



SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA

SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes

Cochise College – Benson Center

1025 State Route 90
Benson, Arizona 85602

Zoom Online Virtual Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2048227879?pwd=NG51ZTgrK29wRkVkrWN6UXF1UzgwUT09>

Meeting ID: 204 822 7879

Passcode: 1Tzf0K

Thursday, March 20, 2025

10:00 AM

Members Present

Ron Curtis
Wick Lewis
Joshua De Spain
Kathleen Bullock
Mary Merino
Jenny Howard
Doris Tolbert
Samuel Kolapo
Steven Garate
Teresa Celestine
Cara Elkins

Members Absent

Matt Bolinger
Jacob Williams
Tony Boone
Martha Lujan
Kevin Peck
Rebekah Kimmel
Sam Curtis
Elizabeth Kinder
Mary Ann Hockstad

Staff Present

Vada Phelps
Vickie Simmons
Bobbie Reed
Michelle Huff
Lori Baron
Robert Archer
Morina Morales

Guests Present

Jim Mize
Krista McGarvey
Vaughn Croft
Christina Nelson
Norma Galindo
Connie Thomas
Tania Franco
Dominica Dominguez
David Howard
Edgar Blunt
Ron Consolvo

A. Call to Order

The ARIZONA@WORK Local Workforce Board meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM on March 20, 2025.

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 comments

D. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove March 20, 2025 Agenda

Motion to Approve: Doris Tolbert

Seconded: Wick Lewis

Approved

Ayes: R. Curtis, W. Lewis, J. De Spain, K. Bullock, M. Merino, J. Howard, D. Tolbert, S. Kolapo, S. Garate, T. Celestine, C. Elkins

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

E. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove December 19, 2024 Minutes

Motion to Approve: Steven Garate

Seconded: Doris Tolbert

Approved

Ayes: R. Curtis, W. Lewis, J. De Spain, K. Bullock, M. Merino, J. Howard, D. Tolbert, S. Kolapo, S. Garate, T. Celestine, C. Elkins

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

F. Speaker Edgar Blunt on the Future of Work

Edgar Blunt and Ron Consolvo gave a presentation on changes in the work force.

G. Committee Reports

Communications Committee: This committee has not met.

Business Engagement: Eric Grisham has a blog and updates the Facebook page. Bobbie Reed is working with EAC.

Retreat Committee: Has drafted the agenda for the Board Retreat set for June 18-20 at the Omni in Tucson.

H. Review Audit for CPIC/AZ Work for the Year Ended 6/30/24

Vada Phelps gave an overview of the audit.

I. Financial Report: Budget and Expenditures

The report is in the packet

J. One-Stop Operator Report

Jim Mize's report is in the Packet.

K. Core Partner Reports

One-Stop Employment and Training Reports was presented by Vickie Simmons.

Vickie's report is in the Board packet.

- Highlighted the Success Stories. She urged people to read them.
- Unemployment has increased in Cochise, Graham and Greenlee counties.

Rehabilitation Services report was presented by David Howard.
Elizabeth's report is in the Board packet.

Employment Services

Teresa Celestine 's report is in the Packet.

- \$35k had been spent on the Tool Kit program.
- She shared a Success Story about a woman that, with AZ@Work's help, went from being homeless to working and has a home.

Adult Education report - Cochise

Cara Elkins' report for Cochise County is in the Board packet.

- Graduation for High School Equivalency will be May 14, 7:00 p.m. at the Douglas campus.

L. Executive Director's Report – Vada Phelps

- Excited for the AZ@Work Board Retreat in June at the Omni.

L. President's Report – Ron Curtis

- He will be attending the meeting in Washington, D.C and learning the needs and challenges of the work force today. (child care, transportation and not owning a computer).
- He appreciates our staff and partners.

Board Announcements

No Board announcements

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 18 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Omni in Tucson
Followed by the Board Retreat June 19-20.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.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*