

1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
2 BEFORE THE
3 TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
4 AUSTIN, TEXAS

5 PERFORMANCE MEASURES)
6 FOR THE TEXAS)
7 WORKFORCE COMMISSION)

8
9 COMMISSION MEETING

10 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010
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17 BE IT REMEMBERED THAT at 1:32 p.m., Tuesday,
18 the 26th day of September, 2010, the above-entitled
19 matters came on for hearing at the Texas Workforce
20 Commission, TWC Building, 101 East 15th Street, Room
21 244, Austin, Texas, before TOM PAUKEN, RONALD G.
22 CONGLETON, and ANDRES ALCANTAR, COMMISSIONERS, and LARRY
23 TEMPLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, of the Texas Workforce
24 Commission; and the following proceedings were reported
25 by Lydia L. Edwards, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of:

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APPEARANCES

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSIONERS:

Tom Pauken, Chairman
Andres Alcantar
Ronald G. Congleton

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION STAFF:

Larry E. Temple, Executive Director
H. E. (Gene) Crump, Jr., Deputy Executive Director
LaSha Lenzy, Director of UI and Regulation
Tom McCarty, Director of External Relations
Robert Gomez, Director of Civil Rights
Richard C. Froeschle, Deputy Director of LMCI
Randy Townsend, Chief Financial Officer
Reagan Miller, Workforce Development Division
Adam Leonard, Performance Analysis and Reporting

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE. 28

P R O C E E D I N G S

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

(1:32 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Larry, you want to begin?

MR. TEMPLE: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. We have the quarterly performance for August, and as always we'll start with our new director of Labor Market Information, Mr. Rich Froeschle, no stranger, though.

MR. FROESCHLE: No stranger here. Thank you, Larry. Rich Froeschle with the Labor Market Information Department to talk a little bit about the Texas economy over the last month and actually the last 90 days. And I think the best way for me to start this, I've given you a couple of handouts. One is our October Texas monthly labor review newsletter. And I've also given you a set of bullets from my briefing today which is titled "PAR Briefing September 2010 Narrative," and it's from that document that I'll conduct this presentation.

Actually as I thought about what we were going to talk about a little today, I went back to the Federal Reserve's beige book which is published on a -- actually on a six-week basis, and I looked at what they

1 had reported for what they call the 11th District, or
2 the Dallas district. And I want to start with their
3 comments because I think they're fairly exemplary of
4 what we've seen here in Texas, and that is that the 11th
5 District has expanded at a more subdued pace over the
6 past six weeks than during the previous reporting
7 period. The energy, transportation services and
8 staffing industries which have been a source of the
9 strength of recovery in the District and in Texas have
10 seen positive gains this last month, but a little slower
11 than what we've seen earlier in the summer.

12 Business activity was essentially
13 unchanged in most other industries; although, retailers
14 and -- said -- well, the retailers said that sales had
15 improved and that financial firms did see that lending
16 activity was starting to pick up a little bit. Demand
17 continued to be strong for petrochemical products, and
18 agricultural conditions remained favorable. Businesses'
19 outlooks are positive, but most of the contacts for the
20 Federal Reserve survey said there's some uncertainty
21 about future economic growth, especially into the fourth
22 quarter, and concerns about regulatory reform and public
23 policy has introduced other continued cautions about job
24 growth into the fourth quarter. So I think that sort of
25 summarizes my interpretation of what we've essentially

1 seen in the Texas economy over the last month or two.

2 As you know, we released our new monthly
3 unemployment rates for September on Friday. The
4 unemployment rate did decline from 8.3, seasonally
5 adjusted, to 8.1, which is a good piece of news for us.
6 The labor force did expand by 10,400 persons, but that
7 rate of labor force growth actually slowed slightly from
8 what we'd seen earlier in the year. The big decline in
9 the unemployment rate was -- essentially was due to
10 the -- due to fewer unemployed persons, declined by
11 17,100. Obviously when you start looking at the
12 unemployment rate and you start decomposing it into its
13 components, the one thing we want to see is fewer
14 unemployed people on the books. And so that's what
15 we've seen here.

16 Total nonagricultural employment in the
17 month actually gained 3,700 jobs, a little below where
18 we'd like to see our target, but positive growth
19 nonetheless. September to -- September -- in other
20 words, September, '09 to September, '10, we've added
21 133,100 jobs -- payroll jobs in Texas. Over -- during
22 the month of September, the vast majority of the
23 increase was seen in leisure and hospitality services at
24 10,300 jobs, followed by increases of about 4,000 jobs
25 in trade, transportation and utilities. Offsetting some

1 of those losses -- some of those gains were losses in
2 construction jobs and in government positions.

3 I've gone through and itemized some
4 observations by each of the individual major sectors in
5 the Texas economy. I don't want to spend a lot of time
6 on all of these, but I think it is important to note
7 that employment in the mining industry, which is largely
8 oil and gas extraction, did add jobs in September and
9 over the past year added 28,000 jobs. And you've seen
10 that rebound in all of the goods-producing sectors
11 actually in Texas over the last several months.

12 Construction did lose 7,000 jobs in
13 September, but it was after five consecutive months of
14 job gains, so slightly cooling again in the fourth
15 quarterly. Manufacturing has continued to -- continued
16 to expand, adding 2,000 jobs, a total of 24,500 jobs
17 added over the last year. I think this is largely
18 responsible of continued inventory replacement cycle
19 that usually happens as you get recovery underway.
20 Trade and transportation added 4,000 jobs. The
21 information sector lost a few jobs, and the industries
22 responsible for that, newspaper, publishers, radio
23 stations, television broadcasting and mostly wired
24 telecommunications, were the industries that are
25 responsible for most of that loss.

1 Financial activities has picked up.
2 You've seen a little bit more credit intermediation
3 services. You've seen a little bit more in terms of
4 refinancing and the like. Professional and business
5 services actually had the largest gain. That is largely
6 temporary personnel supply services. It also includes
7 offices of lawyers, tax preparation, janitorial, some
8 other things, but the vast majority of that is actually
9 temp help which, as you know, is the leading economic
10 indicator for the recovery.

11 Employment in health and -- education and
12 health services has been our biggest gain over the last
13 year, and that has consistently happened; although, we
14 saw a decrease of 900 jobs in this sector. Most of that
15 was in the education sector. The health sector
16 continues to expand. I mentioned leisure and
17 hospitality and talked a little bit about government.

18 I think as we start thinking about the
19 positive activities I want to go into a series that I'm
20 sure my predecessor, Mr. Hughes, talked a little bit
21 about, and that was the Conference Board's Help Wanted
22 Online Series. And we spent a lot of time looking at
23 that because it's an indicator of real economic
24 activity, online job postings, and I think there's some
25 very positive news in those data. In the last month,

1 which actually October 25th through -- back through the
2 last 30 days of -- which would be August 25th -- I'm
3 sorry -- September 25th, we saw 182,000, almost 183,000
4 new job postings in Texas, and that brought the total
5 by -- as of October 25th, 2010 to about 308,000 online
6 job postings that are available. Over the past 90 days
7 in Texas, you've seen over 750,000 unduplicated job
8 postings in Texas.

9 So there's an awful lot of economic
10 activity going on. There's an awful lot of job
11 postings. If you look at Page 3 of the handout I
12 provided, it shows a little labor supply and demand sort
13 of balance for the State of Texas in which you can see
14 the dots on that graph showed the large run-up before
15 the recession, the significant drop during the recession
16 in job -- online job postings. And then you've seen
17 some fairly robust job posting -- increases in job
18 postings while the number of unemployed individuals has
19 leveled off. So I think this is a pretty good harbinger
20 of a recovery underway, just not particularly robust.

21 Among the regions that have been most
22 affected -- the regions with the most economic activity,
23 I think we've seen the Dallas-Fort Worth area with the
24 most postings over the last 90 days with almost 230,000.
25 The vast majority of these showed up in Collin County,

1 about 134,000, almost 61,000 in Fort Worth, another
2 17,000, 18,000 in Plano, and another 16,000, 17,000 in
3 the Irving area. The next largest area was in the
4 Houston/Sugar Town -- Sugar Land/Baytown area with
5 173,000 online postings, the vast majority of which were
6 in the City of Houston proper; the third largest region
7 for job posting, Austin-Round Rock at 75,000, followed
8 by San Antonio with 74,000, almost 75,000. The location
9 of those areas in the state is fairly nomadic of what we
10 keep calling the Texas Triangle or The Boot in Texas
11 where you've seen the vast majority of not only job
12 creation but population growth in the -- in the state.

13 From an occupational perspective, the job
14 postings that we see online, the greatest number have
15 fallen in the area of health care, sales management and
16 marketing occupations and information technology. The
17 top five occupations on that list were registered nurse;
18 although what we've seen interesting in the last three
19 months, the number of registered job postings for
20 registered nurses is the highest occupation that's on
21 the list, but it's actually decreased slightly over the
22 last three months. So you don't see that rising as it
23 has in the last year, still the No. 1 occupation on the
24 list, however, followed by physical therapist,
25 occupational therapist, retail sales and retail sales

1 supervisor.

2 On that same handout in the -- on the very
3 back two pages, I provided a couple of summary charts.
4 The one I think is most interesting is on the very last
5 page of your handout which has the top 30 job posting --
6 online job postings that we've seen over the last 90
7 days through October 25th as of last Friday. And,
8 again, what you can see on that list is, it's heavily
9 dominated by health care occupations, by IT-related
10 occupations, and now as you start the recovery, one of
11 the first things businesses start looking at are
12 sales-related occupations which you start seeing here as
13 well.

14 And I think with that if you have any
15 other questions I'd be more than happy to answer them.

16 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Let me ask you, you --
17 on this professional business services, obviously that
18 growth from the year has been strong. It wasn't too
19 strong in September. Is that -- you said it's a leading
20 indicator for recovery. Is it also potentially that
21 companies are reluctant to put people on full-time? I
22 mean, I'm seeing in various articles that there may be
23 some kind of shift in terms of companies contracting out
24 or putting people on temporary or using temporary firms
25 or staffing services because of a concern with regard to

1 what's going to happen with health care, with regard to
2 is this recovery for real. They don't want to go
3 through a situation in which, you know, they hire a
4 bunch of people and then have to lay them off. So I
5 guess what I'm asking is more of a qualitative question.
6 Is -- you know, is there anything we can tell from
7 what's going on in this sector, I mean, other than
8 the -- conventionally it's been a leading indicator for
9 recovery. But is that necessarily the case here?

10 MR. FROESCHLE: I think the first part of
11 the question was do we have any qualitative information
12 because we certainly don't have any quantitative
13 information. So what degree -- is there -- are there
14 particular empirical reasons that we know of that we can
15 document as to why that's happening?

16 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Right.

17 MR. FROESCHLE: Most of the anecdotal
18 evidence that I see really points to two areas and
19 mostly uncertainty about the economy as a whole, which
20 is the number one reason that I have seen, is that if
21 you're really uncertain about long-term economic growth
22 that temporary is the first way that you go. And part
23 of that uncertainty is, of course, the political climate
24 and the like. And then there are structural issues that
25 we see going on, obviously the use of temporary workers,

1 more project orientation of work and some of those kinds
2 of things. The degree to which those two phenomenon,
3 for example, 60/40, 70/20, 80/10, I have no idea how
4 that works out.

5 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Fine. Any questions
6 from either of you?

7 COMMISSIONER ALCANTAR: Huh-uh.

8 COMMISSIONER CONGLETON: Huh-uh.

9 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Okay. Good report,
10 Rich.

11 MR. FROESCHLE: Okay.

12 MR. TOWNSEND: Good afternoon, Chairman,
13 Commissioners. For the record, Randy Townsend, chief
14 financial officer. Under Tab 2, I'd to briefly go over
15 our monthly legislative report as of August 31st, the
16 fiscal year end, and as a second item, I'd like to also
17 briefly go over our status with regard to our Recovery
18 Act funds as well.

19 Let me start with the first part being our
20 monthly legislative report. There's a few items in
21 there that were below our -- what we expect to be our
22 roughly 95 percent expended rate at year end. There was
23 a few areas that fell slightly under that. The first
24 couple there under Workforce Investment Act really
25 seemed to have more to do with some of the timing of our

1 contracts, also partly due to some of the Recovery Act
2 being included in there as well. And, again, I'll give
3 you more of a complete status report on that in just a
4 moment. When I look at September, what's occurred, I
5 think we're proceeding in a fashion that we'll be fine
6 in going forward. So I didn't really get too concerned
7 about those numbers there.

8 Under the employment community services,
9 the 114, that, if you'll recall, is where we include our
10 Texas Back-to-Work and TANF/emergency contingency fund.
11 And, of course, as you know, we had included roughly 100
12 million dollars in our request for funding. We worked
13 back and forth with the feds on what was allowable and
14 that sort of thing, and, of course, that ended up having
15 a very significant impact on what we'd be able to expend
16 under that grant. At this point, we're still expecting
17 it to be -- some additional expenditures to come in as
18 we wrap up the Texas Back-to-Work, but we're fairly
19 certain at this point we won't be near the 100 million,
20 so as we close that one out here in a few months.

21 Bust as of -- I will go ahead and just
22 tell you, as of September, we were approaching about 43
23 million in expenditures, mostly, I think, at that point
24 related to our summer youth program under that program.
25 Larry --

1 MR. TEMPLE: And, Commissioners, the delay
2 that it took ACF to approve -- we were on target. We
3 had gotten -- we was almost going into almost four
4 months getting it approved. So at the rate we've been
5 putting people to work, we've been really close to
6 expending all that money if they had gotten back to us
7 quicker. So --

8 MR. TOWNSEND: So I wanted to point that
9 one out for your consideration. Under the SNAP, the
10 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, that was one,
11 if you'll recall, Commissioners, that we had the
12 additional funding from our Able-Bodied without
13 Dependents funding source, ABAWDs. Texas received a
14 disproportionately higher share of funding of this 20
15 million pot available nationally. That money came in
16 late in the year as we got started, and so part of this
17 spending level is really attributable to the timing of
18 those contracts and when we got the funding from the
19 feds in this case as well. We do think we're going to
20 be successful in getting most of that expended before
21 the contract would expire, but that's an area that --
22 unfortunately some timing problems with that one as
23 well.

24 Create effective workers, the 116, this is
25 one, of course, that's dependent on petitions being

1 approved at the federal level and then getting folks
2 into -- mostly into trainings where this -- where
3 expenditures occur here. And we've certainly seen a
4 fairly significant increase in the expenditure levels
5 for this trade program, and I think based on that we --
6 going forward we'll be able to meet the expectation for
7 the budget there.

8 Let me see. Under skills and
9 self-sufficiency -- that's 121 and 122 -- those
10 programs, as you know, Commissioners are dependent on
11 the timing of the training that occurs and then,
12 therefore, the performance-based payment schedule. And
13 so I think when you look at that and take that into
14 account, that's not too surprising to see them slightly
15 under the 90 percent level there.

16 Regarding work opportunity tax credit,
17 that is one where there was some -- work opportunity tax
18 credit is 124. That's an expenditure rate that's due to
19 some -- I guess an increase in the grant that we're
20 putting temporary staff in place to process work
21 opportunity tax credit applications, and it's also
22 impacted to some degree by the Recovery Act. And so
23 getting those additional staff in place, we saw a little
24 lower expenditure for the year.

25 The foreign labor certification strategy,

1 125, that is one where the federal -- the feds have
2 taken over a good deal of that program, and the grant
3 funding, I suspect, will be reduced in the future;
4 although, it hasn't been significantly reduced to this
5 point. The staffing level that's there is able to do
6 the work for the most part, and so I think you're going
7 to see that one over time become a smaller strategy in
8 terms of funding for this agency.

9 The child care administration -- or child
10 care strategies dealing with choices, child care
11 transitional and at risk, collectively I think these
12 strategies are tracking fine. We did notice for this
13 year that what we had estimated for transitional child
14 care was quite a bit lower than we -- than was
15 appropriated for the agency, but when you looked at the
16 correlation for the need for transitional child care and
17 the unemployment rate, there was a high correlation with
18 a higher employment rate resulting in a lower demand
19 for -- need for transitional child care. So when you
20 take that into account, that seemed like that was on
21 track as well.

22 Child care administration, 134, most of
23 this is attributed to our contract with TEA for -- where
24 we -- the legislature has appropriated funds to be
25 contracted through the Texas Education Agency, and the

1 timing of expenditures with all that that's causing most
2 of the difference in this case. I suspect that those
3 contracts will be fully expended by the time we're
4 finished. But -- and I guess as far as the rest of the
5 page here, unless you have questions, I was going to
6 talk about the Recovery Act next. But I'll see if you
7 have questions on this.

8 COMMISSIONER ALCANTAR: I have no
9 questions.

10 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Okay. Commissioner
11 Congleton.

12 COMMISSIONER CONGLETON: No.

13 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: All right.

14 MR. TOWNSEND: To give you a status update
15 for the American Recovery Act expenditures as of
16 September 30th, this is a report we filed as required at
17 the end of September, very good news here. Employment
18 services, this is a grant that we received 27 million.
19 Most of it was spent staffing. We had to spend -- we
20 had to have all those funds obligated by September 30th,
21 which we did. Our expenditures as of September 30th
22 were just right around 92 percent, and, I mean, at this
23 point, we would expect to be fully expended on that
24 grant by the time the grant expires next June. So that
25 was in good position.

1 We actually fully expended the Senior
2 Grant, the 1.3 million. The Workforce Investment Act
3 Grants, the adult, youth and dislocated worker, if
4 you'll recall is 170 million for the State of Texas. We
5 had expended 140 million at the end of September. That
6 was about 83 percent expended. Most of what remains
7 there is our WIA statewide contracts for the most part,
8 and we will expect those to be on pace before the funds
9 end next June as well. The National Emergency Grant at
10 this point are dependent on the eligibility of the folks
11 that are served with those grants. Those are a little
12 bit lower in expenditures, but not too surprising.

13 The Child Care Recovery Act, as you
14 recall, the State of Texas received about 215 million.
15 Sixteen of that -- 16 million of that was appropriated
16 directly to the Department of Family and Protective
17 Services by the legislature. So TWC's portion was about
18 198 million. We had expended by the end of September,
19 TWC, about 90 million of that. So we were just about
20 halfway there at that point. At the spending rate we
21 are seeing currently, we would expect it -- we should be
22 fully expended on the child care in five to six months.
23 I know -- and Reagan will talk a little bit more about
24 this in just a moment. But we do have plans in place
25 with the boards -- or they have plans in place to fully

1 expend those funds and ramp down the child care.

2 And at this point, if you want to talk a
3 little bit more about that.

4 MS. MILLER: For the record, Reagan
5 Miller. I did want to let you know that we are meeting
6 monthly to look at our expenditures for child care for
7 WIA and for all of our statewide initiatives. With
8 child care, I think you're aware through some recent
9 action that you've taken that we're keeping a close eye
10 on that to make sure that the balance that we have
11 between direct care and quality is in line with the need
12 that we're seeing -- the demonstrated need we're seeing
13 out in the field. So we'll continue to keep a close eye
14 on that to make sure that the funds are fully expended.
15 And then as we ramp down the boards are prepared to
16 transition those kids out of care and we don't see a lot
17 of kids having to be dropped from care.

18 We're also keeping a very close eye on our
19 WIA statewide money. We have a lot of special
20 initiatives that are contracted directly. Each of those
21 grantees have an on-site visit from one of our staff
22 when the grants were awarded to explain the importance
23 of these -- of these contracts and the reporting
24 requirements behind them. We followed up with letters
25 to all of them reminding them of the criticality of

1 getting services up and running and fully spending the
2 money, and if needed we're doing some targeted on-site
3 visits when we observe that there are problems with any
4 of these grants. So we'll continue to work on these
5 throughout the availability of the -- our funds periods.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: That concludes the Recovery
7 Act status as well, if you have questions about that.

8 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: No questions. Okay.
9 Next.

10 MR. LEONARD: Commissioners, for the
11 record, Adam Leonard, Performance Analysis and
12 Reporting. I'm going to be talking about the
13 performance data primarily that's in Tab 3 of your
14 notebook, and I also put down a single, two-sided page
15 handout with a color graph on the front entitled
16 "Performance Observations for the State Fiscal Year
17 2010, 4th Quarter Performance Briefing."

18 The material I'm covering here is
19 basically end-of-year performance for State Fiscal Year
20 2010. And starting at the beginning from just looking
21 at the number of measures that we're meeting or
22 exceeding performance and not meeting compared to last
23 year, the numbers improved, that we have six fewer
24 measures at a -P status than we had last year. Some of
25 that has to do with the fact that we have fewer measures

1 because in 2010 the total number of measures that we had
2 at the legislature changed. But I think the more
3 important thing here is that of the 10 measures that we
4 were missing, 7 of them are related to general labor
5 market conditions, which you're all aware of the
6 increased number of claimants, increased hold time and
7 things like that that's related to that, the reduction
8 in underemployment and things. So those are tied to
9 that. And even another one, the ES average cost, had
10 more to do with the Recovery Act, and, again, that's the
11 economy than any major issues with performance in
12 general.

13 When we look at how the system has been
14 functioning, the number of customers we've been serving
15 over the last couple of years, for the employers we
16 served about the same number in 2010 as we did in 2009,
17 but those numbers are up considerably from 2008. And I
18 think that's kind of important to think about because,
19 of course, the economy in 2008 was still relatively good
20 up until right at the end of the year. So the fact that
21 we served more people in '9 and '10 than we did '8 shows
22 that even though the economy was certainly weakening the
23 boards were still engaged with employers to try to
24 provide them service and try and help our job seekers
25 get jobs, which leads into the total number of job

1 seekers we were serving were up slightly from 2009 at
2 2.3 percent, but it's up almost 30 percent from State
3 Fiscal Year '08.

4 So '9 and '10 look very similar. These
5 numbers -- they were very similar to each other. We're
6 certainly hoping that at this point we're kind of in a
7 peak mode and that in the next year or so those numbers
8 will start to come down as some of the improvements that
9 Rich was talking about that we're starting to see in the
10 data lead to more people getting employed, thus fewer
11 people needing our services.

12 The -- those receiving staff-assisted
13 services, again, we've kept up fairly well with that.
14 We were at 78, just about 79 percent, before the
15 recession hit. Now it's about 74 percent. So that's
16 down. But in terms of the total number of people, we're
17 talking about an extra 253,000 people getting
18 staff-assisted services in 2010 compared to 2008.

19 And I wanted to take a moment to talk a
20 little bit about the claimant reemployment within
21 10-week measure, which is the chart at the bottom of
22 Page 1. The data that are in there are by calendar
23 year. So the -- there's a thick blue line that shows
24 the big drop which was in 2008 when we saw a big
25 reduction in performance as the economy dropped. Then

1 in 2009 the numbers basically stabilized. That's the
2 dashed line at the bottom of the page. Now what you're
3 seeing for the four black -- or the five black dots in
4 a -- in the next line up, that's Calendar Year 2009
5 claimants, and so what that line is showing is that
6 month over -- year over year when you compare the month
7 to the one month earlier, the numbers are improving. So
8 we're seeing a positive trend there that reemployment of
9 claimants in this short time frame, in the 10-week
10 standard, has been improving for the last five months in
11 a row. I've looked ahead at the six-month. That is
12 also improving year over year.

13 And one of the things I'm starting to see
14 in this data is that because it doesn't rely on wage
15 records and the inherent lag we see there is that this
16 measure seems to have some use as a kind of early
17 indicator for underemployment and other things, and so
18 I've started doing some analysis on that to see how we
19 can use this data to forecast what we're going to see in
20 the future. At the moment, it certainly would suggest
21 that we'll see some improved entered employment in the
22 new year compared to where we were in the last year, and
23 that's certainly good news.

24 Turning the page there, there's another
25 graph I wanted to talk a little about, and this has to

1 do with job openings that are available in work in
2 Texas. And we made a little bit of change. This is a
3 chart that you've seen before. The blue line is
4 openings that are in Work in Texas that basically the
5 employer created or the staff created the opening in
6 Work in Texas. The red line is job central openings
7 that are available to job seekers through Work in Texas,
8 that they can see these openings in there. And so
9 although the line does not show in blue a huge
10 improvement there, there is improvement if you look at
11 the last three quarters of data, that that is better
12 than the three quarters before that, and the red line
13 shows a stronger improvement there. So, again, we're
14 seeing more openings in the system for job seekers in
15 Texas to find -- and that seems to match again what
16 we're seeing in the reemployment measures, so, again,
17 hopefully an early indicator that things are turning
18 around and that we're seeing that in the results. Of
19 course, when we do look at entered employment retention
20 and things like that, the numbers are down for '10
21 compared to '9 and '8 because of the reduction in the
22 economy and the labor force.

23 Another thing that was a little bit
24 unusual this last year is that for the first time in
25 probably six years, might have only been five but five

1 or six years, we saw an increase in the amount of
2 choices child care, and this has to do with the fact
3 that we finally saw an increase in the case load.
4 Before that we had been seeing year after year
5 reductions in TANF case loads as a result of House Bill
6 2292 and continued efforts to help get transitioned
7 these folks off, and with the worsening of the economy,
8 fewer people seem to be coming off; and we're seeing
9 some increase in their case load. This isn't
10 surprising, but it does represent kind of a first time
11 in a number of years that we've seen some increase in
12 the amount of choices child care, and that has some
13 implications in terms of child care rates because since
14 choices child care has no copay associated with it, when
15 we have -- need less choices child care than what was
16 projected, it means that that's a little extra money
17 that can be used by the boards for rate increases or
18 adjustments there in quality areas and things like that.
19 But this year we didn't have as much flexibility there
20 simply because we had the increase.

21 Lastly, in Tab 4, we've got some board
22 performance. We have 11 boards that are meeting or
23 exceeding at least 75 percent of their measures. But
24 when we look at -- when we look at the overall numbers,
25 there are 476 instances here where boards could meet or

1 not meet, and that's basically the number of measures
2 times the number of boards. There are 143 instances
3 where they did not meet their targets, so 143 out of
4 476. However, 55 are related to reemployment of
5 claimants. 35 are related to entered
6 employment/retention. So basically you're looking at 90
7 out of 143 that were -- really related more to the
8 economy. And we're thinking that in the new year, given
9 some of the improvement we're forecasting in that
10 performance and also some of the target adjustments that
11 we've made, these numbers will probably look
12 considerably better for the boards going forward.

13 And so I'm happy to answer any questions
14 you may have about board performance or state
15 performance going forward.

16 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Commissioner Congleton.

17 COMMISSIONER CONGLETON: No questions.

18 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Commissioner Alcantar.

19 COMMISSIONER ALCANTAR: I have no
20 questions.

21 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Okay. Thank you, Adam.

22 MR. LEONARD: Thank you.

23 MR. TEMPLE: Reagan, do you have anything?

24 MS. MILLER: No.

25 MR. TEMPLE: LaSha.

1 MS. LENZY: Any questions?

2 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: No. Is that it?

3 MR. TEMPLE: Robert.

4 MR. GOMEZ: No, sir.

5 MR. TEMPLE: No? Any questions?

6 MR. CRUMP: No. Commissioners, there's
7 more tabs in the back of the notebook. If you have any
8 questions, please pass those to staff, and we'll get an
9 answer for you.

10 CHAIRMAN PAUKEN: Okay. Thank you much;
11 appreciate it. Good job, Ladies and Gentlemen.

12 (At this time, the proceedings were
13 adjourned at 2:02 o'clock p.m.,
14 Tuesday, October 26, 2010.)

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1 STATE OF TEXAS)

2 COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

3 I, LYDIA L. EDWARDS, certified shorthand
4 reporter for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that
5 the above-captioned matter came on for hearing before
6 the TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION as hereinafter set out.

7 I FURTHER CERTIFY that the proceedings of said
8 hearing were reported by me, accurately reduced to
9 typewriting under my supervision and control, and, after
10 being so reduced, were filed with the TEXAS WORKFORCE
11 COMMISSION.

12 GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL hand of office at
13 Austin, Texas, the _____ day of November, 2010.

14

15

16

17

Lydia L. Edwards
Certification No. 2567
My Commission Expires 12/31/10

19

Certified Shorthand Reporter
State of Texas

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