



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The special meeting of the First Things First – Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on June 20th, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. at the Cocopah Housing and Development Office, 10488 Steamboat Street, in Somerton, Arizona, 85350.

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 1:15p.m.

Members Present: H. Jill McCormick, Dr. Michael Reed, Rev. J. Deal Begay, Gina Nierenhausen, Paul Soto, and participating via teleconference was Patricia R. Weissenberg.

Members Excused: Cristina Solorzano and LaDonna Crabb

Members Absent: Monica Torres

Conflict of Interest

Chair McCormick provided the Regional Council with the opportunity to declare a conflict of interest regarding any items on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy

The Regional Council reviewed the FY2012 Funding Plan Summary and engaged in a discussion of the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy. Regional Director Ashley Pascual described the allotted amount of \$50,860 for the strategy would come from the \$61,998 carry forward amount shown on the FY2012 Funding Plan Summary. Chair McCormick briefly exited the meeting at 1:17pm, quorum was momentarily lost, and was resumed at 1:18pm.

The Regional Council continued with the discussion on the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy. Regional Director Pascual reviewed the strategy worksheet with the Regional Council which included a background on the development of the strategy, budget justification and why the Regional Council considered it a necessary strategy to help improve the quality of the Head Start Center. Director Pascual noted that a building inspection statement will be added to the strategy description. The Key Measures

and Performance Measures have yet to be determined. Chair McCormick briefly exited the meeting at 1:20pm, quorum was momentarily lost, and was immediately resumed at 1:20pm.

Continuing the discussion the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy, Mr. Christopher Nunez, Assistant Tribal Administrator, noted he was excited about the additional funding provided through this strategy. Handicap accessibility, the security screening fencing, and landscaping were to be added to the budget justification of the strategy.

A motion was made by Member Nierenhausen to approve the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy allowing edits as needed as long as content would not be affected by the edits. The motion was seconded by Member Begay. The motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Funding Mechanism for the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy for FY2012

The Regional Council discussed the funding mechanism options available for the Head Start Quality Improvement strategy just approved. Director Pascual clarified that, based on discussions during previous planning meetings, the Regional Council had concluded that working directly with the Tribe through a government to government agreement would be beneficial for this strategy. Dr. Reed made a motion to approve a grant agreement as the funding mechanism for the Head Start strategy. The motion was seconded by Member Soto. The motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Director's Update

Director Pascual reviewed the timeline for the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy. The Regional Council will review the grant agreement that will be submitted by the Cocopah Indian Tribe for the Head Start Quality Improvement Strategy at the July 6, 2011 meeting before it is presented to the state board for approval at the July 19, 2011 State Board meeting. Director Pascual mentioned a tour of the Cocopah Head Start facilities was being scheduled for CEO Rhian Evans Allvin on July 6, 2011, prior to CEO Allvin's participation at the Regional Partnership Council meeting that same day. The Regional Council was extended an invitation to attend the tour as well.

Announcements

No announcements were made.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 6th, 2011, at 3:00p.m., at the Cocopah Housing and Development Office, located at 10488 Steamboat Street, in Somerton, AZ 85350.

Adjournment

Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 1:36 p.m.

Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

H. Jill McCormick, Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council Chair