



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

**Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council**

Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2015

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Chair Madrid called to order the Regular Meeting of the First Things First, **Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council** held **Thursday, January 22, 2015** at approximately **12:02 p.m.** The meeting was held at **Gila River Indian Community Early Education Childcare Center, 280 South Ocotillo Road, Sacaton, Arizona 85147.** Introductions were held and attendees were welcomed.

Members PRESENT

Melissa Madrid, Chair
Dr. Debora Chadwick
Priscilla Foote
Sandy Nasewytewa
Mary Tatum
Hon. Kami Hart
Priscilla Antone
Dr. Debra Chadwick (left meeting at 1:10 p.m.)

Members ABSENT

Brooklyn Dee
Emily Warburton
Dale Enos, Vice Chair

Call to the Public

No Call to the Publics were received.

Meeting Minutes

Chair Madrid called for a motion to approve the December 18, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes. Member Chadwick moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Member Antone seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2014 Needs and Assets Report

Director Brown informed the Council that the Tribal Council approved the Gila River Indian Community Needs and Assets Report on January 7, 2015. The Council reviewed the Needs and Assets report, Member Franklin moved to approve the report. Member Antone seconded. Motion carried for submittal to the First Things First State Board.

SFY2015 Funding Plan/Program Implementation Review/Update

Q1 Financials, Data, Narratives

Director Brown briefly provided an overview of the FY15 program implementation by sharing 1st Quarter Grantee financials, data reporting, and narratives.

SFY2016 Funding Plan/Program Implementation Review

Grantee Renewal Process

Director Brown reviewed the Grantee renewal process with the Council.

Eligible Grant Renewals

Director Brown shared that Home Visitation Program is up for renewal. She also informed the Council that there is a new agreement based on the Teen Parent Education Program.

Chair Report

Chair Madrid shared with the Council that she attended the First Things First State Board meeting on January 20, 2015 and presented the Funding Plan.

Adjournment and Next Meeting


Chair Madrid informed the Council of the next Council meeting slated for Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. located TBD.

Chair Madrid adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

On this 19th day of February 2015

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD
Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council

J  _____
Assistant

Ca  _____
Director

Melissa Madrid, Chair

Quality First Advisory Sub-Committee Meeting February 3, 2015			
Meeting Objectives:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction of sub-committee purpose, objectives, and calendar 2. Provide overview of national Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) trends and outcomes. 3. Begin Quality First initiative discussion 			
Time	Agenda item	Name/Organization	Notes
1:00 pm	Welcome/ introductions	Sam Leyvas, First Things First	
1:20 pm	Open Meeting Laws Primer; Vote on call-in participation	Melody Bozza and Casey Cullings, First Things First	
1:40 pm	Purpose of the Sub-Committee and process for meetings	Lori McClung and Heather Lenz, Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC	
1:45 pm	Role of the Sub-Committee	Karen Woodhouse, First Things First	
1:50 pm	National Perspective of QRIS	Deb Mathias, Build National Initiative	
2:20 pm	History of Quality First	Karen Woodhouse, First Things First	
2:35 pm	Chairperson's perspective on Quality First and member discussion	Kameron Bachert, Casa Grande Early Childhood Learning Center	
2:55 pm	BREAK		
3:05 pm	Quality First Guiding Principles	Lori McClung and Heather Lenz, Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC	
3:50 pm	Next steps	Lori McClung and Heather Lenz, Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC	
4:00 pm	Adjourn		

Future Meeting Schedule:

March 31, 2015: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 May 20, 2015: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 July 9, 2015: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 September 29, 2015: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Nov. 10, 2015: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Jan. 26, 2015, 2016: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm



Quality First Advisory Sub-committee

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Formatted Table

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Katie Romero Program Manager Southwest Human Development 2850 North 24 th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85008 kromero@swhd.org	



Gila River Indian Community

Children in Crisis Coalition

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Residential Program for Youth
505 South Pear Road, Sacaton Arizona 85147

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions** Judge Hart
2. **Review of Meeting Minutes** Judge Hart
 - a. December 17, 2014 (tabled)
3. **Updates**
 - a. TSS Administrative Update Deannah Neswood-Gishey
i. Casey Family Foundation Partnership Anita Fineday and Monte Fox
 - b. Case Staffing of 0-5 Cases
 - c. Monthly Case Reviews for Children 0-5 years old
 - d. GRHC Pediatric Clinic Dr. Gross/Michele Burke/
Laura Tarrant
Kimberly Herman
Cathy Brown
 - e. RPY Updates
 - f. Forms: Revision Updates
i. Child Passport – *Recommendations from CIC in December is that form be fillable. Passport will be presented in February meeting*
ii. 0-5 Judge's Checklist Form #2 (*Attachment #*)
4. **National Updates Court Teams in Indian Country** Anita Fineday
5. **Planning and Direction for Training** All
TSS Personnel Foster Parents
RPY Staff Early Child Professionals
Hospital Personnel Community Members
6. **2015 Meeting Schedule**
 - a. Monthly, 3rd Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.
 - i. February 18th
 - ii. March 18th
 - iii. April 15th
 - iv. May 20th
 - v. June 17th
 - vi. July 15th
 - vii. August 19th
 - viii. September 16th
 - ix. October 21st
 - x. November 18th
 - xi. December 16th



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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Agenda Item:	Regional Director's Report
Attachment:	GRIC Regional Directors Report - Attachment
Background:	Monthly Directors Report provides the Regional Director an opportunity to inform the Regional Council on current and upcoming activities happening within the region and throughout the State.
Recommendations:	The Regional Director provides this as informational purposes only.



FIRST THINGS FIRST
Ready for School. Set for Life.

Regional Director's Report Gila River Regional Partnership Council

Regional January -February

Home Visitation/ Family Support Coalition (Attachment 5) - Coalition met Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

- Attendees included FACE Blackwater, Head Start/EHS, Tribal Social Service Parent Educators, Baby Smarts Home Visitation, Pinal County and Maricopa County Healthy Steps Program, Gila River Health Care Pediatric Care Coordinator.
- Coordinated Referral Discussion
- Diaper Driver conclusion and GRIN Article

Gila River Education Summit Planning Committee (Attachment 6) - Governor Lewis announced he would hold an Education Summit within the first 60 days of holding office. The FTF has been asked to join the Summit planning committee to ensure early education is represented in the planning process. The goal is to have thoughtful discussion around the vision for early education during the Ed Summit.

Quality Assurance Site Visit: Home Visitation - FTF Gila River Regional Council's Home Visitation Grantee received a quality assurance site visit in January. Findings of the report will be delivered to the GRIC Regional Council in March.

Legislative Updates (Attachment 7) - Legislative update is meant to inform the Gila River Regional Council on items within the legislature which could impact the early education system. It is informational only.

State

First Things First 2015 Summit

Call for proposals for the [First Things First Early Childhood Summit 2015](http://summit.azftf.gov/), to be held August 24-25 in Phoenix. Please help us spread the word and encourage our partners to submit proposals for Summit breakout sessions.

<http://summit.azftf.gov/>

- All registration cost are waved for Regional Council Members.
- August 24-25 2015 – Phoenix Convention Center

Gila River Home Visitation/Family Support Programs Coordination Meeting

Tribal Education Department
Blue Bird and B Street, Sacaton, AZ 85147

Wednesday, January 14, 2015
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Welcome- name, Agency /Programs | Cathy Brown
Everyone |
| 2. Diaper Drive Update
(current numbers, distribution to needy families) | Elisia Manual |
| 3. Resource Guide Update
(Attachment #1) | Elisia Manual |
| 4. Update From Previous Meeting:
Discussion of a vision and/or mission statement for coalition | Lindsey Wicks |
| 5. Discussion and possible action
On a Coordinated Referral Form (Attachment #2) | Everyone |
| 6. Topics for February Meeting | Everyone |

Housing Owners Team Cuts Ribbon on New Homes in District 1



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Housing Owners Team members cut the ribbon on Rebecca Chase's new house – the first house to be built by the HOT – in District 1, Jan. 28.

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Rebecca Chase smiled at the Gila River Indian Community officials who stood on the doorstep of her new home Jan. 28 to cut the ribbon on a project the Housing

Owners Team has been working on for almost a year.

Chase thanked the Community for helping her get a new home. "I'd like to thank District 1 for all their support and the District 1 Housing Committee for all their help," she said.

She also thanked the District 1 workers for helping move her furniture to her new home. "The community really pulled through for me," said Chase, standing in her new driveway.

Joyce McAfee, the District 1 chairperson, said the Chase house

is just one of many that the HOT has plans to build. "The nucleus of a community is its families, and in order to succeed they have to have a good environment and that is a good house," she said.

Chase's home is one of sixty-two houses built under the direction of the Gila River Housing Owners Team.

The HOT was formed in May of last year through resolution GR-18-14.

The team's mission is to build a house for each Community member identified in the tribe's 2008 - 2013 home construction list.

HOT Chairperson and District 5 Councilman Franklin Pablo, Sr. acknowledged the HOT members and tribal officials for helping to move the housing project forward.

"These are the individuals that make things happen," he said.

Councilman Pablo said while the team got off to a slow start, much progress has been accomplished within the past year and the team has recently gotten to the construction phase of building the homes.

Continued on Page 5

GRHC to Open Residential Care Program 'Vista Ké' in District 6

By Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

A new residential care program for people with mental illness is set to open later this month in District 6. Its mission: to provide resources and support to help people with valid mental health problems reintegrate into society.

The residential care program is a part of Gila River Health Care's Behavioral Health Services and has been named "Vista Ké" by the BHS staff. It will house up to four residents, all male, is exclusively for Gila River Indian Community members, and will have a 24/7 staff of behavioral health professionals. Several patients have already been identified and some are transferring from similar programs outside of the Community.

"This gives them a chance to revitalize their interest in their culture and benefit from their culture," said GRHC Chief Operating Officer Steven Green. The length of stay of a resident depends on the patient but the goal is to get them "the kind of support they need to live a meaningful and quality life in their community."

One of the greatest challenges people with mental illness have to deal with is a lack of support.

Green said the people this home will serve "are individuals [who] could do well if they had family members who could really provide the support and direction and guidance that they need."

That means helping them stay on top of their medications, making sure that they're taking the ap-

Continued on Page 7

Amy Davila Photography at Huhugam Heritage Center

By Annie Gutierrez
Gila River Indian News

The Huhugam Heritage Center is starting an exhibition series to display the works of Community member artists. The first exhibit features the photography of Amy Davila, District 4.

In one of Davila's captivating photographs, titled "Parallel," a barefoot woman in traditional O'odham clothing walks through her desert homeland while in the background the concrete jungle beyond the reservation thrives.

"I kind of created this traditional O'odham spirit from the other dimension into the modern world. This is my exploration of what I am thinking. If we were to practice our culture a hundred percent, would it look like this?" said Davila.

Davila's solo exhibition, "She Who Searches for the River," was unveiled to the public during an evening reception Jan. 16. The rhythm of rattling gourds filled the museum hall as guests admired the photographs.

Through photo manipulation, Davila's photography captures the split-world reality of modern Native Americans. In her photography, an unmasked spirit strives to keep O'odham Himthag (way of life) alive while adapting and surviving in a modern day society. Who is this mysterious woman?

"I like to stay away from that question," laughs Davila about the mysterious person in her work. "I want the viewer to form that connection with her in a more spiritual sense and

understand she is not just one person. She is within us. She is all of us."

Urban community member Rosie Rivera was among the many guests who came out to the evening reception. Rivera, like many other urban members, relates to the concept of Davila's art.

"It really resonated with me because I grew up on the [reservation] and now I live in the city. There is a fine line and balance of walking in both worlds," said Rivera, 36.

Davila is an ASU graduate and has been studying photography for years. She has practiced in the field of crime scene photography, but Davila is now focusing on her passion.

"I was done with the dead bodies. Let's do something happy and fun. That's when I went back to grad school and got back into Fine Art," said Davila.

Davila's artwork is the first of many community artists that will be featured at the Huhugam Heritage Center's solo exhibition series.

"We are excited to have Amy Davila launch this series," said Holly Metz, the Center's senior curator. "We want to do this for...com-



Image courtesy of Amy Davila

Amy Davila's work, "Parallel." Davila uses photo manipulation to create unique photographs. The artwork will be on display at the Huhugam Heritage Center through April 17.

munity artists who want their work here at the Heritage Center. We will be having a new artist every three months."

Community artists Cher Thomas, Aaron Sabori and Sara Lucas will feature their work in the solo exhibition series later this year.

"She Who Searches for the River" will be on display from Jan. 16 – April 17.

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Angelia Allison

District #5
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Janice Stewart
Brian E. Davis, Sr.

District #6
Albert Pablo
Anthony Villareal, Sr.
Sandra Nasewytewa

District #7
Devin Redbird

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O'ODHAM TASH
CASA GRANDE

O'Odham Tash is back in Casa Grande Feb. 21 & 22

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Preference will be given to rodeo entries in the order they are received.

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Community Members,

Greetings: I would like to acknowledge and thank the Community members for their vote and support that was conveyed in the general election (November 2014). As some of you may know and others not, the young man who was holding my grandfather's bible, the late Rev. Williams Peters, Sr. of Santa Cruz Village, is JaLoni Jackson who I requested to hold and escort me on the day of the inauguration. JaLoni is a 4th generation (great, great, great, great-grandson of my maternal grandparents) this occasion was special to me as this term is my 4th term. I was deeply honored that our young people are able to be courageous and we, as parents, elders, and relatives must show our recognition and support for our young people. Jaloni's parents are Janelle Hutchinson and the late, Erwin Franklin Jackson, III, his maternal-grandparents are Jaspar, Sr. and Lorinda Hutchinson, paternal-grandparents are Cecelia Rhodes-Henry and the late, Erwin F. Jackson, Jr. Thank you.

Lucinda M. Nez (Oliver)



ATTENTION ALL GILA RIVER HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Head Start and Early Head Start 2nd year enrollment begins in January and runs through March 31st. If your child will be returning to the Head Start/ Early Head Start program for the Fall School Year 2015-16 and to prevent interruption of services for your child please contact your child's center to set up an appointment and begin the enrollment process at your earliest convenience. Please call the following HS/ EHS centers to ensure a spot for your returning child:

D3 Sacaton HS/EHS
520-562-6901/3423

D4 Santan HS/EHS
520-418-3471/3498

D5 Vah-Ki HS/EHS
520-315-3636/2795

District 6 HS/EHS
520-550-2434/0137

American Legion Post 51



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- 5000 teams across U.S.

1060 W. Blackwater Day School Rd. Contact Joey Whitman (520) 610-4431 / Post 51 at (520) 215-5151

Casa Blanca Community School February Events

- February 11th Healthy Heart Fun Run @ 9am
- February 11th Valentine's Dinner @ 5-7pm
- February 17th Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6pm
- February 19th Family Math Night @ 5-7pm

Call 520-315-3489 for more information.

From the CBCS Staff

Congratulations to the following students who completed the Casa Blanca Community School 49 Mile Challenge! The challenge for students was to run/walk at least 49 miles between September 1st and December 19th.

Elijah Ortiz	Bryce Alphus
D'Only Michael	Jonathan Lewis
Nicolas Garcia	Carlitos Makil
Daniel Miller	Ygnacia Juan
Shane Jose	Dora Escalante
Armando Randall	Analysa Morgan
Christopher Santos	Dylan Joe
Jazmyn Norris-Burnette	Angel Lyons
Jerome Setoyant	Clyde Luna

CORRECTIONS

In the Jan. 21, 2015 edition we incorrectly stated that the New England Patriots stayed at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass during Super Bowl XLII in 2008; in fact, it was the New York Giants.

There was also a mistake in the governor's thank you letter; the Ira H. Hayes Veteran's Post was misidentified as American Legion Post #81, it is Post #84. We regret the errors.

The GRIN encourages comments and suggestions about content that warrants correction or clarification. To report an error call (520)562-9719 or email grin@gric.nsn.us



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MEASLES



What is measles (rubella)?
Measles is a highly infectious viral rash disease.

What are the symptoms of measles?
They include fever, cough, conjunctivitis (pink eye like); or a rash that begins on the face and head and spreads to the rest of body.

How is measles spread or passed to others?
Measles is spread by bodily fluids - drops of saliva from the mouth, mucus from the nose, coughing or sneezing, and tears from the eyes. The measles virus can also float in the air for up to 2 hours after someone with measles coughs or sneezes indoors. Someone who breathes air containing the measles virus can get measles. People with measles can spread the disease to others from 4 days before the rash starts (before they know they have the disease), through 4 days after the rash begins.

What are complications of measles?
Diarrhea, ear aches, pneumonia, swelling of the brain and or death.

What are vaccine recommendations?
The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that anyone born during or later than 1957 who does not have access to their vaccine records or evidence of being immune, consider getting at least one dose of the MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine.

Is there treatment for measles?
There is no medicine that kills the measles virus once someone develops measles. Most people with measles get better by themselves.

What should I do to protect myself and my family?
Check your vaccination records and make sure everyone is up to date.

For more information, contact your provider at GRHC:
(520) 562-3321 or visit GRHC.ORG

VISTA KÉ

Residential Care Program

What is the Vista Ké residential care program?
It is part of a collaborative initiative between Gila River Health Care's (GRHC) Behavioral Health Services (BHS) and the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Housing Authority and District #6. The purpose of the program is to provide comprehensive services for Community members with a valid mental health diagnosis. The Vista Ké (home with a view of the Estrellas/Komatke) residence is located in District #6, and will function as an extension of the Residential Treatment Center (RTC) and outpatient services at Shegoi. There will be 24-hour supervision of the residents and structured free time with outings and exercise opportunities.

Vista Ké operations and management?

- Residential care services for up to four adults in a clinically structured setting. A property managed and operated by GRHC Behavioral Health Services.

What is the Resident Criteria?

- GRIC members with no current criminal charges, outstanding order of protection, no recent suicide attempts, no physically aggressive behavior and no drug use in the prior six months.
- Valid mental health diagnosis or no psychiatric hospitalization within the past six months.


Who are the Vista Ké staff?

- GRHC clinically trained staff will work with individuals who have mental health challenges.
- Staff members will work on a rotating basis, 24 hours a day – 7 days per week.

What is the objective of the Vista Ké Residential Care Program?

- To assist residents with gaining life skills needed to lead healthy, productive lives while promoting an alcohol and drug free lifestyle.

For more information contact:
Mr. Shannon Sims, Vista Ké Housing Manager
ssims@grhc.org (520) 550-0015



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(520) 562-3321
(602) 528-1240

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17487 S. Health Care Dr.
Laveen, Arizona 85339

(520) 550-6000

Ak-Chin Clinic

48203 W. Farrell Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85239

(520) 568-3881



Gila River
HEALTH CARE

GRHC.ORG

COMMUNITY UPDATES

BY GRIN STAFF

Here are some regular updates on the on-going issues pertaining to the Gila River Indian Community.

Pimmex builds HOT homes

From Page 1

The Community has contracted with Pimmex General Contracting to build the first sixty-two homes. Pimmex President and Community member from District 5 Carlos Muñoz said, “It’s a privilege and a dream for me to come back to the Community to implement the education and background I have in construction.”

He said, “I too share the same dream that we can get these houses done. I do everything I can to make sure it happens in a quality manner,” said Munoz.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis thanked the Community departments for their work on the HOT homes.

“We were all working together,” he said. “It takes so much in regards to infrastructure and coordination to be able to have a finished product such as [this].”

He said, “It is important what is happening right here today. It speaks to our Community members who are waiting for houses. This is a strong start.”

Construction on more homes is underway with Kautaq Construction Services, another company that has been contracted to build homes in the Community. Pimmex and Kautaq will move from district to district, building homes in the Community simultaneously this year.

Diaper Drive Benefits Tribal Social Services

Submitted by
GRIC Home Visitation and
Family Support Coalition

The Gila River Indian Community’s Home Visitation/Family Support Coalition delivered 4,889 diapers and 1,140 wipes to Tribal Social Services on Wednesday January 14, 2015. The diapers were collected during the Coalition’s 1st annual Diaper Drive.

“These babies are our most vulnerable and our most precious resource and we wanted to support them, their families and the programs/departments who serve them,” said coalition member Melissa Madrid.

The Coalition decided to hold a diaper drive after they identified that many foster and emergency placement families have a need for diapers at some point when caring for foster babies. The goal of the diaper drive is not to be the only supplier of diapers but to support our Community needs from within our Community.

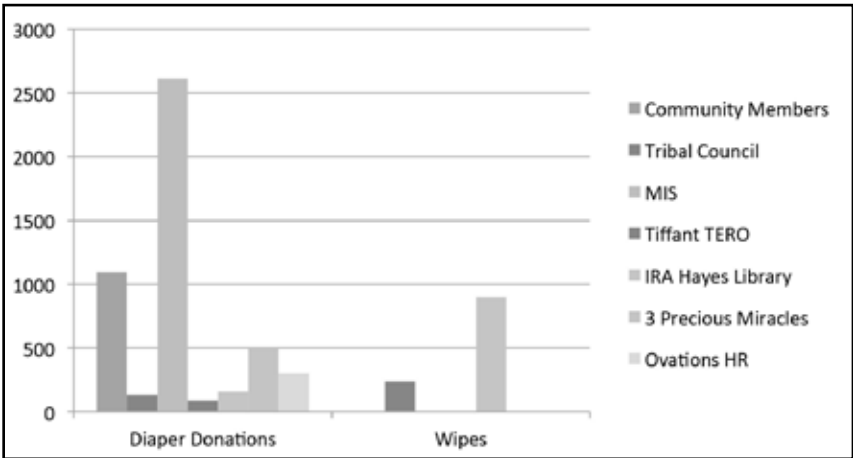
“We identified this need and wanted to work on creating a solution, by the Community for the Community,” said coalition member Laura Kesse.

“The Community talks about youth being a priority and that’s why we started with our babies, because they are our future leaders. We want to make sure they have what they need,” said Elisia Manual, a member of the coalition.

The Goal of the Home Visitation/Family Support Coalition is to encourage networking and coordination among Home Visitation programs. For questions on the Coalition please contact

Cathy Brown, First Things First Regional Director and Member of the HV/Family Support Coalition at 480-297-4815.

Coalition Membership includes: First Things First Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council, GRHC’s Baby Smarts Home Visitation Program, GRHC’s Baby Smart Teen Parent Education Program, GRHC’s Public Health Nursing, Head Start/Early Head Start, FACE Blackwater Community School, FACE Gila Crossing Community School, Healthy Families Pinal County, and Healthy Families Maricopa County.



New ASU Advisor on American Indian Affairs speaks to American Indian Chamber of Commerce



Bryan Brayboy, Lumbee, Special Advisor to the President of ASU on American Indian Affairs speaks at the American Indian Chamber of Commerce.

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Bryan Brayboy, Ph.D., an enrolled member of the Lumbee Nation of North Carolina, is the new special advisor to the president of Arizona State University on American Indian Affairs and oversees the office of American Indian Initiatives.

The position was formerly held by Diane Humetewa, who last year was nominated to serve as the U.S. District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Brayboy met with a group of local American Indian entrepreneurs, university officials, and members of the Arizona American Indian Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 23, where he gave a presentation

on the disparities of higher education among Native students.

Brayboy emphasized the need to recruit students with ambitions to go to college.

He said a person with a college degree on an average earns \$20,000 more per year over an individual with a high school diploma.

Universities across the state like ASU, the University of Arizona and Northern Arizona University must establish relationships with tribal communities to bring in more American Indian students and open up the market for jobs when they return, said Brayboy.

“Out of 100 American Indian freshmen high school students, about 48 of them will graduate. Of those 48, twenty students will go off to some form of post secondary education,” he said.

When students graduate from college, the problem is ensuring they get the most return out of their education. Once students finish their education they return to their tribal community to find jobs in short supply.

To address this issue he said, “if you have internships, please let us know, please consider opening opportunities for them to get real world knowledge that our young people need.”

He said, “What is crucial, is to give our American Indian students at ASU the ability to think critically and to adjust to a changing job market. It’s really taking them from master listeners to master doers.”

GRIC Courts Open New West End Judicial Center



Chief Judge Anthony J. Hill leads Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and Councilwoman Carolyn Williams on a tour of the new modular courthouse in D6.

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

In a morning dedication ceremony on Feb. 2, members of the Gila River Indian Community courts cut the ribbon on the new, albeit temporary, West End Judicial Center in District 6.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis welcomed the attendees and emphasized the importance of growth for the tribal judicial system’s infrastructure so that it may better serve the Community.

“I see this as just the beginning. I see this as a path to a permanent facility,” he said.

The new judicial center features a large courtroom, an administrative area for clerical staff and separate work space for a prosecutor, as well as an office for a judge to provide legal counsel from.

Security has been improved with the installation of two large holding cells with heavy duty doors for prisoners waiting to go before the judge. A host of updates were made to the security surveillance system that can send a live feed of activity of the premises to Sacaton, for safety reasons.

The new modular building sits along Pecos road on the site of the original court building.

“I’m grateful it is here. There were a lot of things that needed to be improved [in the old building],”

said Lt. Gov. Monica Antone.

Chief Judge Anthony J. Hill talked about the old courthouse and how critters would make it their home.

“We needed to do something and so we did do something, because of all the hard work of [those] sitting here today,” said Hill.

Hill recited a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. “‘The arc of the moral universe is long, but always bends towards justice.’ That is our responsibility here today, to bring justice to our Community.”

Since the old court house was demolished, Community members have been attending court hearings in Sacaton. “We thank everyone for their patience during this process,” Hill said.

Meanwhile, the west end courthouse staff have been working out of the Tribal Health Department’s building.

“We have to give great thanks for Janice Anderson, the Acting Director for the [Tribal Health] Department for accommodating our staff,” said Hill.

The long term goal of the Community is to have a permanent facility built, which would also serve as a police sub-station for GRPD officers.

The new West End Judicial Center has started court hearings and normal tribal court activities Feb. 5.

GRIC Firefighters Promoted



The Gila River Indian Community Fire Department promoted 16 firefighters since May of 2013 and held a ceremony to commemorate their accomplishments at the Sacaton Branch Boys & Girls Club on Jan. 21. Chief Judge Anthony J. Hill administered the swearing in of the firefighters. Gregory Mitchem was promoted to Deputy Chief; Kathy J. Garcia to Deputy Chief - Fire Marshall; Jaiurus Pierce, Lewis Noble, and Leon Manuel to Shift Commander; Brad Parks, Kiohud Sanderson, Julie Smith, Lloyd Gray, and John Witts to Fire Captain; and Andrew Lindner, Stephen Vander Linden, Michael Allen, Miguel Reyes, Jubal Brosseau, and Landon Scates to Fire Engineer.

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Miss Gila River Winter Gathering



Annie Gutierrez/GRIN

Reigning Miss Gila River Lucia Antone hosted the annual Winter Gathering at the Huhugam Heritage Center Jan. 24. The social gathering brought out many guests from other communities to share their culture, songs and dances. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community group Bird Singing by the River and the Achem A'al Traditional Dancers were among the many groups that performed at the event. Guests enjoyed food and social dancing as well as the museum gallery that was opened for spectators to observe artifacts and photographs on display. Miss Gila River's Winter Gathering was coordinated by the Miss Gila River Royalty Committee.

Vista Ké Residential Care Program



Photo courtesy of GRHC

Members of the Vista Ke Residential Treatment Program present the new house in Dist.6 with a landscaped backyard and grilling area. The house will be staffed 24/7 with trained behavioral health specialists to help patients reintegrate back into the community while keeping up with all their health needs.

From Page 1

appropriate medications, making and keeping health appointments, engaging with them, and a host of other responsibilities.

Vista Ké will fulfill all of these needs and more. The program will provide therapy, art therapy, nutrition education, physical activity and wellness activities, family visitations and taking them to community outings and events. BHS also offers what it calls wrap-around services for its patients, which include spirituality support, life skills development, computer access so they can do school work and help to get them work if they are physically and mentally capable.

Establishing the Vista Ké came with some challenges of its own.

"There has been some resistance from some of the districts because of the misunderstanding of what the [residential care program] is," said GRHC Director of Cultural Customer Service Ginger Martin. "When it was brought to our attention, we halted everything and we said, we want to make it right. What can we do?"

Martin and other GRHC staff went before the District 6 community at a district meeting Jan. 20 to ease public concerns and explain what the house is.

"The individuals that we're placing in this home," said Green, aren't "anybody who would be a challenge or a threat to the community. ... We've selected people who have the ability to easily adapt with some guidance and some support."

Residents must have no history of violence in the past year, no history of sexual abuse perpetration and must have been compliant with their medication and treatment for at least a year.

The Vista Ké staff who will be staying at the residence will be going door-to-door in the coming weeks to familiarize themselves with their neighbors and answer questions. "We certainly want to be good neighbors," said Green.

Community members also inquired about the funding for the program.

GRHC received \$98,000 from the Arizona Department of Health Services to completely refurbish the house. The remodeling effort included rebuilding walls and adding a small ramada and grill to the back yard for family member visitations and small gatherings.

Being fully convinced of the need this program will fulfill, the District 6 community approved GRHC's project and District 6 elders have volunteered to bless the house. Martin was encouraged and grateful to have the district's cooperation. She said that soon GRHC would like to open a women's home for the same purpose.

GRHC is diligently working to inform the community about this important program and is hosting events to create awareness and answer questions regarding the Vista Ké residential care program.

The program organizers and Vista Ké staff will be hosting an open house Tuesday, Feb. 10 from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the house and all Community members are welcome to attend. The address is 14226 S. 53rd Avenue, Laveen, AZ 85339. Or you can learn more at the Community Awareness Meeting at the Komatke Health Center on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

For more information about the Vista Ké residential care program, contact: Mr. Shannon Sims at (520) 550-0015 or email ssims@grhc.org.

A'AGA Something to be told

By Billy Allen

When you're at a big family gathering, you might hear bits of conversation like, "His parents were from Snaketown. She lives in Bapchule. There was a javelina running loose in Vah ki! Did that bear make it to Stotonic?"

Anthropologist Ruth Underhill came to O'odham country in the 1930's and wrote about O'odham social organization. When on Gila River, she was interested in the "association and loyalties" that continued as people and villages began to move around 1860. From John P. Wilson's, *Peoples of the Middle Gila: A Documentary History of the Pimas and Maricopas, 1500's – 1945*, a list of villages from this time period was put together. Water was the driving force forcing people from one village to another. Villages were made up of family groups – parents, unmarried children, married sons. When villages moved, the name may have also followed. If the village headman went along, traditional government continued as it did for Bapchule, Sweetwater and Snaketown. If the headman chose not to move, a new village leader was chosen. Underhill's work may help explain why O'otham have relatives scattered among the districts and sister reservations.

"Standing Alone" was the original Santan village site, located west of present-day Sacaton, on the south side of the river. These people moved to allotment land of Lower Santan, which offered water available from newly dug canals.

Maricopa was the listed name of a village either 2.5 miles west or east of Standing Alone – there was some disagreement on the exact location. Another name could have been Hol-che-dum. In the quest for available water, many villagers moved to Lehi and Laveen.

Bitoi Kehk or Ash Tree Stands was located west of present-day Sacaton. These people moved north of the river to upper Santan. Santan was initially called Thundering because they were the first to have guns. In the communal spirit, the Santan people helped clear more land for their fields and some moved to Lower Santan.

Antonito Azul remembered his father borrowing money to dig a ditch to bring water to Sweetwater, where Antonito was born. The ditch was not fully operational until 1872. Stotonic or Many Ants was originally located south of the Gila River near present-day Sweetwater. In 1858, an Army lieutenant listed Stotonic headmen as Miguel, Xavier, and Cabeza del Aquila (Eagle's Head). Floods changed the riverbed, forcing villagers north to present-day Stotonic. Sweetwater and Stotonic are closely related.

Mount Top was located near Rattlesnake Home. George Pablo was interviewed in 1914 for a report called the Gila River Survey. Mr. Pablo fondly remembered the fields of his birth place. The abandoned village was near Snake Hill.

Bapchule is an old village. Harry Winters describes 4 to 5 meanings of Bibjulk. One meaning may have come from one of the two peaks called Gila Butte. The northern butte is Aji. The southern butte, as seen from the village, has two upward curved peaks, hence the name Bibjulik: bijul means to curve up, like the inside of a circle. This was also applied to names of some people. A man was named Bijim Daakam since his nose curved up like Bob Hope. (Ask an elder.) Some of the villagers moved to Blackwater, but the core remained.

Today Vah ki is the large dirt mound next to the Casa Blanca highway. Vah ki is used to refer to the ruins or mounds left of multi-story buildings built by the Huhugam. Back in 1859, trader Ammi White built a flour mill near this dirt mound. At the time, since most GRICsters spoke two languages – O'otham and Spanish – White's house became known as Casa Blanca. Both names are used to this day. The old village site and fields were down closer to the akimel. Some of the people moved to Blackwater.

Shuudag (water) was a farming village mainly north of the akimel though some people lived on the south bank. In the old days – because of the high water table in this area— crops only needed one or two irrigations during the growing season, hence Wetcamp. As our river was diverted way upstream, some families moved to Salt River in 1872. The remaining villagers moved to the south bank and settled a new Snaketown, while others moved to Gila Crossing. Today, Snaketown is known as a Hohokam settlement on the north side. But there is a "living" cemetery since people who can trace their family lineage to Snaketown can be buried here.

Under the Hill or Kavolik Vutcu (Ka'woltuk) was located near present-day Sacate. Kavolik is Pima Butte or "M" mountain and the village was below this mountain. It was west of the railroad which ran from Maricopa to Phoenix. Many moved to Gila Crossing, but a few remained and settled in Sacate.

At your next family gathering, maybe you can get some of the elders to share recollections about some of these villages and migrations. If your elderly are not so elderly, maybe they can tell you how Baloney Town and Dog Town got those names.

Community Council Action Sheets

Wednesday Jan. 7, 2015

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147;
Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729
CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday January 7, 2015, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:17am
INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz
ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg (11:08am); D2-Carol Schurz;
D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza, Angelia Allison; D5- Brian Davis, Sr.(9:25am), Janice F. Stewart, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent:
D4-Vacant
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED
PRESENTATION/INTRODUCTIONS
1. Seth David Graham – Candidate Chandler City Council
MR. SETH DAVID GRAHAM PROVIDED A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY AND HIS PLAN AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE CITY OF CHANDLER COUNCIL. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.
[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
*1. Ira H. Hayes – Non Renewal Current Status (ESC forwards to Community Council)
Presenter: Crispin Zamudio
ITEM HEARD
REPORTS
*1. Johnson O'Malley Program Quarter 1 Report SY 2014-2015
Presenter: Marissa Sanderson
REPORT HEARD
2. Gila Crossing Community School Annual Report 2013-2014
Presenter: Aaron Allery, Principal
REPORT HEARD
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR AN HOUR AND HALF LUNCH BREAK. GOVERNOR LEWIS RECONVENED THE MEETING AT 2:07PM]
3. Department Of Community Housing- FY2014 Annual Performance Report (APR)
Presenter: Lori Francisco
REPORT HEARD
4. Update on Draft Ordinances
Presenter: Office of General Counsel
REPORT HEARD
5. Travel Report – 4th Quarter FY 2014
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
REPORT HEARD
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER
EXECUTIVE SESSION
6. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. – Monthly Report November 2014 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Janice Ponziani, Board of Directors
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
7. Gila River Gaming Commission – Monthly Report November 2014 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Serena Joaquin, Courtney Moyah
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
8. Monthly Financial Activity Report (Executive Session)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Mike Jacobs
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
9. Treasurer's 4th Quarter Report (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
10. Gila River Indian Community vs. Burwell Indian Health Services – Contract Health Services Funding (Executive Session)
Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
RESOLUTIONS
*1. A Resolutions Authorizing And Approving The Child Wel-

fare Initiative Agreement Between Casey Family Programs And The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Social Services Department (HSSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Deannah Neswood-Gishey
APPROVED
2. A Resolution Amending Resolution GR-18-14 Which Established A Housing Owner's Team For Planning, Financing, Development, Design And Construction Of Much Needed Living Facilities For Community Members On The Tribal Housing Waiting List (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenters: Office of General Counsel
APPROVED
3. A Resolution Authorizing Tribal Officials To Initiate Financial Transactions With The United States Department Of Interior Office Of Special Trustee For American Indians (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Rebecca Hall
APPROVED
4. A Resolution Authorizing The Transfer Of Existing Community Wide Drainage Project Funds Identified Under GR-184-04 From Tribal Projects Development To The Department Of Land Use Planning & Zoning And To Be Used For Flood Control Related Studies, Designs, Regulatory Development, Small Construction Remediation, And Operation And Maintenance (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Seaver Fields
APPROVED
5. A Resolution Approving The Restatement Of The Retirement Plan For The Employees Of The Gila River Indian Community In Accordance With Resolution GR-141-14, Effective January 1, 2015 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Sharon Havier-Lewis
APPROVED
6. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval; ESC concurs with G&MSC to forward to Council with recommendation of removing Penalties and Skyline School from the resolution and to forward the packet with the correction and with one approved resolution)
Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela
APPROVED
7. A Resolution Approving And Adopting The Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations Of 2014 Pursuant To The Helping Expedite And Advance Responsible Tribal Home Ownership Act (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval, NRSC, EDSC, & LSC concur)
Presenter: Ronald Rosier
APPROVED
8. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Dr. David Young (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Jan Morris
APPROVED
9. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Dr. Michael Christiansen (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Jan Morris
APPROVED
10. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Dr. Camille Hernandez (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval) Presenter: Jan Morris
APPROVED
11. A Resolution Recognizing Skyline – Gila River District 5 School (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval with the proper information that was discussed earlier and forwarded to the Committee)
Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
12. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 2753 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Seven Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez

APPROVED
13. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 1705 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
14. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3198 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District One Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
15. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3284 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
16. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3803 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District One Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
17. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3803 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District One Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
18. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 386 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Four Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
19. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 944 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
20. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 1043-A Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
21. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 1054 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
22. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 1147 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
23. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 2512 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
24. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 2512 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval, with correction)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED

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25. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 4461-A Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to the Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED

26. A Resolution Approving the Relinquishment of Theora M. Cachora from the Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr., Enrollment Committee Chairman
APPROVED

ORDINANCES

1. Proposed Amendment to Title 14 (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval under Ordinances; with change of #3 Whereas)
Presenters: Office of General Counsel, Gila River Gaming Enterprises
APPROVED

GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ENTERTAIN THE SHOSHONI BANNOCK TRIBAL DELEGATION PRESENTATION
[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Shoshoni Bannock Tribal Delegation
Presenter: John Lewis
CHAIRMAN NATE SMALL PROVIDED A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE. MS. MITZI SABORI PROVIDED A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 5-MINUTE BREAK. GOVERNOR LEWIS RECONVENED THE MEETING AT 4:31PM]
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*1. Ira H. Hayes – Non Renewal Current Status (ESC forwards to Community Council)

Presenter: Crispin Zamudio
ITEM HEARD BEFORE REPORTS

2. Memorandum Request (G&MSC motioned to approval Governor’s request to purchase the 2009 Lincoln MKS at \$4,741.50 to forward to Community Council)
Presenter: Dale Enos
MOTION MADE, SECOND AND DEFEATED TO APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS

1. First Things First 0-5 Needs and Assets Report – Request for Approval (HSSC motioned to forward to Community Council for approval; ESC concurs)
Presenter: Cathy Brown
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. Closure Plan For Santan Industrial Park and Blackwater Industrial Park (EDSC motions to forward to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: John Roberts
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Gila River Gaming Commission Declaration of Vacancies (2)
Presenter: Shannon White
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE

4. Letter of Resignation (G&MSC forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval and declare the vacancy in accordance to the code of conduct)
Presenter: Betsy Greene
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE UNEXPIRED TERM VACANCY

5. Housing Funding (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval option #3 which provides additional funding totaling \$25,507,973 which includes \$5,987,999 contingency, which will allow for the completion of the 472 homes plus the 11 homes that were left off the application list)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Councilman Frank Pablo
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

6. Tribal Historic Preservation Office Report 14-37, Edward S. Curtis Copper Plates (Amended) with Huhugam Heritage Center Report (CRSC forwards to Council with recommenda-

tion to provide a letter of request to receive the Edward S. Curtis Copper Plates as a donation to Community)
Presenter: Lisa Little Iron
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. Litigation Team Update (Executive Session)
Presenters: Office of General Counsel
ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Litigation Team Vacancy (1) (Recommendation to fill vacancy with Christopher Mendoza) Presenters: Office of General Counsel, Councilwoman Jennifer Allison
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT CHRISTOPHER MENDOZA
[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

9. District 6 Motion Sheet For Housing Advisory Committee
Presenter: Lori Francisco
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO REAFFIRM APPOINTMENT OF LAVERNE JACKSON
MINUTES

*1. August 20, 2014 (Regular)
APPROVED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>LEGISLATIVE STATE LUNCHEON CIVIC PLAZA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015

>SPECIAL HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015, 1PM

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR ASSOCIATE JUDGE JAN-ICE BRECKENRIDGE

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR DAVID LEWIS’ FAMILY

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR EMERY BROWN’S FAMILY

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR YOLANDA QUINTERO’S FAMILY

>EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE WORK SESSION, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015, 8AM
ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:47PM

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

Community Council Action Sheets Wednesday Jan. 21, 2015

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER
The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday January 15, 2015, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:19am

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman Robert Stone

ROLL CALL
Sign-In Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Executive Officers Absent:
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Christopher Mendoza, Angelia Allison; D5-Janice F. Stewart, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redbird
Council Members Present:
D4-Vacant, Jennifer Allison; D5- Brian Davis, Sr.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED

REPORTS

1. 2013 Annual Winter Bird Count Report
Presenters: Ondrea Barber, Charles Enos, Robert Johnson
REPORT HEARD

2. Gila River Health Care 2014 Annual Report
Presenters: Myron G. Schurz, GRHC Representatives
REPORT HEARD
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. GOVERNOR LEWIS RECONVENED THE MEETING AT 11:47AM]

3. Monthly Financial Activity Report Ending December (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Recognizing Skyline – Gila River District 5

School (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval with the proper information that was discussed earlier and forward to the Committee)
Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela
TABLED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
APPROVED

3. A Resolution Authorizing Right-Of-Way Application To Facilitate Kyrene Road Improvements At Lone Butte Industrial Park (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, and include a cover letter EDSC concurs to forward with changes to the 2nd to the last whereas – take out: ‘Future Development South’ and inserting ‘the Expansion’)
Presenters: John Roberts & Esther Manuel
APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Gila River Indian Community And The City Of Mesa For Emergency Police Services (LSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Chief Kathleen Kirkham
APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

*1. Closure Plan For Santan Industrial Park and Blackwater Industrial Park (EDSC motions to forward to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: John Roberts
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*2. Tribal Historic Preservation Office Report 14-37, Edward S. Curtis Copper Plates (Amended) with Huhugam Heritage Center Report (CRSC forwards to Council with recommendation to provide a letter of request to receive the Edward S. Curtis Copper Plates as a donation to Community)
Presenter: Lisa Little Iron
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Fleet Management Policy Per Recent Decision Made

By Community Council (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; with changes)
Presenters: Government & Management Standing Committee
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Code of Conduct (Executive Session)
Presenter: Linus Everling
ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE THE POTENTIAL CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION IN THE PRESENT CODE OF CONDUCT INVESTIGATION; AND DIRECTING THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR TO NOTIFY THE FORMER OFFICIAL AND PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A RESPONSE
MINUTES

1. August 21, 2014 (Special)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE #1 AND #3

2. August 29, 2014 (Special)
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. September 3, 2014 (Regular)
APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS AT #1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>DESERT RUN SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2015, 6:30 REGISTRATION, BEGINS AT 7:00

>UNITY RUN ORIENTATION SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2015, DISTRICT 1 MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING


>DISTRICT 1 HOMES BEING TURNED OVER FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2014

>G&M AND NRSC JOINT WATER PLAN MEETING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015, 9:00AM

>GILA RIVER FIRE DEPT INDUCTION CEREMONY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015, 6:30PM, DISTRICT 5 MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:24PM

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)



Earn a trip to Washington D.C.

Every summer, the FRS Youth Tour brings together high school students from across rural America to visit our nation's capital and learn about rural telecommunications. The tour provides a forum for teens to meet and interact with their peers from other rural communities and visit key legislative, regulatory and government figures. Since its inception in 1995, the youth tour has hosted thousands of students. GRTI will sponsor a student for the 2015 tour which will take place from May 30th - June 3.

To attend, the student must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a GRIC Member.
2. Must be in High school, age 16-17 at the time of the tour.
3. Submit an essay related to the telecommunications industry to Leeanna Paul at GRTI by March 13th.
4. Submit (2) personal references (Teacher, Counselor, etc.)

For questions regarding the FRS Youth Tour, contact Leeanna Paul at (520)796-8841 or Lpaul@gilarivertel.com

GRIC Members Sentenced for Lying to Grand Jury

By Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

A Gila River man and woman have been indicted for lying to a grand jury.

According to reports, on Jan. 5 Logan Keenan Brown, 21, was sentenced to 40 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Diane Humetewa, and on Dec. 8, 2014 Georgina Holguin, 44, of Bapchule, was sentenced to 24 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Douglas Raves both for making false declarations before a grand jury.

They lied in the case of the death of 48-year-old Lorenzo Saiza, who was fatally shot in Holguin's residence on the Gila River Indian Reservation Aug. 29, 2013.

Reports indicate the two witnesses misidentified who was in the house at the time of the shooting. Prosecutors said Brown and Holguin were trying to protect Steven Brown, Logan's brother, who is the suspected shooter.

A press release by the office of the U.S. District Attorney John S. Leonardo says, "The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Gila River Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Raynette Logan and Melissa Karlen, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix."

PUBLIC NOTICE – Civil Summons

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA
JENNIFER CHIAGO Plaintiff/Petitioner
vs.
KENNETH XAVIER FRANCISCO Defendant/Respondent
TO: Kenneth Xavier Francisco
CASE Number: CV-2014-0314
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.
YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on the following date and time at the place set forth below:
Sacaton Community Court
721 West Seed Farm Road
Sacaton, Arizona 85147
(520)562-9860
Friday, February 20, 2015 at 09:30 AM
You may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.
If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

AGRICULTURAL LEASE PAY OUT*

Thursday, February 19, 2015

8:30am
Seniors and Disabled

10am - 6pm
General Landowners

Round House Café
at SRPMIC Two Waters Government Campus
10,005 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale 85256 - Look for directional signs

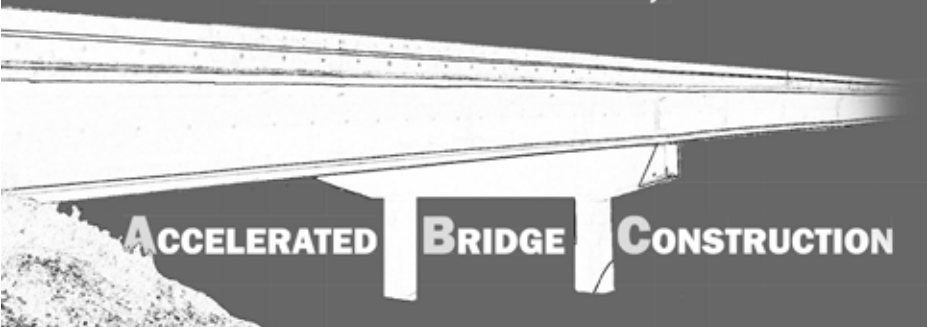
SACATON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Gila River Indian Community Department of Transportation





Sacaton Road Scheduled Closure

Friday, February 20, 2015, 7pm
through Monday, March 2, 2015, 5am

See Detour Route Map



ACCELERATED BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION



Project Details
SACATONABC.COM

Checks not picked up on February 19th

Pick up at Finance - Cashiers Office (Two Waters Bldg. A)
Friday, February 20th through Thursday, March 5th

Checks with a valid address

Mailed out Friday, March 6th

Power of Attorney (POA)

Only originals accepted
Must be verified before release of check
Verification done at pay out


Notes will not be accepted

Power of Attorney required to pick up someone else's check

Questions


Contact SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730

*Ag lease payments will be made based upon farmer payments received and cleared through banking institutions by February 1, 2015



Gila River Health Care
Family Planning Mobile Medical Clinic
(Title X Funded)

520-371-0132 PROGRAM CELL



FEBRUARY 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY PLANNING APPOINTMENT TODAY!				
2 D6 RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	3 VHM HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	4 D5 (BAPCHULE) MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 8:30-2:30 PM	5 D1 (BLACKWATER) NEW HOUSING 8:30-2:30 PM	6 NO CLINIC
9 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	10 D6 (KOMATKE) BY KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	11 NO CLINIC	12 D4 (SAN TAN) SNAKETOWN CIRCLE HOUSING 8:30-2:30 PM	13 NO CLINIC
16 NO CLINIC	17 AK-CHIN HEALTH CLINIC 8:30-2:30PM	18 IRA HAYES HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	19 SACATON DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES	20 NO CLINIC
23 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:00-2:00 PM	24 D7 (Maricopa Colony) SERVICE CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	25 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	26 NO CLINIC	27 NO CLINIC

Feeling the Love ...

Catering to the Gila River Community!



Call Today for an Appointment!
480-814-8888

Show your Valentine a Brighter,
Whiter Smile!
\$99 in-Office Whitening

\$275 value

This offer is valid for the month of February 2015. This coupon must be presented at time of service. Your first visit must be completed before the in-office whitening can be done. First visit is defined as comprehensive exam, x-rays, basic cleaning or periodontal cleaning.

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COMPLETE HEALTH DENTISTRY
Dr. Brigham Baker

www.ImpressionsDental.com

Preferred Provider of
GILA River Dental Insurance

Have Insurance?

FREE \$25 GIFT CARD

As a small token of our appreciation, we'd like to say thank you with a \$25 gift card at the conclusion of your first visit.



First visit is defined as comprehensive exam, x-rays, basic cleaning or periodontal cleaning. New Patients Only. Limited to two gift cards per household and may not be combined with any other offer. Coupon must be present at time of use.

- Convenient, Extended Hours
- Qualified, Professional Team
- FREE Whitening for Life!*
- 0% Financing Available
- BOTOX®
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NW Corner of Cooper & Riggs

5970 S. Cooper Rd.,
Ste. #1
Chandler, AZ 85249



The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE...

**NATIONAL
RES**
RESERVATION ECONOMIC SUMMIT

MARCH 9 -12, 2015

MANDALAY BAY

MANDALAY BAY
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Las Vegas



ADVANCE REGISTRATION ENDS FEBRUARY 20, 2015

RES: DESIGNED TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES & GROWTH FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

NATIONAL RES LAS VEGAS 2015 FEATURES:

- Nearly 4,000 Attendees From Across The U.S. & Canada
- 4 Days of Catered Networking Meals & Receptions
- 4 Days of Training & Business Development
- Hundreds of Exhibitors
- 2 Days of the Largest Native American Business Tradeshow
- The Most Effective Networking Opportunities in Indian Country
- Buy Native Procurement & Matchmaking Expos
- Electrifying General Sessions & Keynote Speakers
- National Center Business Innovation Forums
- Network with Key Business Executives, Tribal Leaders, Federal Officials and Dignitaries
- 27th Annual NCAIED Scholarship Golf Tournament



**BUSINESS
TRADESHOW & EXPO**

Showcase your business to key decision makers from across Indian Country!

Register Your Booth Today!



**SCHOLARSHIP
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Net proceeds fund scholarships for the deserving Native American business students at our annual RES Regional/INPRO event.

Register For Golf Today!



**AMERICAN INDIAN
ART MARKET**

Enjoy "one of a kind" jewelry, arts & crafts from American Indian artisans at National RES.

Interested in Participating?
Register Your Artisan Booth Today!



**HOTEL RESERVATION
& DISCOUNT RATE**

MANDALAY BAY SPECIAL CONFERENCE RATE:
SUN-TUE: **\$194+** TAXES & FEES
WED: **\$124+** TAXES & FEES
THURS: **\$94+** TAXES & FEES
Call: **877-632-7800** • USE CODE: **RES2015**
Book Your Room Today!



**SPECIAL
HOTEL RATE
CUT-OFF:
2/11/15**

REGISTER TODAY & SAVE AT: WWW.NCAIED.ORG

70th ANNIVERSARY

IWO JIMA FLAG RAISING

February 21, 2015

Military Parade & Flyover - 8:30 a.m.

Ceremonies to follow at the
**Matthew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes
Veterans Memorial Park, Sacaton Arizona**
All public & Veterans groups are welcome

Lunch hosted by:
**American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 84
with St. Peters Church and School**

Events Sponsored by:
Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post No. 84 Auxiliary Unit No. 84
phone: 1-(520)-562-8484 | fax: 1-(520)-562-3297 | e-mail: ihpost84@gilanet.net



GILARIVER

GAMING ENTERPRISES, INC.

Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community

WinGilaRiver.com
800-WIN-GILA





GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Education Administration

Post Office Box 97

Sacaton, Az 85147

Phone: (520) 562-3662

Fax: (520) 562-2924

January 29, 2015

Dear Ms. Cathy Brown,

On behalf of the Gila River Indian Community, I would like to formally invite you to serve on the Education Summit Planning Committee. During Governor Stephen R. Lewis' inauguration speech, he announced he would have an Education Summit within his first 60 days in office. That date is fast approaching, and the Tribal Education Department is eager to assist the Governor in making the Education Summit a success.

The summit will be a two day event with the first day reserved to involve all stakeholders in a dialogue discussing the issues surrounding education and presenting ideas on how we will improve the education systems. The second day will be reserved for the Planning Team to hone in on the ideas and create a short term and long term education plan that is rooted from the ideas of the Community stakeholders.

The Education Summit Planning Committee will work together to identify the topics that will be discussed, objectives, location, create an agenda and all other details of the event. The Committee will meet four times at bi-weekly meetings through the month of February and the beginning of March.

Attached you will find an outline of the summit and a timeline that includes the meeting dates.

At your earliest convenience, please confirm with Samantha Mercado, of your willingness to participate. Samantha can be reached at (520) 562-3662 or Samantha.Mercado@gric.nsn.us. Thank you in advance for your consideration of assisting in this project.

Sincerely,

Patricia Valenzuela, Acting Director

EDUCATION SUMMIT



January 19, 2015
Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Gila River Indian Community
PO Box 97 Sacaton, AZ 85347
Phone: 520-562-9700
E-Mail: Stephen.Lewis@gpic.nsn.us



Improving the Community Education Systems

Purpose/Background

According to the 2013 Native American Education Annual Report, published by the Arizona Department of Education Research and Evaluation Division, Native American students continue to be the lowest ranking race/ethnic group passing the AIMS with 58% passing AIMS Reading and 38% passing AIMS Mathematics. This report also gathered that Native Americans also show the highest dropout rates compared to other race/ethnic groups.

The Gila River Indian Community is not exempt from these statistics. Low scores and high dropout rates have plagued the Community over the years. Currently the Community has two charter high schools that will close their doors June 30th for low performance, three middle schools of which two have a "D" letter grade and one has a "B", six elementary schools of which three are performing at a letter grade of "D" and one is a "C", the other two are ungraded/private/parochial schools.

It is apparent that addressing the status of education is critical and requires that all stakeholders be allowed the opportunity to openly discuss the issues surrounding the Community's current education systems and future.

Pre-Planning

The Executive Office along with the Tribal Education Department and Employment and Training will host an Education Summit to engage local stakeholders in meaningful dialogue that will lead to plans that will *Improve the Community Education Systems*.

In order to conduct a successful Education Summit, a planning team will be developed to address the following:

- Agenda Design – Keeping the end goal in mind
- Participants – How will we identify all stakeholders?
- Location – What setting is needed to support the agenda design?
- Orienting Participants – How can you get all participants to actively engage?
- Communication – What messages do we need to convey effectively before, during and after the summit?
- Logistics – What else is needed to execute the summit?



Proposed Planning Committee

- Executive Team
- Anthony Grey – Culture Coordinator
- Cathy Brown – FTF GRIC Regional Partnership Council Director
- Kim Franklin – VHM Principal
- Lana Chanda – Employment and Training Director
- Linda Saur - Attorney
- Patricia Valenzuela – Acting Education Director

The Summit

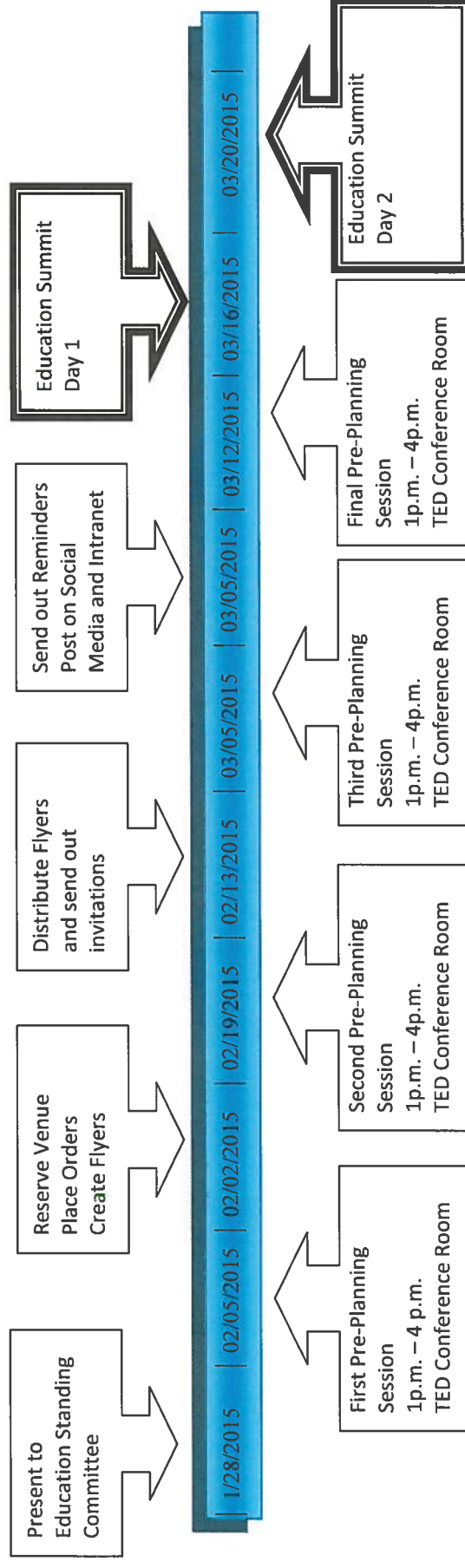
The summit will be a two day event with the first day reserved to involve all stakeholders in a dialogue discussing the issues surrounding education and presenting ideas on how we will improve the education systems. The second day will be reserved for the Planning Team to hone in on the ideas and create a short term and long term education plan that is rooted from the ideas of the Community stakeholders.

The summit will consist of 4-5 education topics that are impacting education within the Community. Each topic will have its own Facilitator, an expert on the topic that is being discussed, a scribe and a moderator. The Facilitator will open the dialogue with a brief synopsis on the current state of the topic then open the floor for discussion. The facilitator will also keep the conversation moving towards an efficient productive conversation. The scribe will be responsible to document all key points presented during the discussion visible to all. The moderator will be responsible for distributing the microphone fairly to all stakeholders throughout the duration of the summit.

Objectives

- Create a shared vision and recommendations on future direction
- Create a short term and long term educational blueprint
- Enhance Community Awareness of current and future educational opportunities
- Foster improved relationships with key stakeholders that can facilitate educational change

Education Summit Timeline





Update Through: Friday, February 6

News/Notes

Monday is the final deadline to introduce bills. So far, approximately 1,100 bills have been filed.

First Things First continues to reach out to members of the Legislature on our mission and early childhood policy issues. Members have included Representative Boyer (House Education Chair) and Representative Heather Carter (House Health Chair) among others. Additionally FTF has reached out and met with Governor Ducey's new Health and Human Services Policy Advisor, Christina Corieri.

Bills of Interest

NEW! [HB 2596](#) *luxury tax on electronic cigarettes*

Summary: Levies a luxury privilege tax on "vapor products" (defined) of 0.9 cents for each 0.05 milliliter of liquid nicotine solution. Annually appropriates 10 percent of the monies collected from the tax on vapor products to the State Forester for specified purposes, including forest management. Due to a potential increase in state revenue, this bill requires the affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of each house of the Legislature for passage.

Sponsor: Rep. Otondo

Status: Awaiting assignment to committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Does not impact FTF revenues; tax revenues from e-cigs would not be directed to FTF.

NEW! [SB 1306](#) *schools; data privacy*

Summary: All personally identifiable information and student level data contained in the education data system is confidential and is not a public record. The Data Governance Commission in the Department of Education is required to create, publish and make publicly available on the department's website a data dictionary with definitions of student data elements in the education data system, including specified elements, and to review and approve data elements to be included in the education data system. The department is required to develop and make publicly available policies and procedures to comply with all relevant state and federal privacy laws, including specified requirements. The department is prohibited from transferring confidential student level data to any federal, state or local agency, unless otherwise allowed by law. A student's parent has the right to inspect and review a copy of the student's educational record. Local educational agencies are authorized to enter into a contract with a third-party provider to provide services for the digital storage, management and retrieval of student records. Required contract provisions are specified. Also repeals the Arizona E-Learning Task Force.

Sponsor: Sen. Ward

Status: 2/12 Hearing in Senate Education Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Bill undergoing additional analysis.

NEW! SB 1461 *schools; reading assistance; dyslexic pupils*

Summary: School boards are permitted to promote a student from the 3rd grade whose reading falls far below the 3rd grade level if the student has been identified with dyslexia and received at least 10 hours of intensive reading intervention. Schools that provide instruction in kindergarten through 3rd grade are required to provide daily instruction using the "essential components of reading instruction" (defined). Students who perform significantly below average on a reading screening instrument must be referred for a "comprehensive reading evaluation" (defined) to determine the presence of a reading disability or dyslexia. If a school determines that a student is substantially deficient in reading, the school is required to provide to the student's parent a separate written notification of the reading deficiency that describes reading services available and includes a statement that the student will not be promoted from the 3rd grade if the student is reading far below the 3rd grade level, unless the student qualifies for an exemption.

Sponsor: Sen. Ward

Status: Awaiting assignment to Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Bill undergoing additional analysis.

NEW! SB 1464 *student teacher data collection; prohibitions*

Summary: Written affirmative consent of the parent or guardian is required before any data collection. A state or national student assessment cannot be adopted or administered in Arizona that collects specified data. The State Board of Education, the Department of Education and any other state entity is prohibited from spending any monies on a statewide longitudinal data system designed to track students beyond grade 12 or compile personal, nonacademic information beyond what is necessary for specified functions. The department and any political subdivision is prohibited from sharing any personally identifiable information of students and teachers with the U.S. Department of Education unless a list of specified conditions occurs.

Sponsor: Sen. Burges

Status: 2/3 Assigned to Senate Education and Government Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Bill undergoing additional analysis.

NEW! HB 2602 *Child care waiting; list; appropriation*

Summary: "School service providers" (defined) are required to provide information about the types of "student personal information" (defined) the provider collects and how the provider uses and shares the information, and are required to obtain consent before using student personal information in a manner that is inconsistent with the provider's privacy policy for the applicable school service in effect at the time of collection. School service providers are required to maintain a comprehensive information security program and is reasonably designed to protect the security and confidentiality of student personal information. A school service provider may collect, use and share student personal information only for authorized purposes or with the consent of the student's parent or the student if the student is 18 years of age or older. A school service provider is prohibited from selling student personal information or using it for a list of specified purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Boyer

Status: Assigned to House Education

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Bill undergoing additional analysis.

[HB 2190](#) *schools; common core replacement*

Summary: The State Board of Education is prohibited from adopting and the Department of Education is prohibited from implementing the common core standards, Any actions that were previously taken to adopt or implement such standards or assessments are void on the effective date of this legislation. School districts, schools and charter schools are not required to use any statewide academic standards adopted by the Board as a condition for approval to operate or for receiving state monies. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board and the Department are prohibited from spending any monies on a statewide longitudinal data system designed to track students or compile personally identifiable student information, sharing any personally identifiable student or teacher information with any entity outside Arizona or any entity that intends to use the information to develop commercial products or services, and sharing any personally identifiable student or teacher information with the U.S. Department of Education except if a list of specified conditions are met. Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, the Board is required to adopt areas of subject matter standards in specified subjects that are subject to legislative review and approval, which must be implemented statewide by every public school. By the 2018-19 school year, the Board is required to direct the process of developing annual high-quality statewide student assessments for specified subjects that align with the new subject matter standards.

Sponsor: Rep. Finchem

Status: 1/22- Referred to House Education Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

[HB 2277](#) *Child care waiting; list; appropriation*

Summary: Deletes the waiting lists for child care assistance through the Department of Economic Security. Appropriates \$79.4 million from the general fund in FY2015-16 to the Department for child care assistance costs to eliminate the current waiting list and provide child care assistance to eligible families with family incomes up to 165 percent of the federal poverty level.

Sponsor: Rep. Alston

Status: Not yet assigned to committee

Identical Bills: [HB 2503](#) *child care waiting list; appropriation*

[HB 2392](#) *schools; common core; prohibition*

Summary: The State Board of Education is prohibited from implementing the common core standards, Arizona's college and career ready standards or any other standards or assessments that are developed outside Arizona. The Board is prohibited from adopting or revising standards in a manner that would effectively implement the common core standards, Arizona's college and career ready standards or any other standards or assessments that are developed outside Arizona. Any rules that were previously adopted and that conflict with this prohibition are void on the effective date of this legislation.

Sponsor: Rep. Lawrence

Status: 1/28 – Assigned to House Education Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

[HB 2426](#) *Additional Classroom time for Kindergarteners*

Summary: Mandates that schools offering kindergarten must offer an enrollment option for full day kindergarten. No appropriation.

Sponsor: Rep. Barton

Status: assigned to House Education and Appropriations

Identical Bills: [SB 1068](#) *additional classroom time for kindergartners*

HB 2518 *temporary kindergarten teachers; certification*

Summary: Department of Education requirements for teacher certification must allow a teacher who holds a valid certificate to teach in grades one through eight but who does not have an early childhood endorsement to provide instruction in a kindergarten program for one year. If the teacher does not obtain an early childhood endorsement during that year, that teacher is prohibited from providing instruction in a kindergarten program in the next school year.

Sponsor: Rep. Norgaard

Status: 2/4 Held in House Education Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: More kindergarteners would have access to teachers educated on working with young children. Amendments likely.

SB 1077 *child care facilities; SFB guidelines*

Summary: Exempts child care facilities from certain School Facilities Board guidelines. This bill is a technical legislative fix.

Sponsor: Sen. Yee

Status: 2/3 – placed on Senate Consent Calendar

Identical Bills: N/A

SB 1282 *teledentistry; dental hygienists; dental assistants*

Summary: Various changes relating to dentistry and licensees of the State Board of Dental Examiners. Beginning January 1, 2016, all contracts issued, delivered or renewed by a dental service corporation, health care services organization or disability insurer are required to provide coverage for dental services that are provided through tele-dentistry if the service would be covered were it provided through in-person consultation between the subscriber and a dentist or dental provider.

Sponsor: Sen. Lesko

Status: 2/5 – Passed Senate Fin Committee

Identical Bills: N/A

Potential Impact to FTF/early childhood: Amendments likely.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

- Agenda Item:** Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council Governance
- Attachment:** Attachment 8 and 9
- Background:** The Regional Director is disseminating the Gila River Indian Community Regional Councils Governance document for annual 2015 review and update. This year the Council is presented with two Governance documents; the GRIC Regional Councils 2014 Document and second, a new Governance document template which was updated by the First Things First Attorney in the fall of 2014. All Regional Councils are being asked to use the new template when they update their 2015 Governance Document.
- The Regional Council will have the first read and discussion of the 2015 Governance Document in March 19, 2015.
- Recommendations:** For the purpose of this meeting the Regional Director provides the 2014 GRIC Regional Council Governance Document and 2015 Governance Document Template as informational purposes only, in preparation for the Councils March 19th meeting.

First Things First
Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council

Governance Policy Manual

PREFACE

This document, initially adopted by the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council on (Date) and updated periodically thereafter, constitutes the complete and official body of policies for the governance and operation of the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council.

DISCLAIMER

All policies found in this Governance Policy Manual are subject to change from time to time as approved by the Regional Partnership Council. Copies of the Manual are available from the First Things First regional office and online at <http://www.azftf.gov>. Prior to acting in reliance upon a specific policy as it appears in any copy of the Manual, please check to make sure that the Council has not recently approved any additions or revisions to that specific policy.

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1-101 Organization, Authority and Location

In November 2006, Arizona voters passed Proposition 203, a ballot initiative that established A.R.S. Title 8, Chapter 13 and created First Things First. Subsequently, the First Things First Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board (“the Board”) designated the Gila River Indian Community region and created the Gila River Indian Community) Regional Partnership Council (“the Council”) effective July 1, (Year) pursuant to A.R.S. Title 8, Chapter 13, Article 2. The Council’s purpose, authority, powers and duties are included in A.R.S. Title 8, Chapter 13 as well as in other statutes and laws of the State of Arizona. The Council members are appointed by the Board and assisted in the performance of their duties by First Things First staff. The Gila River Indian Community Regional Office is located in Phoenix), Arizona and is maintained by First Things First regional staff.

Adopted May 18, 2008; Revised ~~June~~ May 25 13, ~~2010~~ 2009; Revised January 14, 2012, Revised March 20, 2014

Comment [MB1]: Original date adopted should be shown for each section, with any Revised dates for each section listed as shown here.

Comment [CB2]:
I need to find the previous revision dates. I will do this when I get back to the office.

1-113 Departure from Council Policy

The Council may approve a temporary departure from a policy in this Governance Manual provided the departure would not violate the law. No departure from Council policy shall be permitted without the approval of the Council.

1-103 Meetings of the Council

The Council shall adopt a calendar of regular meetings of the Council prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The Chairperson or any four members of the Council may call a special meeting of the Council at any time.

Six members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Council meeting. It is the policy of First Things First to adjourn a meeting when quorum is lost. Council members may participate at any meeting in person, by teleconference and/or by videoconference provided that all members may hear one another and the public can attend and listen to all members.

Written notice of any regular meeting of the Council, plus the agenda and all material relating to agenda items, shall be transmitted to each Council member at least **seven** ~~five~~ **five** calendar days prior to the date of such meeting. Amendments to the agenda and additional supporting materials, not previously available, shall be transmitted at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting. All notices, agendas and other materials may be transmitted to Council members by email or by any other quick and reliable method to each member's last known place of residence or other designated address. A Council member may request in writing at least 10 days prior to a meeting to receive a copy of the documents by mail instead of email. Except with the approval of three-fourths of the Council members in attendance at a meeting, and if permitted by law, no action shall be taken by the Council on any matter where the supporting materials were not timely transmitted in accordance with this policy.

Special meetings may be held upon such notice to Council members and the public as is required by law. All material relating to special meeting agenda items shall be transmitted to each Council member as far in advance of the meeting as possible.

Comment [MK3]: This is a minimum number of days, can be increased but not decreased

Comment [CB4]: GRIC is Seven currently

Formatted: Highlight

1-104 Meeting Procedures

Council meetings shall be conducted by the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson or designee acting as Chairperson of the Council. The Chairperson is responsible for maintaining order in each Council meeting and giving each Council member a fair opportunity to participate in the discussion and resolution of issues that come before the Council. The Chairperson is also responsible for determining the manner of any public participation and for maintaining order during public participation in any Council meetings. All motions shall be directed to the Chairperson.

All Council committee meetings shall be conducted by the chairperson of the committee or the committee chairperson's designee. The chairperson of each committee has the same responsibilities for each committee meeting that the Chairperson has for Council meetings.

In determining what procedures to use to conduct meetings and resolve issues, the Council Chairperson and committee chairpersons may refer to Robert's Rules of Order (available online at <http://www.rulesonline.com>) for guidance.

The agenda for any regular meeting of the Council shall provide at least for the following:

1. Call to order
2. Call to the public
3. Approval of minutes of prior regular or special meetings, if not included on the consent agenda
4. Adoption of all consent agenda items
5. Matters of Council business for discussion and approval
6. Reports, if any, from committees appointed by the Council
7. Matters presented by the First Things First Regional Director
8. Announcements and adjournment

Routine matters may be grouped together and decided by the Council without discussion or debate. Such matters shall be designated as "Consent Agenda Items." Any member of the Council may request discussion or debate on any individual item listed as a Consent Agenda Item, and the matter shall be considered and decided separately at such time in the meeting as may be directed by the Chairperson.

The Chairperson may delegate to the chair of each respective committee the responsibility for chairing discussion of items presented to the Council by that chairperson. Whenever a matter before the Council is deferred for further discussion, the Chairperson may assign the matter to an appropriate committee, schedule the matter for further consideration at a future meeting of the Council, direct regional staff with respect to the matter or take other appropriate action.

1-105 Call to the Public Procedures

During each regular Council meeting, the Council conducts a “Call to the Public” when members of the public may address the Council. The Council may conduct a “Call to the Public” at special meetings as well. Speakers who wish to address the Council:

- A. Should turn in a signed request (using the form provided at the Council meeting) to the Regional Director along with any written materials for the Council.
- B. May have five minutes to make their remarks.

The Chairperson may allow speakers who have not turned in a request form, and the Council may change, in accordance with Governance Policy 1-114, the amount of time allowed for speakers at a particular meeting.

The following priority may be given to speakers during the “Call to the Public” when the Council may not have enough time to hear from all who wish to speak:

- A. People who have submitted signed request to speak forms.
- B. Matters scheduled on the same meeting’s agenda.
- C. Off-agenda matters: presenters who haven’t addressed the Council in the previous two months.
- D. Off-agenda matters: presenters who have addressed the Council in the previous two months.

The Council retains its prerogative to:

- A. Refuse to hear comments on a specific issue if a public comment session has been held on the issue.
- B. Limit the time or the number of speakers on the same issue.
- C. Refuse to have letters read *on behalf of other individuals*.

If speakers have comments that are too long for the time allowed or if members of the public would like materials distributed to the Council, written materials may be provided to the Regional Director or Administrative Assistant. Regional staff shall distribute those written materials to the Council members.

Council members may not discuss or take action on matters raised during the Call to the Public that are not on the agenda. For such non-agenda matters, the Council may respond to criticism, ask staff to review the matter or ask for the matter to be placed on a future agenda. Staff shall later inform the Council of staff efforts to respond to a speaker’s concerns.

1-106 Meeting Minutes

Minutes of all Council meetings shall be created and maintained in accordance with the requirements of law. The Council may incorporate by reference into its minutes lists of staff changes, reports, lists of budget information, formal written resolutions and other material of similar import, and such material shall be maintained in a permanent file to be designated as the "Gila River Indian Community" Regional Partnership Council's Documents File," which shall be kept in the custody of First Things First staff and available for ready reference.

Each Council member shall be furnished with copies of the minutes of the open session portion of each Council meeting. Council members without a conflict of interest shall be furnished with copies of the minutes of the executive session portion of any meeting of the Council for the purpose of approving those minutes, after which all copies shall be returned to the Regional Director.

All minutes of the open session portion of any Council meeting shall be open to public inspection at the First Things First Regional Office located in (Phoenix), AZ. Minutes of executive sessions shall be kept confidential except from members of the Council or as otherwise allowed by law. Copies of minutes or excerpts from any minutes of the open session portion of any Council meeting or from any executive session if the law permits such disclosure may be furnished by the Regional Director. If such minutes have not yet been approved by the Council, they shall be marked "Draft."

1-107 Committees and Subcommittees

The Council may establish and maintain committees composed of members of the Council and/or other individuals appointed by the Chairperson. The Chairperson may designate that the Chairperson of the Council shall serve as an ex officio member of a committee.

The Chairperson of the Council shall designate the matters to be considered by the committees. All committees shall act as advisory bodies to the Council and report their recommendations to the Council. Unless one is designated by the Chairperson of the Council, a committee chairperson shall be elected by the committee members.

Committees may establish and maintain their own subcommittees. The relationship between a committee and its subcommittee shall be the same as the relationship described in this policy between the Council and a committee.

Committees and subcommittees shall comply with the Open Meeting Law. See A.R.S. § 38-431(1),(6).

1-102 Council Officers and Their Duties

In the last quarter of each fiscal year, the Council shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among the appointed members to serve for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, who shall hold office for twelve months and until successors are duly elected.

Comment [CB5]: Elections of Chair and Vice

The Council may nominate any appointed member for its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. A majority vote of the appointed members of the Council shall be required to elect.

It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside over the meetings of the Council, to call meetings as herein provided and to perform such other duties as are set forth in these policies or as shall be vested in the Chairperson. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairperson to assume the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

The Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson may be removed from office by a majority vote of the appointed members of the Council upon motion by a Council member alleging the violation of a specific provision of this Governance Policy Manual or alleging specific actions which bring into public disrepute the Council, the Board or First Things First as an organization. If a Chairperson or Vice Chairperson is removed, a replacement shall be elected as soon as is practicable.

The Council by a majority vote of the appointed members of the Council may recommend to the Board that a member be removed as a Council member upon motion by a Council member alleging the violation of a specific provision of this Manual or alleging specific actions which bring into public disrepute this Council, the Board or First Things First as an organization.

1-109 Communications ~~To or From~~ From the Council

In order to establish and maintain open communication and trust between the G.R.I.C. Tribal Council and the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council, the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council Chairperson, Vice Chair, or Council member delegated by the Chair will attend ~~monthly~~ Education ~~and Health and Social~~ Standing Committee meetings, when the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council has a report to present to the Education Standing Committee ~~or the Health and Social Standing Committee~~.

Comment [CB6]: This is from GRIC's last governance document 2014

Communications from the Council concerning matters relating to the policies and actions of the Council to members of the Legislature, any other governing body, the press or the public should be made by the Chairperson, the Chairperson's designee or someone authorized by the Council.

Any member of the Council who expresses an opinion concerning matters upon which the Council has taken a position should support the position taken by the Council or make it clear that he or she is expressing a personal opinion that has not been approved by the Council.

1-110 Lobbying & Campaigning

Lobbying occurs under Arizona law when a person attempts to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by directly communicating with any State Legislator. By contrast, campaigning refers to attempts to influence an election. In other words, lobbying relates to matters a Legislator will vote on, while campaigning relates to matters the general public will vote on.

Lobbying

The Council recognizes and appreciates the privilege each individual in this State and Nation has to express his or her opinion and to seek to make that opinion known to members of the State Legislature and Congress. The Council also recognizes the responsibilities with which it has been entrusted in connection with the Board and the advancement of early childhood development and health programs in the State of Arizona and recognizes that on occasion the interests of the Board and Council will not coincide with the interests of individual Council members.

Only the Chairperson of the Council or his or her designee shall speak for the Council to members of the State Legislature or Congress in matters relating to policy. When speaking for the Council to Legislators or their staff, the Chairperson or designee shall make every effort to accurately communicate official Council positions, while refraining from speaking on behalf of the Board or First Things First unless specifically authorized to do so by the Board or Board Chairperson or First Things First's Chief Executive Officer respectively. A Chairperson or member designee lobbying in his or her official capacity on matters pertaining to the Council is exempt from the lobbying laws requiring registration and expenditure reporting.

Any Council member may speak to members of the State Legislature or Congress in an individual capacity. For matters in which the Council has not taken an official position, any Council member communicating with a member of the State Legislature or Congress shall make every effort to indicate clearly that the position that he or she is taking is an individual position or is the position of a group other than the Council. In instances in which First Things First, the Board or the Council has taken an official position, a Council member endorsing a differing position shall make it clear that First Things First, the Board and/or the Council has endorsed a different or contrary position. Council members who, on their own behalf, appear before a legislative committee or communicate with a State Legislator in person, by phone or by letter to lobby in support of or in opposition to legislation are also exempt from the lobbying laws requiring registration and expenditure reporting.

This policy is not intended to nor shall it be enforced so as to restrict rights guaranteed to individual Council members, but is an attempt only to separate the views of individual members from positions which First Things First, the Board and/or the Council may take in attempting to discharge their responsibilities under the statutes of the State of Arizona.

* Council members who only engage in exempt lobbying are not considered lobbyists. See A.R.S. §§ 41-1231 & 41-1232.04. Additionally, Council members should be aware that the Council cannot make any expenditure for entertainment for a state officer or employee (including Legislators) and Council members cannot accept an expenditure for entertainment from a lobbyist or someone acting on behalf of a lobbyist. Entertainment refers to admission to or participation in a sporting event or a cultural event or activity. See A.R.S. §§ 41-1231(5)-(6) & 41-1232.08.

Campaigning

The Council shall not spend or use public resources to influence an election. See A.R.S. § 16-192. This prohibition includes the use or expenditure of monies, materials, equipment, buildings, postage, telecommunications, computers, web pages and any other thing of value of First Things First to support or oppose a candidate or ballot measure.

Individual Council members may express their personal views and even advocate for or against a candidate, initiative or other ballot measure, as long as they do not use public resources to do so. In these activities, Council members may identify themselves as Council members, but should not state or imply that they speak for the Council.

1-108 Conflicts of Interest

Council members shall comply with the conflict of interest provisions of A.R.S. Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 8. These statutes set the minimum standards expected of public officers and employees who, in their official capacities, are faced with a decision or contract that might affect their direct or indirect pecuniary or proprietary interests or those of a relative. Section 38-503 provides in part:

Any public officer or employee of a public agency who has, or whose relative has, a substantial interest in any contract, sale, purchase or service to such public agency shall make known that interest in the official records of such public agency and shall refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in any manner as an officer or employee in such contract, sale, purchase or service.

Any public officer or employee who has, or whose relative has, a substantial interest in any decision of a public agency shall make known such interest in the official records of such public agency and shall refrain from participating in any manner as an officer or employee in such decision.

Under this law, a Council member who has a conflict of interest must disclose the interest and refrain from participating in the matter. Council members may find guidance on this subject in the Arizona Agency Handbook, which is available on the Attorney General's website at <http://www.azag.gov/agency-handbook>. Council members should review conflicts of interest matters not specifically addressed in the Handbook with the Regional Director or legal counsel.

In addition to complying with the conflict of interest provisions of Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 8, no Council member shall vote on, or participate in the discussion of, any grant proposal in which any entity by which they are employed or on whose board they serve has a substantial interest, as defined by Section 38-502. See A.R.S. § 8-1173(C).

Council members shall complete a Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement and State Service Disclosure Statement at the beginning of their term and annually update the State Service Disclosure Statement. Additionally, Council members shall complete a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form whenever they declare a conflict at a Council meeting. All completed forms shall be given to First Things First staff for recordkeeping.

1-114 Amendments

These policies shall not be added to, amended or repealed except at a Council meeting and by majority vote of all appointed Council members. Any proposed addition, deletion or amendment shall be filed with the Regional Director, in writing, at least 10 days before such meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Regional Director to promptly distribute a copy of the proposal to each Council member.

Amendments to Council policy require a two-step process to adopt: (i) the draft policy change shall receive a *first reading* at a public meeting, during which Council members may discuss the draft amendment and request that staff make changes as deemed appropriate (a vote to adopt is not taken at this stage) and (ii) the draft policy change shall receive a *second reading* at a subsequent public meeting during which the Council may direct staff to make further changes or may vote its adoption.

1-111 Attendance

The Council's governing statutes recognize the importance of consistent attendance by Regional Council members with the following statement:

Members of the Regional Partnership Council who miss more than three meetings without excuse or resign their membership shall be replaced by the Board after a public application process and with the input of the Regional Partnership Council.

See A.R.S. § 8-1162(D).

Attendance Expectations. Council members are expected to attend all Council meetings. It is understood that there will be times when Council members will need to miss a meeting. The Regional Director shall maintain an attendance roster that documents each member's attendance at scheduled meetings.

Excused Absence. An excused absence occurs when a Council member is unable to attend a meeting due to an emergency, illness, injury or previously scheduled travel, work, tribal ceremony or family obligation that prevents participation at a meeting either in person or by phone.

Notification of a previously planned obligation should be provided to the Regional Director at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting. A Council member who misses a meeting other than for a previously planned obligation shall contact the Regional Director as soon as possible to provide an explanation for missing a meeting. An emergency is a situation that cannot reasonably be planned for in advance, such as car trouble, weather conditions, family illness and obligation to tribal ceremonies.

Unexcused Absence. An unexcused absence occurs when a Council member is absent from a scheduled meeting without providing sufficient notice or an explanation of the reasons for the member's absence consistent with the excused absence definition above.

Determination of Excused Absence. Regional staff shall assist the Chairperson in keeping track of excused absences. If there is a question about whether an absence meets the definition of an excused absence, the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson may consult with the Regional Director for a determination. If necessary, the matter can be presented to the Council.

Attendance Problems. An attendance problem means:

- A. Two consecutive unexcused absences.
- B. Three consecutive absences, excused or unexcused.
- C. Three unexcused absences in a 12-month period.
- D. More than five excused and unexcused absences in a 12 month period.

Addressing an Attendance Problem. Upon identification of an attendance problem, the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall call the Council member to discuss the member's attendance record and remind the member of the attendance expectations. If the Council member's difficulties are resolvable, then the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall attempt to help resolve them with assistance of staff.

Comment [CB7]: Attendance

If a member reaches a level of non-attendance under "d" above, of which no more than three are unexcused, the Chairperson may ask the member to resign his or her position in order to ensure the Council has sufficient participation to timely and appropriately complete its work. If the member wishes to continue on the Council, the matter shall be put to the Council at its next meeting. The Council member shall be entitled to speak to this item. The Regional Council shall then decide whether to refer the matter to the Board for possible removal of the member from the Council.

If a member misses more than three meetings in a 12 month period without excuse, the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall ask that the member resign his or her position on the Council. If, upon request, the member does not resign, the matter shall be forwarded to the Board for appropriate action.

1-112 Code of Conduct

Council members shall abide by the following code of conduct:

- A. Listen carefully to fellow Council members.
- B. Respect the opinions of fellow Council members.
- C. Respect and support the majority decisions of the Council.
- D. Recognize that all authority is vested in the full Council only when it meets in a legal public session.
- E. Keep well informed about the issues which could come before the Council.
- F. Participate actively in Council meetings and actions.
- G. Bring to the attention of the Council any issues that could have an adverse effect on the Council, the Board or First Things First.
- H. Refer complaints concerning Council related matters and members to the proper level, specifically the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.
- I. Represent all the people the Council serves and not primarily a particular issue, personal agenda or interest group.
- J. Abide by the Conflicts of Interest policy and laws.

If there is a violation of this code of conduct, the member(s) suspected of the violation shall meet with the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson to discuss the matter. The Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall attempt to resolve the matter and if necessary refer it to the Council for action.

First Things First

Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council

Governance Policy Manual

PREFACE

This document, initially adopted by the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council on ~~May 13, March 20, 2014-2009~~ and updated periodically thereafter, constitutes the complete and official body of policies for the governance and operation of the Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council.

DISCLAIMER

ALL POLICIES IN THIS GOVERNANCE POLICY MANUAL ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME AS APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL. THE FIRST THINGS FIRST REGIONAL OFFICE DISSEMINATES HARD COPIES OF ADDITIONS/REVISIONS NOT MORE THAN TWICE EACH YEAR. THE WEB COPY, LOCATED AT [HTTP://WWW.AZECDH.GOV](http://www.azecdh.gov) IS UPDATED AS NEEDED FOLLOWING APPROVAL BY THE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL PRIOR TO ACTING IN RELIANCE UPON A SPECIFIC COUNCIL POLICY AS IT APPROVED ANY ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO THAT SPECIFIC POLICY.

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1-101 Organization, Authority and Location

The Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council (herein “the Council”) is established as a result of a ballot initiative, Proposition 203, which was approved by voters in November 2006. The purpose, authority, powers and duties of the Council are included in A.R.S. Title 8, Chapter 13 as well as in other statutes and laws of the State of Arizona. The Council is appointed by the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board and assisted in the performance of its duties by staff employees known as the First Things First Staff. The Gila River Indian Community Regional Office is located in Mesa, Arizona. The office is maintained by the Regional Staff.

1-102 Departure from Council Policy

- A. Persons desiring to depart from the policies adopted by the Council shall submit a request in writing to the Chairperson of the Council
- B. No departure from Council policy shall be permitted without the approval of the Council

1-103 Meetings of the Council

The Council shall adopt a calendar of regular meetings of the Council prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. The Chairperson or any four members of the Council may at any time call a special meeting of the Council.

A majority of the membership of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Council, but a number less than a quorum may adjourn from time to time. Council members may participate at any meeting in person, by teleconference and/or by videoconference provided that all members may hear one another.

Public notice of all meetings of the Council shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of law. In addition, written notice shall be provided to each member of the Council. All notices required by this policy shall at least specify the time, date and place of the meeting.

Written notice of any regular meeting of the Council, plus the agenda and all material relating to agenda items, shall be transmitted to each member of the Council at each member’s last known place of residence or other designated address by the quickest and most reliable method at least **ten seven days prior to the date of such meeting**. Amendments to the agenda and additional supporting materials, not previously available, shall be transmitted at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. **Except with the approval of three fourths of the voting members in attendance at a meeting, and if permitted by law, no action shall be taken by the Council on any matter where material is not timely submitted in accordance with this policy.**

Special meetings may be held upon such notice to the members of the Council as is appropriate

to the circumstances and upon such public notice as is required by law. Special meetings may be held in person, by teleconference and/or videoconference. All material relating to special meeting agenda items shall be transmitted to each member of the Council as far in advance of the meeting as possible.

1-104 Meeting Procedures

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (available online at <http://www.rulesonline.com/>) shall govern the deliberations of the Council in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Council policies and special rules of order the Council may adopt, and with any applicable statutes.

The order of business for any regular meeting of the Council shall be in accordance with the written agenda prepared for the meeting. Such agenda shall provide for both an executive session and open session in accordance with requirements of law. The open session portion of the agenda shall provide at least for the following:

1. Call to order
2. Call to the public
3. Approval of minutes of prior regular or special meetings if not included on consent agenda
4. Adoption of all consent agenda items
5. Matters presented by the chairs of standing committees of the Council
6. Reports, if any, from ad hoc or special committees appointed by the Council
7. Matters presented by the First Things First Regional Coordinator-Director
8. Announcements and adjournment

Routine matters listed in the open session portion of the agenda for a regular meeting of the Council may be grouped together and decided by the Council without discussion or debate. Such matters shall be designated as "Consent Agenda Items." Any member of the Council may request discussion or debate on any individual item listed as a Consent Agenda Item, and the matter shall be considered and decided separately at such time in the meeting as may be directed by the Chairperson.

During the course of any regular meeting of the Council, the Chairperson shall act as presiding officer and all motions shall be directed to the Chairperson. However, the Chairperson may delegate to the chair of each respective standing committee the responsibility for chairing discussion of items presented to the Council by that chairperson. Whenever a matter before the Council is deferred for further discussion, the Chairperson may assign the matter to an appropriate committee, schedule the matter for further consideration at a future meeting of the Council, or take other appropriate action, and may otherwise direct the Regional Staff with respect to the matter.

All meetings of the Council are open to the public except for executive sessions. The Council reserves the right, however, to maintain order to prevent interference by any member or members of the public with the conduct of its meetings.

1-105 Call to the Public Procedure

During each Council meeting, the Council conducts a “Call to the Public” when members of the public may address the Council. Speakers who wish to address the Council:

- Must turn in a signed request (using the form provided at the Council meeting) to the Regional **Coordinator Director**. Any written materials for the Council should be included with this request.
- Are given up to four minutes to make their remarks.

The following priority will be given to speakers during “Call to the Public”:

1. Matters scheduled on the same meeting’s agenda.
2. Other matters; presenters who haven’t address the Council in the previous two months.
3. Other matters: presenters who have addressed the Council in the previous two months.

The Council retains its prerogative to:

- Refuse to hear comments on a specific issue if a public comment session has been held on the issue.
- Limit the time or the number of speakers on the same issue.
- Refuse to have letters read *on behalf of other individuals*.

If speakers have comments that are too long for the time allowed, or if members of the public would like materials distributed to the Council, written materials may be provided to the Regional **Coordinator Director**. All written materials are distributed to and given consideration by the Council.

Because of the diversity of issues presented during “Call to the Public,” Council members generally do not respond to speakers during this comment period. The speaker’s concerns are recorded and may be referred to the appropriate staff for follow-up. The Council is informed of the outcomes of the staff efforts to respond to the speaker’s concerns.

1-106 Minutes of Meetings of the Council

Minutes of all meetings of the Council shall be created and maintained in accordance with the requirements of law. The Council may incorporate by reference into its minutes lists of staff changes, reports, lists of budget information, formal written resolutions and other material of similar import, and such material shall be maintained in a permanent file to be designated as the “GRIC Regional Partnership Council’s Documents File,” which shall be kept in the custody of the Regional **Coordinator Director** and available for ready reference.

Each member of the Council shall be furnished with copies of the minutes of the open session portion of each regular and special meeting of the Council. Members of the Council shall be furnished with copies of the minutes of the executive session portion of any meeting of the

Council for the purpose of approving those minutes, after which all copies shall be returned to the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ Director.

All minutes of the open session portion of any meeting of the Council shall be open to public inspection during regular business hours at the First Things First Regional Office located in Mesa, AZ. Minutes of executive sessions shall be kept confidential except from members of the Council or as otherwise required by law. Copies of minutes or excerpts from any minutes of the open session portion of any Council meeting or from any executive session, if the law permits such disclosure, may be furnished by the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ Director. If such minutes have not yet been approved by the Council, they shall be marked "Draft."

1-107 Committees and Subcommittees

The Council may establish and maintain standing committees composed of members of the Council appointed by the Chairperson. The Chairperson will serve as an ex officio member of all standing committees.

Standing Committees may meet either apart from regular meetings of the Council and provide a report to the Council of business conducted, or may meet as a committee of the whole during the course of a regular Council meeting. All members of the Council attending a standing committee meeting are eligible for voting on standing committee matters.

The Chairperson of the Council may establish such other ad hoc or special committees as the Chairperson deems necessary or advisable. The Chairperson shall appoint the membership of such committees, which may, but need not, include members of the Council, and shall designate the matters to be considered by said committees. All such committees shall act as advisory bodies to the Council and report their recommendations to the Council.

All such standing, ad hoc or special committees shall hold and conduct their meetings in accordance with requirements of law. The chair of each such committee shall be its presiding officer and shall set the time, date and place of the meetings.

The Executive Committee shall be a standing committee of the Council. Its members shall include the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the chairs of any other Standing Committees established by the Council. Unless otherwise directed by the Chairperson, the Chairperson will preside of the Executive Committee. If the law permits, the Council may delegate a specific decision-making authority to the Executive Committee from time to time. In addition, if a matter is deemed to be urgent by the Chairperson, the Executive Committee may be convened for specific decision-making, subject to adoption at a subsequent regular meeting of the Council.

1-108 Council Officers and Their Duties

At the first regular meeting of the Council following May 1 of each fiscal year beginning in 2008, the Council shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among the appointed members to serve for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, who shall hold office for twelve months and until successors are duly elected. The election shall be by ballot.

~~In the absence of good reason to the contrary, it shall be the Policy of the Council, in nominating members to serve as its Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, to nominate members who have previously served as a member of the executive committee to help ensure greater past experience on the Council. Notwithstanding the previously stated preference for experience, the Council may nominate any appointed member for its Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. A majority vote of the appointed members of the Council shall be required to elect.~~

It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside over the meetings of the Council, to call meetings as herein provided, to serve as an ex officio member of all committees of the Council, and to perform such other duties as are set forth in these policies or as shall be vested in the Chairperson.

It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairperson to assume the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson does not automatically succeed the Chairperson. Both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are eligible for reelection.

1-109 Communications To or From the Council

In order to establish and maintain open communication and trust between the G.R.I.C. Tribal Council and the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council, the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council Chairperson, Vice Chair, or Council member delegated by the Chair will attend ~~monthly~~ Education ~~and Health and Social~~ Standing Committee meetings, when the G.R.I.C. Regional Partnership Council has a report to present to the Education Standing Committee ~~or the Health and Social Standing Committee.~~

Communications from the Council to members of the legislature, the press and the public should, whenever possible, be transmitted by and through the Chairperson of the Council. Inquiries in regard to matters upon which the Council has taken, or probably will take a position, should be referred to the Chairperson.

There will be cases when an individual member of Council will feel obligated to answer inquiries. In these cases, the member of the Council expressing an opinion as to matters upon which Council has taken a position should support the position taken by the Council or make it perfectly clear that he or she is expressing an opinion that has not been approved by the Council.

1-110 Lobbying

The Council recognizes and appreciates the privilege each individual in this State and nation has to express his or her opinion and to seek to make that opinion known to members of Congress,

and State legislature. The Council also recognizes the responsibilities with which it has been entrusted in connection with the operation of the early childhood development and health system

and the advancement of early childhood development and health programs in the State of Arizona and recognizes that on occasion the interests of the Council will not coincide with the interests of individual members of the Council.

In approaching members of the State legislature or members of Congress, members of the Council shall make every effort to indicate clearly that the position they take is an individual position or is the position of a group other than the Council. In instances in which the Council has taken an official position, the member endorsing a differing position shall make it clear to the legislative body that the Council has endorsed a different or contrary position.

The members responsible for the disbursement or allocation of State funds shall determine prior to disbursement or allocation that such funds will not be used for purposes of influencing legislation.

Only the Chairperson of the Council or his or her designated delegate shall speak for the Council to members of the legislature in matters relating to policy. In responding to members of congress or State legislators, Council members shall make every effort to accurately communicate official Council positions. In matters for which the Council hasn't taken an official position, Council members should indicate clearly that the position they take is an individual position or is the position of a group other than the Council.

This policy is not intended to nor shall it be enforced so as to restrict rights guaranteed to individual employees or Council members but is an attempt only to separate the views of those individuals from positions which the Council may take in attempting to discharge its responsibilities under the statutes of the State of Arizona.

1-111 Conflict Of Interest

Council members and employees shall comply with the conflict of interest provisions of A.R.S. Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 8. These statutes set the minimum standards expected of public officers and employees who, in their official capacities, are faced with a decision or contract that might affect their direct or indirect pecuniary or proprietary interests or those of a relative. Section 38-503 provides in part:

Any public officer or employee of a public agency who has, or whose relative has, a substantial interest in any contract, sale, purchase or service to such public agency shall make known that interest in the official records of such public agency and shall refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in any manner as an officer or employee in such contract, sale, purchase or service.

Any public officer or employee who has, or whose relative has, a substantial interest in any decision of a public agency shall make known such interest in the official records of such public

agency and shall refrain from participating in any manner as an officer or employee in such decision.

Under this law, a Council member or employee who has a conflict of interest must disclose the interest and refrain from participating in the matter. Council members and employees may find guidance on this subject in the Arizona Agency Handbook, which is available on the Attorney General's website at http://www.azag.gov/Agency_Handbook/Agency_Handbook.html. Public

officers and employees should review conflicts of interest matters not specifically addressed in the Handbook with their supervisors or legal counsel.

In addition to complying with the conflict of interest provisions of Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 8, no Regional Partnership Council member shall vote on, or participate in the discussion of, any grant proposal in which any entity by which they are employed or on whose Council they serve has a substantial interest, as defined by Section 38-502.

Furthermore, in accordance with A.R.S. Section 8-1191(C)(5), Council members are specifically prohibited from having a substantial interest in the provision of early childhood education services as defined by Section 38-502.

In addition to complying with the conflict of interest provisions of Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 8, all Council members shall complete a Conflict of Interest Statement upon adoption of this policy and annually thereafter on a form to be provided by First Things First. These forms will be reviewed by the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ Director and legal counsel for resolution or mitigation of potential conflicts of interest. Any potential conflicts of interest that cannot be resolved or mitigated satisfactorily will be placed on the Regional Council's upcoming agenda for disclosure purposes and to help ensure compliance with the conflict of interest laws. In addition, the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ Director will prepare a summary report of the Conflict of Interest Statements filed each year for Council review.

The Conflict of Interest Statement prepared annually by the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ Director will be reviewed by the Council.

1-112 Regional Council Member Attendance

Attendance Expectations: Regional Council members are expected to attend all Regional Council meetings. However, it is understood, that there will be times when Regional Council members will need to miss a meeting. The Region ~~Coordinator~~ Director will maintain an attendance roster that documents each Regional Council member's attendance at scheduled meetings.

Excused Absence: An excused absence occurs when a Regional Council member is unable to attend a meeting due to emergency, illness, injury, or previously scheduled travel or work or family obligation, which prevents participation at a meeting either in person or by phone.

Notification of a previously planned obligation should be provided to the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** at least 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting. A Regional Council member who misses a meeting other than for a previously planned obligation must still contact the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** as soon as possible with the reason for missing a meeting. An emergency is a situation that cannot reasonably be planned for in advance, e.g. car trouble, weather conditions, family illness.

Unexcused Absence: An unexcused absence occurs when a Regional Council member is absent from a scheduled meeting without providing sufficient notice or without providing a bona-fide explanation of the reasons for the member's absence, consistent with excused absence definition above.

Determination of Excused Absence: The Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** will determine whether an absence qualifies as an excused or unexcused absence. If there is a question about whether an absence meets the definition of an excused absence, the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** may consult with the Regional Council Chair or their Region's Manager for a determination.

Problem Attendance: An attendance problem will be defined as:

- a. 2 consecutive unexcused absences
- b. 3 consecutive absences, excused or unexcused
- c. more than 3 unexcused absences in a 12-month period
- d. more than 5 excused and unexcused absences in a 12 month period

Addressing an Attendance Problem: Upon identification of an attendance problem under "a" or "b" above, the Regional Council Chair or Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** will call the Regional Partnership Council member to discuss their attendance record and remind him/her of the attendance expectations.

If a member reaches a level of non-attendance as identified in "c" above, the Regional Council Chair or ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** will ask the member to resign his/her position on the Regional Partnership Council. If, upon request, the member does not resign, the matter shall be forwarded to the Board for appropriate action.

If a member reaches a level of non-attendance under "d" above, of which no more than 3 are unexcused, the Regional Council Chair or Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** may ask the member to resign his/her position in order to ensure the Council has sufficient participation to timely and appropriately complete its work. If the member refuses to resign, the matter shall be taken to the full Regional Partnership Council, discussed and a decision made to allow the member to continue to participate or to refer the member to the Board for possible removal from the Regional Council.

1-113 Amendments

These policies shall not be added to, amended, or repealed except at a meeting of the Council and by public vote of a majority of all voting members of the Council. Any proposed addition, deletion, or amendment shall be filed with the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director**, in writing, at least ten days before such meeting, and it shall be the duty of the Regional ~~Coordinator~~ **Director** to promptly distribute a copy to each member of the Council.

Amendments to Council policy will require a two-step process to adopt: 1) the draft policy change will receive a *first reading* at a public meeting, during which Council members may

discuss the draft amendment and request that staff make changes as deemed appropriate (a vote to adopt is not taken at this stage) and 2) the draft policy change will receive a *second reading* at a subsequent public meeting during which the Council may direct staff to make further changes or may vote its adoption.

2nd READING