



Innovative Workforce Solutions

**YUMA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S-  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Yuma Private Industry Council, Administration Building  
3834 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma, AZ 85364  
Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87382621592>  
Meeting ID: 873 8262 1592  
Phone: +16699006833,,87382621592# US  
November 7, 2025  
10:00 a.m.

**MINUTES**

- I. Call Meeting to Order**  
Samuel G. Loveless called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**  
Michael J. Sabath led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Roll Call**  
The roll was called, and those present and absent were:

<b>Members Present (Virtually)</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
1. Samuel G. Loveless	1. Laura Wisniewski
2. Michael J. Sabath	
3. Maria Chavoya	
4. Antonio Zuniga	

**Thereby a quorum was established.**

**Guest/Staff Present (Virtually):**  
Nidia Herrera, Executive Director  
Beatriz Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

- IV. Informational Announcement, Temporary Supportive Service Assistance (Food)**  
Nidia Herrera reported that the proposed broadcast was reviewed by the State of Arizona. The state provided feedback with only minor recommended adjustments.

A proposal was presented to implement a temporary assistance plan for program participants who are recipients of SNAP (food stamp) benefits impacted by current uncertainties regarding federal benefit distributions. The proposed plan would allow WIOA staff case managers to provide up to \$300 in food-related support services to participants expressing an immediate need for food assistance.

The program would be limited to SNAP-eligible food items and would take effect November 12, pending Board approval, and remain in place through December. Should

SNAP benefits be restored prior to that date range, the temporary assistance would be discontinued.

Board staff reported that approximately 230 adult and 140 youth participants were WIOA eligible based on SNAP benefits. The intent of the proposal is to provide short-term support to participants experiencing challenges to accessing food during this period.

Board members discussed procedures to ensure that temporary support funds provided to participants are used exclusively for SNAP-eligible food items. It was confirmed that staff will follow existing protocols, including verifying items at the point of purchase, obtaining receipts, and having participants acknowledge receipt of the support. Documentation of purchases will be required to maintain compliance and accountability for the use of support services.

Board staff explained that staff will not directly announce available support funds but will identify needs through regular conversations with participants. Staff will be trained to listen for indicators of need (e.g., food insecurity) and offer assistance appropriately.

Board staff commented, during the staff development meeting on October 13, Yuma County facilitated a session on active listening and motivational techniques. The training emphasized the importance of pausing to listen, avoiding interruptions, and effectively recapping what others have communicated to ensure understanding. Staff discussed the value of these skills not only with participants but also in interactions with co-workers. Board members encouraged exploring additional opportunities and courses to further develop these skills among staff and service providers.

Board staff reviewed the budget for support service assistance related to the proposed temporary food assistance program. They noted that available funds are more limited on the youth side compared to the adult side, and any additional expenditures for youth would need to be reallocated from other program line items.

Staff discussed plans to monitor and track the distribution of temporary food assistance to participants, including options to adjust the assistance amount in order to serve more individuals. Board members emphasized the importance of considering participants' existing SNAP benefits to ensure equitable support. Maria Chavoya highlighted current challenges with food access, including increased demand at food banks and noted the importance of staying connected with local stakeholders and utilizing available resource guides to assist participants. Regular updates on the program and participant needs will be provided to the Board.

Board staff reported that the One-Stop Operator has been compiling a resource list of local agencies providing food assistance. A Google Sheet is being developed to track these resources, which will be made available to staff to help guide participants to additional support. Staff also noted ongoing collaboration with other agencies, such as Food Smart, to explore on-site assistance options. The initiative aims to ensure a coordinated and planned approach to supporting participants in need.

**V. Informational Items**

No informational items were presented.

**VI. Adjournment**

Maria Chavoya made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Michael J. Sabath.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted by Beatriz Aguilar, Clerk of the Board**