and invited Rural Subcommittee Members to attend the meeting with Board Members and County Judges.*

### **3. ADJOURN**

- A:** Discussion on items of interest for next agenda – June 28, 2023

*The meeting adjourned at 9:42 am. MST.*