



# 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 July 2, 2014, at 12:00 p.m. at the Cocopah Indian Housing and Development Office, 10488 Steamboat Street, Somerton, AZ.

Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

### Members Present:

Chair H. Jill McCormick

Vice Chair Rev. Deal Begay

Council Member Dr. Michael Reed

Hon. Amanda Mahon (left the meeting at approximately 1:22 p.m. Quorum was not affected.)

Council Member Ines Pampara (left the meeting at approximately 1:26 p.m. The meeting was adjourned due to no quorum.)

Council Member Patricia R. Weissenberg

Council Member Paul Soto

### Members Absent:

Council Member Elizabeth Renaud

Council Member Christie Stevens

Council Member Cristina Solorzano

Council Member River Twist

### Introduction of New Council Members

Two new members have been added to the Regional Council. The Hon. Amanda Mahon was introduced and welcomed to the Regional Council. Her role on the Council will be in the At-Large capacity for the term July 1, 2014 thru June 30 2018. New Member River Twist was not present.

### Approval of May 7, 2014 Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Dr. Reed moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2014, Regional Council meeting, seconded by Member Soto. Motion carried.

### Discussion on SFY2014 Quarter 3 Data Reporting and SFY2014 Financial Report

The Home Visitation Early Steps Program surpassed the contracted service units of 15 and served 46 families according to the SFY2014 Quarter 3 report. Other areas included in the report were number of children newly enrolled during the quarter, number of children served and number of families who received community referrals.

It was reported the 30 food vouchers (contracted service units for the Yuma Community Food Bank) had been distributed, however not all food boxes had been collected by the families. It was noted food vouchers not collected will be carried over into SFY15.

### Second Read: Governance Policies

Dr. Reed moved to approve the Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council Governance Policies, seconded by Member Soto. Motion carried.

**Proposed SFY2015 Cocopah Regional Partnership Council Meeting Schedule**

Dr. Reed moved to approve the Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council meeting schedule as proposed by First Things First staff, seconded by Member Soto. Motion carried.

**Update on Food Security Strategy**

President/CEO of the Yuma Community Food Bank, Mike Ivers and Anita Maude, Program Director and Agency Coordinator for the food bank presented an update on Food Security for the region. Mr. Ivers stated not all food vouchers had been redeemed however, with the assistance of the Early Steps Specialist were able to redeem a total of 25 of the 30 food vouchers. Transportation seems to be biggest barrier for delivery/distribution of these services. He also reported that aside from the Food Security Strategy, 100 food boxes were delivered to the Cocopah Community Center along with an additional 160 food kits for children.

Ms. Maude stated quarterly cooking sessions introducing preparation of vegetables is currently being planned as part of the strategy by the Yuma Community Food Bank.

**Update on Early Steps Program**

The update included home visits completed and events attended. The Back to School event is scheduled on August 1, 2014, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. First Smiles program will be present at this event.

**Discussion on Needs & Assets**

Violeta Dominguez and Michelle Walsh of the University of Arizona Norton School, shared the process/sources of the data collected for the Needs and Assets Report. The Regional Council concerned about the depth of information contained in the report adding that research/steps need to be taken to ensure that the information and data in the report is *reflective* of the Cocopah community. The geographic boundaries of the region aren't accurately reflected in the report and need to be revised. The Regional Council will forward edits/comments of the report to Regional Director Roselia V. Ramirez. Ms. Ramirez will then forward all edits/comments to the University of Arizona Norton School research team for continuum of the report.

Member Pampara left the meeting at approximately 1:26 p.m. at which time quorum was lost.

**Adjournment**

Quorum was lost and Chair McCormick adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

  
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Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY

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

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September 3, 2014