

MEETING MINUTES
Arizona Western College
District Governing Board Meeting
Regular Meeting
San Luis Learning Center
February 18, 2020

Board Members Present: Board President Dennis Booth, Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho and Richard Lamb.

Board Member Present by Phone: None

Board Member Absent: Maria Chavoya

Others Present:

Dr. Daniel P. Corr, President	Maria Guzman Ramirez, Somerton Center
Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff	Mary Miranda, Center Assistant, South Yuma County
Abby Aguirre, AWC Student Ambassador & Student of the Month	Omar Heredia, Advising and Student Services Coordinator, South Yuma County
Alan Sanchez, Technology Support	Pamela Valtierra, Student of the Month & ALL AZ Scholar
Bob Walker, Vice President of Technology	Reetika Dhawan, Dean for Career and Technical Education
Brittany Pullin, AWC Student Ambassador	Ricardo Salazar, AWC Student Ambassador
Bryan Doak, Vice President for Student Services	Shara Skinner, Coordinator of Student Leadership and Activities
Dr. Linda Elliott Nelson, Vice President of Learning Services	Socorro Patricia Arrizon, Clerk, South Yuma County
Fatima Covarrubias, President of Student Government Association	Sonja Greiner, Faculty Senate District Governing Board Representative
Gabriela Roldan, Clerk, South Yuma County	Susanna De Loa, San Luis Center Assistant
Karen Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer	Susanna Zambrano, Associate Dean of South Yuma County
Lori Stofft, Vice President of Advancement	Victor Mata, Technology Support
Luis Espinoza, User Support Administrator	

Guests include:

Antonio Garcia, GESD #32	Linda Coronado, GESD #32
Belinda Bobblette, GESD #32	Linda Galvano, GESD #32
Bethany Loucks, GESD #32	Lizette Esparza, GESD #32
Cecilia Arvizo, GESD #32	Luis Reyes, GESD #32
Cesar Castillo, SLHS	Maria Camacho, GESD #32
David Barrios, SLHS	Maria Cruz, City of San Luis
Dr. Ray Aguilera, Superintendent Gadsen School District	Maria Garcia Avila, GESD #32
Elizabeth Arredondo, GESD #32	Maria Robles, Cesar Chavez Legacy Committee
Everardo Martinez Inzunza, GESD #32	Martha Garcia, City of Somerton
Francia Alonso, City of San Luis	Martha Garcia, Vice Mayor for Somerton
Homero Chavez, Counselor at Southwest Junior High School	Marylyn Morales, GESD #32
Jose Moreno, Somerton Middle School	Meredith Nelson, GESD #32
	Miguel Gonzalez, GESD #32
	Omar Duron, Southwest Junior High School Principal
	Rigo Conde, SLHS
	Tiffany Middleton, Somerton Middle School

Call to Order: Board President Dennis Booth called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:01 am.

The Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Board President Dennis Booth.

Introductions: Lori Stofft welcomed the Board Members, Dr. Corr, and Ashley Herrington then welcomed faculty,

professional staff, students and guests. Susanna Zambrano, Associate Dean for South Yuma County, welcomed guests and partners from the community.

Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes presented for approval.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Anna Camacho

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda for the February 18, 2020 meeting presented for approval.

Motion by Anna Camacho, seconded by Olivia Zepeda.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Call to the Audience:

Homero Chavez, Gadsden School District

Cecilia Arvizo, Gadsden School District

Maria Camacho, Principal from Pastor Elementary

Leticia Anaya, Assistant Principal for San Luis High School

Luis Reyes, Assistant Principal for Southwest Junior High School

Omar Duron, Principal Southwest Junior High School

Meredith Nelson, Desert View Elementary

Belinda Boblett is the School Improvement Professional Development Director

Everardo Martinez Inzunza Director of Federal and State Programs

Antonio Garcia, Grant Writer for Gadsden School District

Miguel Sanchez, Special Education Director

Lizette Esparza, Principal at Arizona Desert

Linda Galvano, San Luis Preschool Director

Bethany Loucks,, Principal at Rio Colorado

Marylyn Morales, Principal at Cesar Chavez

Maria Garcia Avila, Assistant Food Service Director

Linda Coronado is the State and Federal Projects Director

Jose Moreno, Principal at Somerton Middle School

Tiffany Middleton, Assistant Principal at Somerton Middle School

Cesar Castillo, Director of Counseling at San Luis High School

Arizona Association of Community College Trustees (AACCT): Board Member Maria Chavoya was not present at the meeting and no report was given.

Employee Reports

Faculty Report: Sonja Greiner presented on behalf of the Faculty Senate Committee.

Ms. Greiner highlighted the various events faculty have participated in through February 2020.

- Robert Gedeon; Professor of Culinary Arts, held the inaugural opening of “Rosemary’s Kitchen” on January 24th. Once a month international students living in the dorms will have an opportunity to cook in the Culinary Arts kitchen to given them a sense of home. Professor Gedeon was instrumental in making this happen, after international student Rosemary Harrison spoke at the Horizon Symposium.
- Dr. Ellen Riek; Professor of English, celebrates the English 101 and English 102 classes hosted at San Pasqual High School and Vista High School.
- Nancy Blitz, Professor of English as a Second Language, supports the Arizona Business Women’s

Association Scholarship fundraiser event called the Women's Expo in March held at the AWC Yuma Campus

- Dr. Dahwei Chang, Professor of Physics, attend the Southwest Regional Conference Finals with students for their work in the Student Research League Competition Project. Before the winter break, Misael Marquez, Cynthia Spence, and Wendy Szeto attended the American Mathematical Association for Two Year Colleges annual conference in Milwaukee.
- Monica Ketchum, Professor of History, was recognized as a distinguished artist by the Calexico Arts Council on January 18th, and an exhibition of her work was on put on display. Ms. Ketchum also graduated with her master's in Sociology from ASU this past December.
- Dan Russow; Professor of Mathematics, covers quadratic functions in his College Algebra classes, he brings in motion detectors for students to transfer data onto their graphing calculators. The students drop foam balls and then notebooks to see how different results are reached based off of wind resistance, speed of drop, etc. From the experiment, students learn how the changing of coefficients will change the shape of the graph.

Classified Employee Association (CEA): Justin Martinez, District Governing Board representative for Classified Employee Association

Mr. Martinez welcomed the Board. He featured recent efforts by CEA members on behalf of the College. There is active support from CEA Members of the Census Counts around the District. The Red Plate has been passed to new recipients including Katheline Ocampo, Jose Lizaraga at the Parker Learning Center.

Student Government Association (SGA): Fatima Covarrubias, President of Student Government Association
Ms. Fatima Covarrubias welcomed the Board. SGA is collaborating with various departments to celebrate Black History Month through February 18 – 20. A Walk through history will be displayed and a Voting Workshop in BA 111 on the Yuma Campus. Salsa Toro's is hosting dancing lessons on February 20 from 6 to 9 pm. Students who want to volunteer within the community are welcome to share their time with the Crossroads Mission or Helping Hands Yard Sale February 28.

Action Item #1 – Human Resources Candidates for Exempt Positions and Review of Unfilled Positions – Presented by Karen Johnson

Candidates for Exempt Positions

- Demetria Copeland, Professor of Nursing – Grant Funded

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Candidate for Exempt Positions.

Action Item #2 – Consideration to Approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Arizona Western College and Yuma County Housing Department – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Anna Camacho.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Arizona Western College and Yuma County Housing Department

Action Item #3 – Consideration to Amend the Law Enforcement Training Academy’s Intergovernmental Agreement – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Anna Camacho, second by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Amendment for the Law Enforcement Training Academy’s Intergovernmental Agreement

Action Item #4 – Consideration to Appoint Michelle Landis and Patricia Jimenez as alternate AWC representatives on Yuma Area Benefits Consortium (YABC) Board – Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Richard Lamb, second by Anna Camacho

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Consideration to Appoint Michelle Landis and Patricia Jimenez as alternate AWC representatives on Yuma Area Benefits Consortium (YABC) Board

Action Item #5 – Voucher Approval (January 2020)– Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Voucher for January 2020.

Spotlight for South Yuma County

Susanna Zambrano, Associate Dean for South Yuma County, welcomed the Board and guests. She recognized the growth in population in Somerton and San Luis over the past ten years which is supporting 33% of the College’s student enrollment. Ms. Zambrano shared the comprehensive steps of supporting students including Innovation Funding awarded, All-Arizona Scholarships, Ambassadors of Excellence Program, Mujer de Exito Women’s Conference, Gadsden Math Project

She introduced Omar Heredia, Advising and Student Services Corodinator, who featured the strong partnerships through the community especially the advising and testing services support at San Luis High School.

She introduced Maria Guzman Ramirez, Academic Advisor for Somerton, who featured the growth of programs and partnerships through the Somerton Community and partnerships within Kofa High School ESL program.

Ms. Zambrano recognized two students of the month Pamela Valtierra and Patricia Villareal.

Closing Items:

Dr. Corr addressed the Board.

Dr. Corr noted the incredible work serving students and the achievements of the Gadsden School District with the 5 schools awarded an A-grade which was celebrated at the recent State Board of Education meeting held at AWC. Arizona Western College will be part of the first-ever Taste of Community College held at the Rose Garden at the State Capitol in effort to let the communities, legislators, and elected officials know of the good work being done by Community Colleges.

Dr. Corr noted the important number of credits taken by high school students to date 16,340. This important growth is reflective of the hard work and commitment to education of AWC Students which support the degree attainment for the Community.

Finally, Dr. Corr celebrated the Bellwether Award Finalist award the College was recognized on a national stage for the strong work with Strategic Planning.

The next Board Meeting will be hosted at the Yuma Campus in the Frances Morris Boardroom.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled regular meeting will be Monday, March 16th at the Francis Morris Boardroom at 8:00 am.

Adjourn: The meeting matters were complete.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Anna Camacho, Richard Lamb and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,


Ashley B Herrington, Recording Secretary