



SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA

**SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Minutes**

Eastern Arizona College  
615 North Stadium Avenue  
Thatcher, Arizona 85552

**Zoom Online Virtual Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/2048227879?pwd=NG51ZTgrK29wRkVhRWN6UXF1UzgwUT09>

**Meeting ID: 204 822 7879**

**Passcode: 1Tzf0K**

**Wednesday, September 18, 2025**

**10:00 AM**

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**Members Present**

Ron Curtis  
Wick Lewis  
Tony Boone  
Kathleen Bullock  
Martha Lujan  
Kevin Peck  
Mary Merino  
Jenny Howard  
Sam Curtis  
Mary Ann Hockstad  
Joshua De Spain  
Cara Elkins

**Members Absent**

Doris Tolbert  
Samuel Kolapo  
Rebekah Kimmel

**Staff Present**

Vada Phelps  
Vickie Simmons  
Bobbie Reed  
Julia Kuhn  
Lori Baron  
Robert Archer  
Marina Morales  
Eric Grisham

**Guests Present**

Jim Mize  
Vaughn Croft  
Toby Scott  
Betsy Nelson  
Norma Galindo  
Mariah Charley  
Dominica Dominguez  
Rachel Tashbook  
Janice Garza

**A. Call to Order**

The ARIZONA@WORK Local Workforce Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM on September 18, 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 September 18, 2025 Agenda**

**Motion to Approve:** Maryann Hockstad

**Seconded:** Cara Elkins

**Approved**

Ayes: R. Curtis, Lewis, Boone, Bullock, Lujan, Peck, S. Curtis, Hockstad, De Spain, Elkins, Howard, Merino

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

**E. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove June 18, 2025 Minutes**

**Motion to Approve:** Cara Elkins

**Seconded:** Wick Lewis

**Approved**

Ayes: R. Curtis, Lewis, Boone, Bullock, Lujan, Peck, S. Curtis, Hockstad, De Spain, Elkins, Howard, Merino

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

**F. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove the 2025-2026 Budget**

**Motion to Approve:** Cara Elkins

**Seconded:** Kevin Peck

**Approved**

Ayes: R. Curtis, Lewis, Boone, Bullock, Lujan, Peck, S. Curtis, Hockstad, De Spain, Elkins, Howard, Merino

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

**G. HIT dashboard for the ETPL providers**

Rachel Tashbook and Janice Garza, from the Dept. of Economics, reviewed data and analysis regarding High Impact Training. This information may help decide the most effective utilization of funds.

#### **H. Discuss Board Retreat Goals**

- The House and Senate have not appropriated funds. Our funding is still unknown.
- Help Politicians understand Arizona@Work. Please contact your State and Federal lawmakers.

#### **I. Report on Executive Committee Meeting held August 14**

Covered under item H

#### **J. Fee for Services – AI Class**

Will be discussed at a later date.

#### **K. Financial Report: Budget and Expenditures**

The report is in the packet

#### **L. One-Stop Operator Report**

Jim Mize's report is in the Packet. He noted that unemployment is going up.

#### **M. Core Partner Reports**

One-Stop Employment and Training Reports was presented by Vickie Simmons.  
Vickie's report is in the Board packet.

Rehabilitation Services report  
No report

Employment Services  
No report

Adult Education report - Cochise  
Cara Elkins stated that Cochise College will be highly impacted by  
Arizona@Work funding cuts.

#### **N. Executive Director's Report – Vada Phelps**

- We are looking into purchasing a mobile unit with Rapid Response money.
- She distributed a Connecting the Dots handout.
- Discussed impact of funding cuts.

#### **L. President's Report – Ron Curtis**

- We need to educate State and Federal Government officials about the importance of funding Arizona@Work.
- We need to make adjustments for financial stability.

**Board Announcements**

Vaughn Croft gave a brief update regarding Job Corp.

**Next Board Meeting**

Thursday, December 18 @ 10:00 a.m. in Sierra Vista.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 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*