



SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA

SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2026

1:00 PM

The Sheraton

5151 E. Grant Road

Tucson, AZ

Zoom Online Virtual Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2048227879?pwd=NG51ZTgrK29wRkVhRWw6UzgwUT09>

Meeting ID: 204 822 7879

Passcode: 1Tzf0K

Members Present

Ron Curtis
Kathleen Bullock
Sam Curtis
Cara Elkins
Steven Garate
Joshua De Spain
Maryann Hockstad
Doris Tolbert
Desiree Galaz
Kevin Peck
Cullen Scarborough

Members Absent

Rebekah Kimmel
Elizabeth Kinder
Matt Bolinger
Tony Boone
Mary Merino
Elaine Rodriguez
Martha Lujan

Staff Present

Vada Phelps
Vickie Simmons
Michelle Huff
Eric Grisham
Bobbie Reed
Lori Baron
Robert Archer
Marina Morales

Guests Present

Jim Mize
Dominica Dominguez
Norma Galindo
Christine Nelson
Jeremy Smith
Regina Weiler
Malinda Gamez

A. Call to Order

The ARIZONA@WORK Local Workforce Board meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM on June 17, 2026.

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 June 17, 2026 Agenda

Motion to Approve: Kathleen Bullock

Seconded: Cara Elkins

Approved

Ayes: R. Curtis, Bullock, S. Curtis, Elkins, Garate, DeSpain, Hockstad, Tolbert, Galaz, Peck, Scarborough

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

E. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove April 2, 2026 Minutes

Motion to Approve: Josh DeSpain

Seconded: Cara Elkins

Approved

Ayes: R. Curtis, Bullock, S. Curtis, Elkins, Garate, DeSpain, Hockstad, Tolbert, Galaz, Peck, Scarborough

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

F. Action Item: To Approve/Disapprove the Extension of PYQ Contract

Motion to Approve: Doris Tolbert

Seconded: Josh DeSpain

Approved

Ayes: R. Curtis, Bullock, S. Curtis, Elkins, Garate, DeSpain, Hockstad, Tolbert, Galaz, Peck, Scarborough

Nays: 0 Abstain: 0

G. Financial Report: Budget and Expenditures

The report is in the packet.

H. One-Stop Operator Report

Jim Mize's report is in the Packet.

I. Core Partner Reports

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

Vickie's report is in the Board packet.

Ron Curtis introduced Desiree Galaz, Christine Nelson and Dominica Dominguez

Rehabilitation Services report

No Report

Ron Curtis was impressed with the helpful service at Voc Rehab.

Employment Services

Desiree Galaz's report is in the packet.

DES has employment positions open.

Adult Education report - Cochise

Cara Elkins' report is in the packet.

J. Report on NAWDP

Vickie Simmons: It was a great Conference with great sessions.

We may put AZ@Work orientation on Youtube.

Vickie was re-elected to the NAWDP Board.

Vada Phelps: We had 8 employees attend the conference.

Bobbie Reed: The Conference offered great sessions from which to choose.

Eric Grisham: The conference is a great place to network.

Ron Curtis: AI makes a person more productive.

Kathleen Bullock: Employees need AI literacy.

K. Executive Director's Report – Vada Phelps

After 37 years, Vada Phelps announced her resignation. She will resign July 1, 2027.

Many Board members offered kind words and accolades, recognizing her contributions and accomplishments.

L. President's Report – Ron Curtis

What we do is worthwhile and important.

Board Announcements

No announcements

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, September 17 @ 10:00 a.m.

Eastern Arizona College

615 North Stadium Ave., Thatcher, AZ 85552

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 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*