



## Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board

### Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council MINUTES

#### Call to Order/Welcome

The regular meeting of the First Things First Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council was held on July 10, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. (Daylight Savings Time). The meeting was located at the Navajo Nation Museum, Conference Room #1, Highway 264 and Loop Road, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Seanez at approximately 9:00 a.m. New members Rhonda Etsitty and Valonia Hardy were introduced and members and staff introduced themselves to the new members.

#### Members Present (in Person):

Vice-Chair Paula Seanez, Grace Boyne, Rhonda Etsitty, Valonia Hardy, Harry Martin, Byrde Nez, and Amelia Black (late)

#### Members Absent:

Leonard Anthony, Martin Ashley, and Jeannette Yazzie

#### First Things First Staff Present:

Melissa Begay, Memarie Tsosie, Kathy Bunker, Charlene Surber, Virginia Turner, Michelle Katona, and Karen Peifer.

#### Call to the Public

None

#### Discussion and Possible Approval of the May 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Member Boyne moved that the Regional Council approve the May 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Member Martin seconded. Motion passed, 6:0:0.

#### Conflict of Interest: Council Members will Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on this Agenda

No conflicts of interest were presented.

#### Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of RFGA Review Committee Recommendations for:

- a. RFGA #FTF-MULTI-13-0401-00 For Reach Out and Read
- b. RFGA #FTF-RC001-13-0416-00 For Prenatal Outreach

Vice-Chair Seanez requested the Council go to Executive session and read the instructions for Executive Session pursuant to *A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) (2)* and *A.R.S. §41-2702(E)*.

Member Boyne moved the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council move into Executive Session. Member Martin seconded, motion carried 6:0:0.

Vice-Chair Seanez excused members of the public.

Vice-Chair Seanez reminded the council that all discussions on these items are confidential and requested the public return to the meeting at approximately 10:00 a.m. Member Martin moved the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council exit Executive Session. Member Nez seconded. Motion passed 7:0:0 as member Black joined the meeting.

Member Boyne moved the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council approve the recommendation of the Review Committee for the Reach Out and Read RFGA for State Fiscal Year 2013. Member Black seconded, after discussion, motion carried 7:0:0.

Member Boyne moved the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council approve the recommendation of the Review Committee for the Prenatal Outreach RFGA for State Fiscal Year 2013. Member Martin seconded, motion carried 7:0:0.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action for Election of Regional Chair and Vice-Chair for SFY2013**

Vice-Chair Seanez informed the council that vacancies exist for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, and asked how the council would like to proceed with the nominations. After discussion Vice-Chair Seanez nominated Member Martin for Chair, Member Hardy seconded, motion carried 7:0:0.

Vice-Chair Seanez nominated Member Boyne for Vice-Chair. Member Black seconded. Motion passed 6:0:1.

Member Boyne then expressed her appreciation to Vice-Chair Seanez and Mrs. Shirley for all their work for the Council.

#### **Presentation and Discussion on Promise Neighborhood Grant Application**

Vice-Chair Seanez introduced Jenny Rodgers, with Pump Up the Volume, a grant through Gallup-McKinley County Schools. Ms. Rodgers reported that the schools that participated have seen good results from this professional development program. The Promise Neighborhood Grant is a one year plan with the initiative of Cradle to Career, to create a strong system of support for children and families. It is being written by Dr. Karen Burstein, and the grantee will be Navajo Technical College. The initial program will start in Chinle and they expect to expand later. Regional Director Begay added some additional information about the grant background and work of the grant partners.

After discussion, Member Etsitty moved the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council support the Promise Neighborhood Grant Application and the First Things First staff consider negotiating the Memorandum of Understanding to include representation of the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council on the grant action team. Member Boyne seconded the motion, motion carried 7:0:0.

#### **Recognition of Previous Regional Council Members**

Vice-Chair Seanez returned to item # 2 on the agenda which was moved to the end of the agenda in order to allow the members being recognized to arrive. At this time Regional Director Begay recognized departing members Jenny Rodgers and Vikki Shirley and thanked them for being among the founders of the Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council and for all their work on the Council. She presented each of them with a commemorative wall plaque. She also had plaques for Marie Allen and Paula Hale who were not able to attend. Past Chair Shirley gave a

few words about the early work to get First Things First started and the Navajo Nation to be a part of it. She noted that her main priorities as a council member were ensuring the Navajo Language is passed on and to provide more day care centers in the Navajo Nation. Past Member Rodgers expressed encouragement and thanks to the current members of the Council.

**Next Meeting – August 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.**

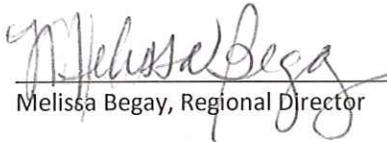
Vice-Chair Seanez noted that the next meeting will be held at the regular time of 10:00 a.m.

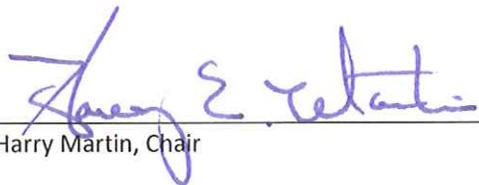
**Adjournment**

Member Nez moved to adjourn, Member Boyne seconded, motion carried 7:0:0.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2012

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD  
Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council

  
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Melissa Begay, Regional Director

  
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Harry Martin, Chair