

MEETING MINUTES
Arizona Western College
District Governing Board Meeting
Regular Meeting 2:45 pm
Frances Morris Boardroom, Zoom
May 14, 2020

Board Members Present: Board President Dennis Booth

Board Member present by phone, Zoom: Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Richard Lamb, Maria Chavoya, and Anna Camacho

Board Member Absent: None

Others Present within Frances Morris Boardroom:

Dr. Daniel Corr, President

Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff

Shahrooz Roothparvar, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services

Others Present by Zoom:

Michelle Landis, Director of Financial Services and
Controller

Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, Vice President for Learning
Services

Lori Stofft, Vice President of Advancement

Shahrooz Roothparvar, Vice President of Finance and
Administrative Services

Bryan Doak, Vice President for Student Services

Bob Walker, Vice President of Technology

Sonja Greiner, Faculty Senate Liaison to the District
Governing Board

Fatima Covarubbias, Student Government Associateion
President

Shara Roberts Skinner, Coordinator of Student Leadership
and Activities

Reetika Dhawan, Dean for Career and Technical Education

Karen Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer

Kathy Ocampo, Associate Dean of La Paz County Services

Colton Kempton, Science Faculty

Dr. Nik Byle, Professor of Philosophy

Dr. Ellen Riek, Professor of English

Marlie Meza, Professor of Science

Dr. Joann Chang, CIE Director

Community Members Present: Zafer Genc, Parker Community Member, Dr. Diane Carrasco-Jaquez, Yuma
Community Member

Call to Order: Board President Dennis Booth called the Public Meeting to order at 2:48 pm.

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

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda for the May 14, 2020 meeting presented for approval.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Approval of Minutes: April 13, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes presented for approval.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, second by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Call to the Audience: No one approached the call to the audience.

Employee Report:

Faculty Report; Presented by Sonja Greiner

Sonja Greiner presented her final report as the Faculty Representative to the District Governing Board. She introduced incoming Senate Officers Dr. Matthew Smith as President; Dr. Joann Chang as Vice President and Colton Kempton as the District Governing Board representative. Ms. Greiner celebrated the two retirements of Nancy Blitz from ESL and Matthew Russow from Mathematics. She shared the successful Student Showcase, organized by Dr. Ellen Riek, a virtual event for students to feature their projects and earn scholarship funds sponsored by Gowan Company. She featured faculty who shared positive points from the move to online only to finish out the semester. Julie Floss was very impressed with her students' ability to finish their projects from home without the use of a press, Nancy Blitz felt so relieved to have access to Zoom to connect with her students, and Aryca Marron sewed masks for NYC nurses in her spare time.

Student Government Association; Presented by Fatima Covarubias

Student Government Association President Fatima Covarubias shared how SGA has continued to engage students using technology and stay connected without seeing one another in person. They hosted a social media take over, participated in a digital cooking show and trivia night. Ms. Covarubias said that although the semester is ending in an unexpected way, she is encouraged by the resilience and optimism of students. She is looking forward to celebrating graduates in the upcoming Virtual Commencement on May 15 at 7 pm.

Student of the Month, Presented by Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson

The Student of the Month is Leticia Santiago. She was recommended by Social Sciences faculty member Monica Ketchum. Ms. Ketchum stated, "I am pleased to recommend Leticia Santiago as the AWC Student of the Month representing Social Sciences. Leticia is graduating in a few days with an AA in Social Work. I have had the pleasure of having her in my History of Mexico class and found her to be an exceptional student on many levels. Leticia is transferring to Northern Arizona University to finish her bachelor's degree in Social Work so that she can become a licensed social worker and pursue a career helping to serve the people in her community. Leticia is the strong, silent type. Although she has faced several challenges this semester, she made no excuses, but persevered and focused on her studies, demonstrating her resilience and dedication to her academic career. I found her work to be outstanding and other professors also remarked on her work ethic and conscientiousness. Leticia is part of the CAMP program and credits the program with supporting her and guiding her through her college journey. I believe that Leticia exemplifies the Matador spirit and I envision her changing lives as she embarks on a career in social work in the near future."

Action Items

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

Candidates for Exempt Positions

- No Positions were presented for consideration

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the positions for posting.

Action Item #2 – Consideration to Approve Starbucks Renovation– Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Maria Chavoya, second by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the renovation work.

Action Item #3 – Consideration to Approve Kino and Garces Dormitory Structural Repair– Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Maria Chavoya, second by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb, and Anna Camacho

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Dennis Booth stepped out briefly. His vote was not cast or recorded.

The Board Approved the funding for the Structural Repairs of Kino and Garces Residence Halls.

Action Item #4 – Consideration to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Yuma for the use of City of Yuma Public Safety Training Facility – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, second by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Yuma for the use of the City of Yuma Public Safety Training Facility.

Action Item #5 – Consideration to Approve an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Arizona Western College and The Southwest Technical District of Yuma (STEDY) – Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Anna Camacho, second by Richard Lamb

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, Richard Lamb, Anna Camcho and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Arizona Western College and The Southwest Technical District of Yuma (STEDY)

Action Item #6 – Voucher Approval (April 2020) – Presented by Presented by Shahrooz Roohparvar

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Richard Lamb.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board Approved the Voucher for April 2020.

President's Reports:

Technology Presented by Bob Walker, Vice President of Technology.

Mr. Walker summarized the tremendous progress and resolutions of multiple Audit Findings through a creative video, found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDuXgdsnKB4>. Mr. Walker thanked the hard work of those within the Technology Department who have worked tirelessly over the past 12 months.

Closing Items:

Dr. Corr addressed the Board. He thanked them for their approval of the 2020-2021 Budget. He reiterated the importance now, more than ever, of higher education within our communities. The approved budget is directly tied to the work of the Strategic Plan and driving the work of the college. The Mission and Vision of the College provided the framework for the Budget to focus on the ways education “transforms lives” (Mission) and “cultivate generations” (Vision) to grow the Communities that the College serves and achieve the B.H.A.G. of doubling baccalaureate attainment by 2035.

He recognized the tremendous commitment to the pipeline for students to obtain their degrees and continue into higher education at the university level, noting the growth of Dual Credit credits taken over the past three years and the steady increase of dual credit courses available to students across the District.

Dr. Corr addressed the recent concerns surrounding Covid-19 and clarified the College efforts. The College has transitioned to supporting students and the community entirely through online services and will continue to do so until at least May 15. He plans to share the success rate of students in the Spring Semester, including any outlying data points of student completion impacted by the pandemic. The College is actively allocating funding received through the CARES Act and has allocated over \$1.3 Million dollars directly to students enrolled in the Spring Semester. The College will continue to connect students with funding for student success. Preparing for the Summer academic semester, the Summer Courses will be taught online and through the new Learning Management System (LMS) called Canvas.

The next Board Meeting will be hosted at the Yuma Campus.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled regular meeting will be Monday, June 15, 2020 by Zoom and at the Yuma Campus at 8:00 am.

Adjourn: The meeting matters were complete.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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


Nay: None

Abstain: None

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Ashley B Herrington, Recording Secretary