

# 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 meeting of the First Things First – Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on December 4, 2013, at 12:00 p.m. at the Cocopah Indian Housing and Development Office.

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 12:49 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Chair H. Jill McCormick  
Vice Chair Rev. Deal Begay  
Council Member Dr. Michael Reed  
Council Member Cristina Solorzano  
Council Member Patricia R. Weissenberg  
Council Member Ines Pampara  
Council Member Paul Soto

### **Members Absent:**

Council Member Christie Stevens  
Council Member Gina Nierenhausen

### Approval of November 6, 2013 Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Member Soto moved to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2013, Regional Council meeting. Edits to the minutes were noted. The motion was seconded by Dr. Reed, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

### Cocopah Head Start Program

Member Solorzano shared her experience with the Quality First Rating process. Through the Quality First Rating program the Cocopah Head Start has achieved a three star rating indicative of progress and success in providing quality care and education. Member Solorzano shared the barriers encountered during the process that delayed the ultimate goal of achieving the three star rating.

### Early Steps Program

Early Steps Specialist Lupi Rojas provided a brief update on the Early Steps Program. The update included up to date barriers, successes and trainings attended by Ms. Rojas.

### Standing Committee Recommendations

A review of the Parent and Caregiver Survey and additional survey questions suggested by the Standing Committee was provided by Member Soto and Regional Director Roselia Ramirez. Additional questions were approved by the council and will be forwarded to the Vendor for further development. The possibility of the Cocopah Head Start providing the survey to the Cocopah community during the Parent Teacher Conference with approval from the

current Needs & Assets Vendor, University of Arizona Norton School of Family & Consumer Sciences, was discussed by the Regional Council.

**SFY2015 Funding Plan**

A review of the SFY2015 Funding Plan final draft was provided by Regional Director Roselia Ramirez. Dr. Reed moved to approve the SFY2015 Funding Plan with the stipulation that the Regional Director make any necessary edits/corrections to the funding plan as long as content is not impacted. The motion was seconded by Member Soto, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

**Announcements**

Youth Mental Health First Aid Certification training will be provided by Regional Center for Border Health (date and time to be determined).

CRIT (Colorado River Indian Tribes) Department of Health & Social Services in collaboration with First Things First and the Arizona Kith and Kin Project is hosting workshops that are aimed to spotlight the development of children ages 0-5 who are in placement or guardian care. The workshops are scheduled on December 18, 2013, 9:00am-2:30pm in Parker Arizona.

Cocopah Head Start will participate in the upcoming Christmas Light Parade, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013, Somerton, AZ and will also provide caroling to the various offices in the West Cocopah Reservation.

**Next Meeting**

No meeting is scheduled on January 2014. The next regular meeting will occur on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 3:00 p.m. Cocopah Indian Housing and Development, 10488 Steamboat Street, Somerton, AZ.

**Adjournment**

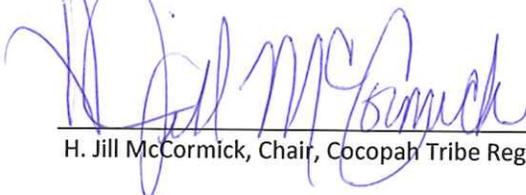
Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY



H. Jill McCormick, Chair, Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council

February 5, 2014