



SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD Minutes

Thursday, December 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Cochise College Downtown Center
2600 E. Wilcox Dr.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Members Present

Ron Curtis, President
Jason Bowling, Treasurer
Doris Tolbert, Secretary
Tony Boone
Wendy Davis
Linda Hollis
Evonne Cummins
Kathleen Bullock
Joe Altamirano
David Howard
Wick Lewis
Lauri Martin
Susan Morss
Teresa Celestine
Steve Garate
Michael Crockett
Linda Hollis
Jennifer Martin
Amanda Baillie – Ex Officio (non-voting)

Staff Present

Vada Phelps
Vickie Simmons
Michelle Huff
Kathy Hall

Members Absent

Matt Bolinger
Mark Gallego
Tim Taylor
Jack Bauer

Guests Present

Brennan Townsend, Youth Career Connect
Abriel Quiroz, ICWVC/UFCW Local 184-C
Javier Villalobos, Teleperformance
Nicholas DelSordi, Adult Education, ADE
Anita Baca, Cochise County

- A. Meeting Called to Order at 10:00 a.m.**
- B. Roll Call taken by Kathy Hall, Quorum Present**
- C. The Board welcomed New Board Member:**
- Jennifer Martin, Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce
- D. Action Item: To Approve September 27, 2018 Minutes**
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Motion to Approve: | Doris Tolbert |
| Seconded: | Tony Boone |
| Approved: | Unanimously |
- E. Presentation: Youth Career Connect**
Brennan Townsend presented on behalf of the Youth Career Connect program. He will be graduating from the Cyber Security program at Cochise College in May 2019. Brennan is employed with Cloud IT, the company that manages the Center for Academic Success computer systems.
- F. Presentation: Teleperformance**
Javier Villalobos, Recruiter for Teleperformance, presented that they employ around 800 -1000 employees at the Sierra Vista location. They are the second largest employer in the Sierra Vista area. Arizona@Work currently assists him with the overall hiring process. He is appreciative of the hospitality he receives from the Arizona@Work Douglas office staff. He also mentioned that with the Arizona@Work partnership, the quality of prospects has improved and therefore has increased employee sustainability.
- G. Action Item: Nomination/Election for Vice Chair**
Jason Bowling was nominated and elected to Vice Chair. Wick Lewis will be the voting member for Cochise College. Wick was also nominated and elected as Treasurer.
- H. Financial Report: 2018 Budget & Expenditures**
Mr. Bowling reported that there were no questions and all was in good order with the financial report. Ms. Vada Phelps reported that we had both an independent and state audit, expecting a clean audit from both.

I. Presentation: Economic Development Plan for Sierra Vista

Mr. Tony Boone made a presentation on the Economic Development Framework. His presentation included topics on Economic Indicators, Population, Unemployment, Labor Market, Property Values, Housing Market, and Business Activity. The City of Sierra Vista has developed a strategic plan with six core objectives on ways to improve Economic Development in Sierra Vista. It will be presented to the Sierra Vista City Council in January.

J. Core Partner Reports:

One-Stop Employment & Training Report

Vickie Simmons reported on her written report and highlighted a few key items. The Cochise County Career Fair will be March 22, 2019. If you know of any businesses that would be interested, please refer them to Vickie for a registration form. Advertising in the digital ads in the Sierra Vista Herald has begun to increase activity and awareness. Eric Grisham, Business Service Representative for Cochise County, has met with a few companies that are looking to bring new businesses near the Tombstone and Wilcox areas.

Rehabilitation Services Performance Report

David Howard reported on his written report. He also mentioned that they specialize in assisting those with documented disabilities employment opportunities. They service those as young as 14 years of age and older that have IEPs or 504 Plans. Mr. Howard and his staff are working towards increasing the referral program for the Sierra Vista and Safford areas. He is also partnering with local schools to increase awareness on the benefits and services they offer to students. Their priority at this time is increase outreach to gather referrals on those that are looking for employment.

Employment Services Performance Report

Teresa Celestine reported on her written report. She highlighted that they are serving more Veterans in the Safford area with 63 and Sierra Vista placed 23. Sierra Vista Arizona@Work office was nominated and received the 2018 Lanny Branch Arizona Veterans Performance Incentive Office Award.

Adult Education Performance Report

Susan Morss reported on her written report. She mentioned they have increased enrollment numbers for the 2nd year in a row. They have 15 GED graduates and are on target to meet or exceeds last year's graduates. Their instructional model has been revised slightly with a more intensive instructional plan to focus more on the student's strengths. A GED graduate received the Wick Scholarship of \$1000 for the spring and fall 2019 semesters. Ms. Morss announced they will be opening up an ESL class in Wilcox mid to late January. ADE has partnered with the Northstar Digital Literacy program out of Minnesota. Cochise College is able to offer a viable certificate for those

that can demonstrate their digital literacy capabilities. There are seven different assessments they are able to proctor.

K. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Vada Phelps discussed the report, Southeastern Arizona Labor Market Information, that was available in the board packet. Ms. Phelps met with Mr. Higgins, State Apprenticeship Program Coordinator and Priscilla Erwin from Apache Nitrogen to discuss possible future apprenticeship opportunities. Mr. Higgins also announced that Valley View Homes has a registered apprenticeship program. They will have four

occupations available in Greenlee County for construction apprenticeships. A discussion was brought up about adding yearly comparisons and/or context to the Arizona@Work Traffic Chart to clarify meaning of the numbers reported. A copy of the Workforce Arizona Council's Annual Report was passed around to members to request an electronic copy.

Mr. Ron Curtis reminded board members to reach out to business owners and continue to bring new ideas to the meetings for discussion. We should be conveyors of ideas and focus our efforts on Economic Prosperity, Economic Development, Better Education, Employment and Conserving Youth. He announced that Arizona@Work- Southeastern received a check for \$8,000 from the Sheriff's Charity Ride to assist with our youth program. Mr. Curtis also presented that at the Convening in Phoenix, earlier this month, the Board was awarded the Impact Award for 2018 and recognized above all other workforce boards in Arizona.

L. Comments: No public comments were offered.

**M. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 10 a.m.
Arizona Electric Power Cooperative
1000 Arizona 80, Benson, AZ 85602**

N. Adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

A copy of the agenda and background material provided to board members (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at 900 Carmelita Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona. Meetings are recorded and are available as an Mp3 file. For access, contact Kathy Hall (520) 439-3541.

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