

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board
Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

The regular meeting of the First Things First Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on October 8, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Hualapai Department of Cultural Resources in Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

Members Present

Dr. Anthony Perkins, Chair; Darren Hudak, Vice Chair; Xavier Benson; Omaovensi Coochwytewa; Leon Ghahate; Charlene Imus; Sandra Irwin; Barbara Tinhorn and Lucille Watahomigie

Member Absent

Reverend Pete Imus

Chair Perkins called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Regional Director Ashley Pascual reviewed the conflict of interest requirements. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Possible Approval of September 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Hudak made a motion to approve the August 13, 2014 meeting minutes. Member Irwin seconded the motion. Members C. Imus and Tinhorn abstained. The motion passed unanimously among the voting members.

Call to the Public

There were no responses to the call to the public.

Member Watahomigie requested an update on the Tribal Consultation from Vivian Parker, Coordinator of the Maternal Child Health program. Ms. Parker said it was interesting to hear what other tribes are facing, as well as common themes. She noted it was inspiring to see former Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council chair Candida Hunter serving as First Things First's Senior Director for Tribal Affairs. Ms. Parker also announced that Chira Walema is the new Day Care director. Member Watahomigie asked about the discussion around the Tribes' involvement in leveraging funds, and she noted this was a discussion item at the Tribal Consultation. Director Pascual explained the public-private partnership plan that was discussed at the consultation, and noted that a brief will be written covering the recommendations. Senior Director Gary P. Arnold added there was a spectrum of ideas raised regarding the public-private partnership plan.

Regional Partnership Council Member Announcements

Vice Chair Hudak announced an upcoming book reading and signing event at the Boys and Girls Club. Member C. Imus announced upcoming events, including a health fair on October 28, and invited First Things First and the Maternal Child Health program to participate.

Program Support and Statewide Updates

Dr. Aaliyah A. Samuel, Senior Director for Family Support and Literacy spoke about a project between First Things First, the Arizona Department of Education and Read on Arizona to produce the *Developing Reader*, a comprehensive approach to literacy. Dr. Samuel discussed a federal preschool development grant that the State of Arizona is applying for, and funding

will target areas of high poverty. Dr. Samuel also spoke about the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visitation (MIECHV) grant that is used to expand home visiting and access to services across the state.

SFY2016-2018 Strategic Planning: the Hualapai Journey

Director Pascual reviewed the community feedback contained in the summary and noted various collaborative work associated with the home visitation programs. Director Pascual informed the partnership council that EPCH – the local radio station – was using the native language books to encourage language preservation.

Director Pascual led a discussion on setting regional priorities and the strategic direction. Recurring themes were to focus on even younger children so they can get the services they need sooner, and greater family involvement. Following extensive discussion, Director Pascual summarized the priorities with the requested changes incorporated. Member Watahomigie made a motion to set the regional priorities as revised. Member C. Imus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Pascual briefly reviewed the current funding plan, and guided members through a stop-change-continue process to identify strategic priorities for the next funding plan. The need for increased family involvement continued to be a theme, and coordination with existing programs could be used to achieve this. Director Pascual will compile the members' input and bring strategy recommendations back to the next meeting.

Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Report

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Regional Director's Report

Director Pascual welcomed Leon Ghahate as the newest regional council member.

Director Pascual noted that Councilwoman Hilda Cooney attended the Tribal Consultation on behalf of the Hualapai Tribal Council.

Director Pascual reviewed the SFY2015 expenditures report, noting numbers are where they should be.

Senior Director Arnold shared his upcoming retirement on November 7, and reflected on his attendance when the native language books were presented, stating, "A small group of people can make a change – possibly for generations to come."

Next Meeting

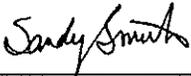
The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2014. There was some discussion about possibly changing the meeting time to 9:00 a.m.; however, consensus was to keep it at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Chair Perkins adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:



Sandy Smith, Administrative Assistant



Dr. Anthony Perkins, Chair