



S O U T H E A S T E R N A R I Z O N A

SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes

Eastern Arizona College
615 N. Stadium Avenue
Thatcher, Arizona 85552

Zoom Online Virtual Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2048227879?pwd=NG51ZTgrK29wRkVkrRWN6UXF1UzgwUT09>

Meeting ID: 204 822 7879

Passcode: 1Tzf0K

Thursday, September 15, 2022

10:00 AM

Members Present

Ron Curtis
Kathleen Bullock
Wick Lewis
Doris Tolbert
Susan Wood
Edward Dummitt
Evonne Cummins
Merritt Essig
Matt Bolinger
Sam Curtis
Peter Hooper
Jelensky Irons
Elizabeth Kinder
Peg Harmon
Rebekah Kimmel
Steven Garate
Joshua DeSpain

Members Absent

Martha Lujan
Tony Boone
Jack Bauer
Kim Henderson
Jacob Williams

Staff Present

Vada Phelps
Michelle Huff
Ashley Hamilton
Bobbie Reed
Lori Baron
Robert Archer

Guests Present

Jim Mize
Brenda Case
Suzette Diaz
Kyle Lincoln
Norma Duncan

A. Call to Order

President Ron Curtis called to order the meeting of the ARIZONA@WORK Local Workforce Board at 10:04 PM on September 15, 2022 in person as well as on Zoom.

B. Roll Call

Lori Baron conducted roll call. The names of present and absent members, as well as guests and staff, are listed above. A quorum was established.

"If such a conflict does arise, I will declare that conflict before the board and refrain from discussing and voting on matters in which I have conflict."

C. Call to the Public

No Public comments were made.

D. Speakers

Norma Duncan is a Nursing Student at EAC. She shared how Arizona at Work helped her with her journey in her education.

Kyle Lincoln is the owner of South West Irrigation. He has had a great experience with Work Force being a great resource for good employees. He leans on this extraordinary resource.

E. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove September 15, 2022 Agenda

Motion to Approve: Doris Tolbert

Seconded: Kathleen Bullock

Approved: Unanimously

F. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove June 22, 2022 Minutes

Motion to Approve: Peter Hooper

Seconded: Rebekah Kimmel

Approved: Unanimously

G. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove PY22 Workforce Budget

Motion to Approve: Doris Tolbert

Seconded: Wick Lewis

Approved: Unanimously

H. Action Item: Ratify Modifications to the 4 Year Plan

Approved: Unanimously

I. Nomination Committee

Evonne Cummins: The current Board has consented to continue to serve. We are looking for volunteers to shadow the current board as a succession plan. Evonne Cummins and Dr. Susan Wood will take the lead for an Ambassador program for younger members to carry on the workload to benefit the community.

J. Financial Report: Budget and Expenditures

Wick Lewis: He is impressed with our transparency. The reports are in the packet.

K. One-Stop Operator Report

Jim Mize reviewed his report which is in the packet.

L. Core Partner Reports

- Vada Phelps reviewed the One-Stop Employment and Training reports in the packet.
- Rehabilitation Services report presented by Elizabeth Kinder.
Her report is in the Board packet.
 - She introduced Suzette Diaz, the Vocational Rehab person for the Safford/Benson area.
- Employment Services report presented by Jelensky Irons.
 - Walk-ins are picking up.
 - Collaboration is huge. She is looking for a way to measure this resource. The Wednesday call in Nationwide.
 - OEO should have figures that accurately represent our area that includes the mining industry.
- Adult Education report presented by Peter Hooper
His report is in the packet.

M. Executive Director's Report – Vada Phelps

- Introduced Brenda Case. She will be on the agenda for the December meeting to discuss Distant Learning and Access to Adult Education.
- Ashley Hamilton has put together a policy for Monkey Pox and has updated the Covid policy.
- Cochise College has added 2 Administrators.
- Jason Bowling, CEO of SSVEC, would like letters to be written to our legislators in support of energy that is appropriate for our area.
- Ms. Phelps has a list of the Directors for the schools in Cochise County. Email her if you would like a copy of the list.
- Ron Curtis and Vada Phelps will be attending the Annual Convening in Buckeye on December 8

- The Charter School Association released a matrix of the birthrate. The birthrate is dropping and the death rate surpasses the birthrate. This will affect enrollment for schools.

N. President's Report – Ron Curtis

Employers and employees are not aware of what they don't know. Workforce can help employers be better employers. We can be the conduit between employer and employee. There is an uneasiness among business owners due to supply chain issues and staffing shortages. Training can change communities. See what businesses need. We need to talk to legislators. We need to engage younger workers.

O. Board Announcements

After lunch, dessert will be served at the newly located Arizona@Work office at 626 S. 6th Avenue in Safford, Arizona.

Next Board Meeting

December 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
Cochise College Downtown Center
2600 E. Wilcox Drive
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

ARIZONA@WORK is an Equal Opportunity employer/program.

Funded by WIOA federal dollars serving Adults, Youth, and Dislocated Workers

Report Submitted by: *Lori Baron*