



FIRST THINGS FIRST
The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2009

1. Call to Order

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council Meeting was held on February 27, 2009 at the Ulmer Head Start Center, Pinkley and Main Streets, Coolidge, AZ 85228.

Regional Council Chair Mezzio called item #1 for the meeting to come to order at 9:15 AM.

Council Members in attendance:

Barbara Mezzio, Kai Gerkey, Melanie O'Neil, Charity Russell, Christina Jenkins, Mary Allen, Bryant Powel, and Mary Kyle

Council Members not in attendance:

Aaron Harris and Arnoldo Hernandez

First Things First Staff in attendance:

Jennifer Johnson, Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Sandy Carpenter, and Carrie Loos

Public in attendance:

3 members of the public were present

2. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Mezzio called item #2 for the welcome and introductions of the meeting.

Brief welcome by Chair Mezzio and introduction of the guests at the meeting. Chair Mezzio recognized the council members and guest B.J. Tatro, Ph.D.

3. Regional Council Retreat Discussion

Chair Mezzio called item #3 for the regional Council retreat discussion and recognized B.J. Tatro, Ph.D., B.J. Tatro Consulting.

- Copies of the Pinal Regional Council Governance Policy were distributed to the Council and to the public. More information will be distributed by the consultant.

4. Discussion and Possible Vote on First Things First Board Emergency Early Childhood Response Package.

Chair Mezzio called item #4 for a discussion and possible vote on First Things First Board Emergency Early Childhood Response Package and recognized Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Regional Coordinator, Pinal Regional Partnership Council.

Copies of the attachments were handed out to the Council and the public attendees: Arizona State Budget Cuts, Federal Economic Stimulus, First Things First Program Funding, Proposed Discretionary Distribution Amounts, First Things First Economic Response Proposal, and First Things First Summary of Economic Plan.

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council did not receive any Frontier Community discretionary funding. This decision was based on the consensus definition of frontier communities, as reported by the National Center for Frontier Communities (population density, distances between services, and travel time between services).

5. Discussion and Possible Vote to Review of Regional Council's Funding Plan in Response to the Emergency Early Childhood Response Package.

Chair Mezzio called item #5 for a discussion and possible vote to review of Regional Council's funding plan in response to the emergency early childhood response package and recognized Ms. Kempton-Sarosi.

The Council would like to request a bid waiver from ADOA that allows Regional Councils to expedite the award process to more quickly provide programs and services for children and families:

- Stabilize working families and prevent hunger in young children:
 - A motion was made by Member Jenkins expedite the award process to more quickly provide programs and services to children and families. Seconded by Member Russell. Motion carried.

- Support families to prevent abuse and neglect: the Council decided to support existing strategies with in family support and chose Strategy #7.
 - Conflict of Interest: Member O'Neil
 - A motion was made by Member Russell to support existing strategies with in family support. Seconded by Member Kyle. Motion carried.

The Council would like to redirect funding plan amounts approved for needs and assets, evaluation, communications and carry forward into strategies that address the focus areas identified:

- Strategy #13 – awareness campaign
 - A motion was made by Member Kyle to move 35 percent (17,500.00) from the awareness campaign; which would leave 32,500.00 in strategy #13 – awareness campaign. Seconded by Member Russell. Motion carried.

- Evaluations
 - A motion was made by Member Russell to move FY2010 200,000.00 from evaluations. Seconded by Member O'Neil. Motion carried.

- Regional Needs and Assets

- A motion was made by Member O'Neil to not carry forward dollars allocated for the regional needs and assets. Seconded by Member Allen. Motion carried.

The Council would like to redirect funding allocations from strategy #13 – awareness campaign and evaluations, a total of 217,500.00, to prevent hunger in young children and provide emergency food boxes for families with children 0-5.

- A motion was made by Member O'Neil to move 217,500.00 from strategy #13 – awareness campaign and evaluations to prevent hunger in young children and provide emergency food boxes for families with children 0-5. Seconded by Member Kyle. Motion carried.

6. Discussion and Possible Vote on Undistributed Pinal Regional Allocation

Chair Mezzio called item #6 for a discussion and possible vote on undistributed Pinal regional allocations and recognized Ms. Kempton-Sarosi.

The Council would like to discuss and possibly vote on the undistributed Pinal regional allocations, 1,133,080.00, at the next Pinal Regional Partnership Council Meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2009.

7. First Things first Legislative Updates and Discussions

Chair Mezzio called item #7 for the First Things First legislative updates and discussions and recognized Sandy Carpenter, First Things First Government Affairs Specialist.

Sandy Carpenter, First Things First Government Affairs Specialist, addressed the Council and announced the First Things First legislative updates and addressed any concerns or questions.

8. Next Meeting – March 11, 2009 (1:00-4:00p.m.)

Chair Mezzio called item #8 and announced the next meeting location.

The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2009
Central Arizona College, Room I211
Coolidge, AZ 85228

9. Adjourn

Chair Mezzio called item #9 to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Member Gerkey to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m. Seconded by Member Powell. Motion carried.