

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Arizona Western College  
District Governing Board Meeting  
Regular Meeting 11 am  
Yuma Campus and Via Zoom  
May 16, 2024

**Board Members Present:** Board President Dennis Booth, Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya\*

**Board Member Absent:** Richard Lamb, Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

**\*Quorum confirmed**

**Others Present within the room: (24)**

Dr. Daniel Corr, President  
Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Kathleen Iudicello, Vice President of Learning Services  
Katheline Ocampo, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Bryan Doak, Vice President of Student Services  
Lorraine Stofft, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of AWC Foundation  
Reetika Dhawan, Chief Executive Officer of Entrepreneurial College & Vice President of Workforce & Healthcare  
Ross Poppenberger, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services  
Scott Estes, Chief Information Officer  
Stephen Suho, Chief of Police  
Karen Davila, Executive Administrative Assistant  
Dr. Joann Chang, Executive Director of Health Care Programs  
Stuart Gibson, Associate Dean of Business Education, Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Randy Hartless, Associate Dean for La Paz County  
Noemi Barraza, Executive Administrative Assistant, Office of the President  
Johanna Megui, Workforce Specialist  
Shara Skinner, Coordinator of Student Leadership & Activities  
Jorge Ramirez, Student Government Association  
Evelyn Clark, Student of the Month  
Lynne Martin, Business Services  
Maria Espino, Accountant  
Alexis Gorman, Administrative Assistant  
Jane Peabody, Physical Education Faculty  
Dr. Monica Ketchum, Faculty

**Others Present within on Zoom: (3)**

Cynthia Alvarez, Kimberly Trujillo, Ashley Herrington

**Community Member Present by Zoom: (0) None**

**Others Present within the Boardroom: (5)** 3 Student of the Month supporters, Community Member Gemi Brown, Nick Fenley from Yuma Sun

**Call to Order:** Board President Dennis Booth called the Regular Meeting to order at 11:03 am.

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

**Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda for the May 16, 2024, meeting is presented for approval.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None

**Call to the Audience:**

During the call to the audience, community member Gemi Brown posed a question directly to Dr. Corr regarding his place of residence.

**Employee Reports**

*Student Government Association, Presented by Jorge Ramirez*

Jorge Ramirez, the newly elected SGA President for the 2024-25 school year, introduced himself as a second-year student double majoring in political science and psychology, with prior experience as a Residence Assistant and in the TRIO Talent Search and Upward Bound program. He emphasized his passion for student advocacy and commitment to his new role. Jorge expressed excitement for the upcoming year and proposed discussing past successes and future plans in the meeting. He shared these summary highlights:

- Approximately 100 events were organized throughout the year, including the popular "Mr. and Ms. Matador," which is hoped to become a tradition.
- Currently, there are 33 active clubs and organizations, with plans to increase this number to 40 in the next year. Six events aimed at enhancing club connections held over the past year.
- The clubs hosted over 70 events and programs for AWC students, while SGA launched its own podcast, "The Mat's Voice," aimed at sharing resources, program highlights, and campus news.
- Recent activities included a stress relief ball-making booth at the San Luis Campus and participation in the La Cosecha event, with plans for a celebratory trip to the Fun Factory.
- SGA looks forward to summer training sessions to devise strategies for a successful upcoming school year, alongside showing support for graduating team members at the upcoming commencement.

He shared his excitement about the upcoming Commencement celebrations on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Student of the Month, Presented by Tracy Iverson*

Tracy Iverson welcomed the Board and those in attendance on behalf of the Radiology Program. She recognized the two-year program's rigor and fast pace. Ms. Iverson recognized Ms. Evelyn Robles, a first-year student in the AWC Radiology Program, for the Student of the Month award due to her exceptional dedication and professionalism. Throughout her time in the program, Evelyn has displayed a strong commitment to learning, actively seeking assistance when needed and demonstrating a proactive approach to mastering challenging concepts. Her instructors commend her for her accountability, ethical conduct, positive attitude, and punctuality. At the same time, clinical staff highlight her quick grasp of concepts and quality work in the clinic, underscoring her deservingness of this recognition.

**Action Items**

*Anthony B. Huntington*  
Action Item #1 – Human Resources, Consideration to Approve Candidates for Exempt Positions – Presented by Katheline Ocampo

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

*Summary –*

- Joel Prickett, Faculty/Head Softball Coach

**Action Item #2** – Consideration to Award a Contract to Educational Services Inc. (ESI)- Presented by Katheline Ocampo

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

*Summary-*

The administration recommends that the district award a contract to Educational Services Inc. (ESI) to provide the services for the following position:

1. Athletic Facilities

The terms for this ESI Contract are for the 2024-2025 Fiscal year. The contract total amount is \$55,187 which includes the Salary, Payroll Liabilities, ASRS Contributions costs, and the ESI management fee.

**Action Item #3** – Consideration to Approve New Curriculum – Presented by Reetika Dhawan

Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-*

The Entrepreneurial College is requesting to add a new Certificate. New Certificate proposed in: Electronics Technician (CERT.ECT)

This new certificate provides graduates with the essential skills required of an entry-level employee in the electronics, manufacturing, and testing industries.

**Action Item #4** - Consideration to Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Yuma County Health Department– Presented by Ross Poppenberger

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Maria Chavoya

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* The college is seeking approval to enter into an agreement with the Yuma County Health Department to provide clinical nursing experiences for students in the Nursing Program.

**Action Item #5** - Consideration to Identify Chief Fiscal Officer– Presented by Ross Poppenberger  
Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Maria Chavoya  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None  
Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* Ross Poppenberger, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services and in line with the capacity of this position, Arizona Western College wishes to identify Ross Poppenberger as the Chief Fiscal Officer of Yuma/La Paz Counties Community District for expenditure limitation reporting, per Arizona Revised Statue §41-1279. 07(E).

The Board asked for clarification of the purpose of this appointment, and he affirmed this is a routine annual appointment the College considers as part of the State Statute requirement for both annual audit actions and annual fiscal activity.

**Action Item #6** – Consideration to Approve Voucher for April 2024– Presented by Ross Poppenberger  
Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Maria Chavoya  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None  
Abstain: None  
The **Board Approved** the Voucher as presented.

The District Governing Board noted the impressive number of Early College courses.

*Summary-*

Summary of Revenues and Expenditures for the Month Ended April 30, 2024 - Operational and Capital Funds

Summary

The result of fiscal operations for the month ended April 30, 2024, indicated that expenses exceeded revenues\*. On April 30, 2024, the cash balance was \$11,433,603 compared to \$13,562,091 on the same date last year.

Operational - Fund "O"

The District received 84% of its anticipated revenues and expended 76% of its budgeted expenditures, compared to 75% and 74%, respectively, last year.

Compared to 20,811 credit hours billed to students last year, this year 27,629 credit hours were active high school students. These students are billed \$25 per credit instead of \$94 per credit. The AWC community betterment plan has resulted in \$1,906,368 or 3% of anticipated revenues to support the education of youth in the community.

Capital - Fund "6"

The District does not budget Capital revenues. For the current fiscal year, the District has

expended 103% of its budgeted expenditures, compared to 33% last year.

\*Yuma/La Paz Counties taxes received through March 31, 2024 at April 30, 2024.

### **President's Report**

*Facilities, Presented by Ross Poppenberger*

Mr. Steve Eckert, Director of Facilities Management, shared a Facilities update for facilities including the DeAnza Residence Hall, Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA), Future48 Workforce Accelerator at the Advanced Manufacturing campus in Wellton, the renovation of the former Bookstore space in 3C for a new Transfer Services center, the second half of the Academic Library Remodel, the completion of the Athletic Facilities Court refinishing and the San Luis Learning Center: Student Break Room. The report brought attention to the central purpose of our Facilities serving students and aiding them in their successes while they call the campus locations home.

### **President's Report**

*President's Report – 2023-2024 Year in Review presented by Dr. Daniel Corr*

Dr. Corr recognized Lori Stofft as a Flinn-Brown Fellow during the 2024 cohort, following Reetika Dhawan's service in 2022. This is an amazing opportunity to bring state-wide activities and leadership development to AWC Professionals.

Dr. Corr recognized the fun and busy past two weeks celebrating student success through multiple end-of-the-year celebrations across San Luis, Parker, and Yuma communities.

**Recess to Executive Session:** The Board recessed into executive session at 11:52 am.

**Call to Order:** Board President Dennis Booth called the Executive Session Meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

Motion by Maria Chavoya seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

A quorum of all three Board reconfirmed.

Executive Session Attendees:

**Board Members Present in Frances Morris Boardroom:** Board President Dennis Booth, Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya

Board Member present by Zoom: None

### **Others Present:**

Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff

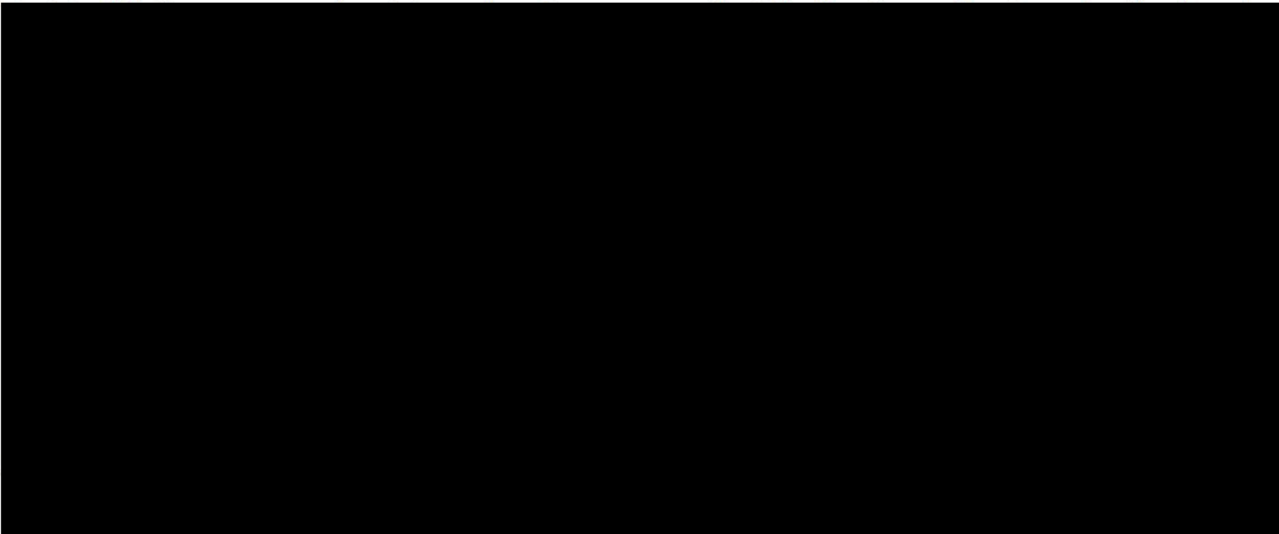
Dr. Corr, President

## **II. Executive Session**

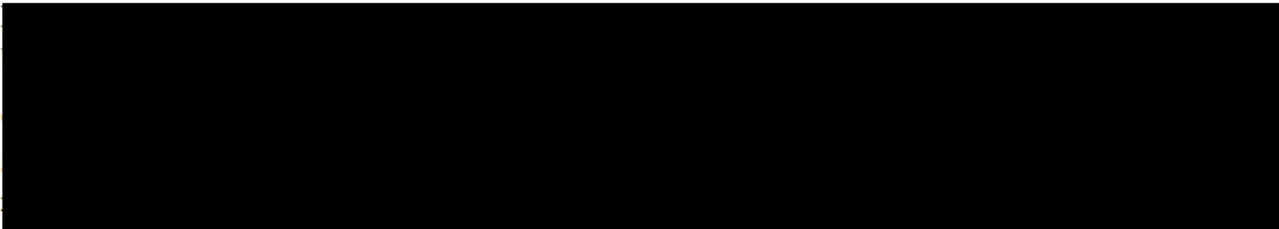
A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(1) Personnel Matters - Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of

salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting.

This executive session will include President Dr. Daniel P. Corr's annual performance appraisal including the employment contract and terms.

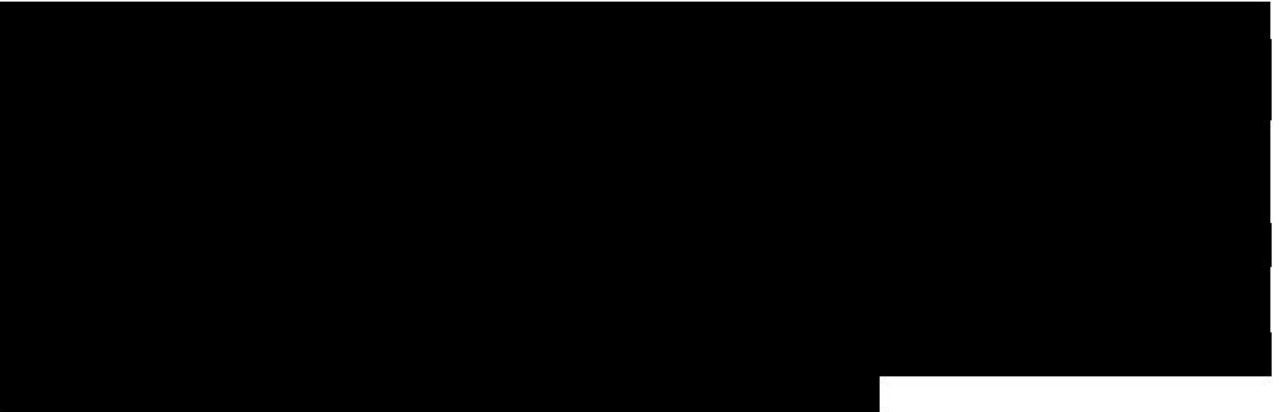


innovation in higher education.



Dr. Corr left the meeting at 12:17 pm.

**Board Members Present in Frances Morris Boardroom:** Board President Dennis Booth, Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya  
**Others Present;** Ashley Herrington



**Adjourn:** The Executive Session meeting matters were complete.

Motion by Olivia Zepeda seconded by Maria Chavoya  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Olivia Zepeda, Maria Chavoya, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None  
Abstain: None

**Adjournment of Executive Session:** The Board adjourned from executive session at 1 pm.

**Return to Regular meeting:** The Board returned to the Regular meeting session at 1:03 pm.

**Action Item #1** – Consideration to Approve the President’s Contract – Presented by Dennis Booth

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None  
Abstain: None  
The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

*Summary –*

The District Governing Board is the publicly elected Governing Body of the two County Districts representing La Paz and Yuma counties. The Arizona Western College District Governing Board is responsible for the review and retention of the College President. The District Governing Board proposes the renewal terms for Dr. Daniel Corr as President of the College for July 2024 through June 2027.

**Closing Items:**

No further closing remarks were made.


**Next Meeting:** The next scheduled meeting will be June 11, 2024, with the next Regular meeting conducted both in-person and via Zoom and at the Yuma Campus.

Motion by Maria Chavoya seconded by Olivia Zepeda  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Yea: Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth  
Nay: None  
Abstain: None

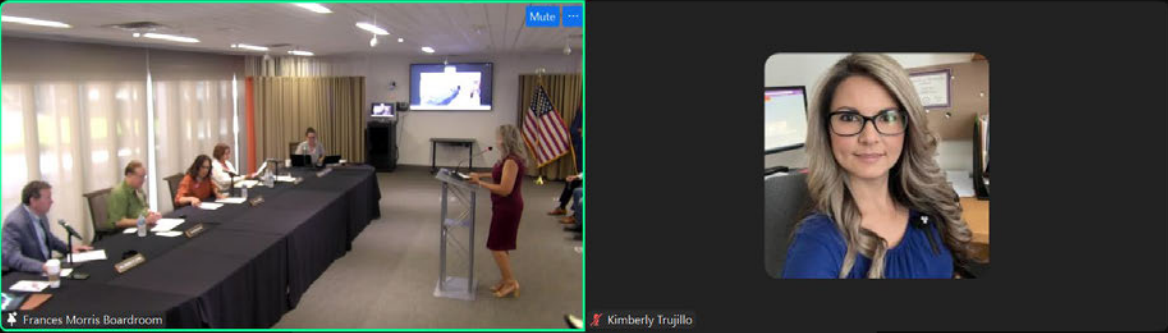
The Board **Approved** the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm

**Adjourn:** The meeting matters were complete.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ashley B Herrington, Recording Secretary

Attendance at 1:07 pm



The image shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a video window displays a boardroom with several people seated around a long table. A woman in a red dress is standing at a podium, addressing the group. The room features large windows with blinds, a screen at the front, and an American flag. The caption below this window reads "Frances Morris Boardroom". On the right, a smaller video window shows a close-up of a woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a blue top. The caption below her window reads "Kimberly Trujillo". At the top right of the interface, there is a "Mute" button. In the center of the screen, the name "Cinthia Alvarez" is displayed in large white text. At the bottom left, there is a small icon and the name "Cinthia Alvarez".