



**RCT Quarterly Meeting Agenda
August 6-7, 2026
101 E 15th Street, Room 244
Austin, TX 78778
Zoom Register at**

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/5417843028570/WN_WLr31FGJTI-e85F6UFegDA

Thursday, August 6, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Gather
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions of RCT Members,
Peggy Schmidt, RCT Chair
- 9:10 a.m. Remarks from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)
Commissioner(s)
- 9:25 a.m. Sunset Report Update, Melinda Paninski
- 9:40 a.m. Proposed Rule- Chapter 858 Procurement and Contract Management
Requirements for Purchase of Goods and Services for Vocational
Rehabilitation Services, Karen Hess
- 10:10 a.m. TWC Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Budget Update
Mary Eixman, Manager of Budget & Personnel Support
- 2026 Budget, Encumbrances and Expenditures
 - 2027 Forecasting and Upcoming Legislative Appropriations
Outlook, Including Resource and Capacity Needs
- 11:10 a.m. PCG Report Recommendations and Implementation Timelines Elyse
Luke
- 11:20 a.m. Break GROUP PHOTO
- 11:30 a.m. Client Assistance Program (CAP) Presentation – Jeanie Hanzel Beaman
- 12:00 p.m. SSAVR (Employment Network) Ticket to Work Program,

- Compare traditional vs milestone, Alicia Halle, Deputy Director of Operations & Program Support, VR Division TWC
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Comprehensive Transition Programs
Jamie Haywood, TWC, VR Deputy Director, Field
- 1:40 p.m. VR Performance Update,
Geoffrey Miller, Director of Analytics and Evaluation (A&E), and
Christopher Speckhard
- 2:40 p.m. Break
- 2:50 p.m. RCT Chair and Vice Chair Elections
- 3:00 p.m. Public Comment

Friday, August 7, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Gather
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions, Peggy Schmidt, Chair
- 9:10 a.m. Remarks from the TWC Commissioner(s)
- 9:15 a.m. Open Enrollments and Provider Contracts, Tammy Ames
- 9:30 a.m. VR Division Report,
Tammy Ames TWC, VR Division Director and
Christopher Speckhard, Manager VRGIS Team, Information,
Innovation, and Insight (I|3)
- Execution Across Key Priorities
 - Customized Employment Policy Update
 - Self-Employment Policy Update
 - TWC Reorganization Update
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:15 a.m. VR Division Report Continued
- 11:00 a.m. Liaison Reports – Full reports are included in the binder
- Client Assistance Program (CAP), Jeanie Beaman
 - Community Rehabilitation Provider (CRP), Peggy Schmidt
 - Partners Resource Network (PRN), Shannon Rosson
 - State Independent Living Council (SILC), Melva Henderson

- Texas Education Agency (TEA), Emily Heise
- Texas Workforce Investment Council (TWIC), Michelle Harper

11:30 a.m. Committee Reports

- Policy, Procedure & Personnel Development, Norine Gill, and Michele Norris, Co-Chair
- Membership and Education, Emily Heise, and Jordan Smelley Co-Chair
- Customer Satisfaction & Needs Assessment, Shannon Rosson, Chair

12:00 p.m. Council Business

- Approve May 2026 Minutes
- Upcoming conferences, selection review process
- Update on strategic planning
- RCT Budget Report
- RCT Chair and Vice Chair Elections Results
- Present certificates to exiting members.

12:20 p.m. Public Comment

12:30 p.m. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special accommodations should contact the RCT Coordinator at (979) 480-2826 or by email at lisa.godwin@twc.texas.gov at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

People with questions regarding agenda content should contact Lisa Godwin, RCT Coordinator, at (979) 480-2826.