

Western Maricopa Education Center, District 402

5487 N. 99th Avenue – Glendale, AZ 85305

December 5, 2012

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER- AGENDA ITEM #1

Board Chairman, Frank Straka, called the meeting to order at 4:33pm. Board Members present were Roger Freeman, Dwight Amery, James Kaltenbach, Ray Malnar, Joe Holcombe, and Frank Straka. West-MEC staff in attendance were: Greg Donovan, Mike Bush, Michele Bush, Ron Kalmbach, Chris Cook, Cindy Strozewski, Wendy Rupe, Adriana Parsons, Cliff Migal, Dean Petersen, Elaine Hess, Patricia Halligan, Speranta Klees, George Gerardo, Barbara Thompson, Shelly Thome, John Mulcahy, Anna Abe, and Marilynn Babyar. Others in attendance were Rex McCoy, Neishma Gerena, Samantha Davis, Sean Castelblanco, Jack Erb, Debbie Holland, Amanda Shively, and Chris Huffman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE - AGENDA ITEMS #2 & #3

Board Chairman, Frank Straka, called on Board Member Roger Freeman to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and a Moment of Silence was observed afterwards.

CTSO/SKILLS USA FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LAW CHALLENGE - AGENDA ITEM #9

Board Chairman, Frank Straka, modified the order of business by moving item #9 before the Board Member Report.

Michele Bush, Director of Grants Management, introduced the students who will be involved in the CTSO/Skills USA Forensic Science and Law Challenge Event this Saturday which will be hosted at West-MEC. Rex McCoy, Neishma Gerena, Samantha Davis, and Sean Castelblanco explained the process of how the event evolved and how students from Paradise Valley, North Canyon, and Shadow Mountain high schools will be involved in this event.

These "Explorers" are students who learn different skills within the law enforcement field in forensic investigation and law enforcement and the advisor for this group is Chris Huffman. The competition involves mock trials, oral boards, and police reports and a personal invitation to West-MEC was extended for this event.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT – AGENDA ITEM #4A

Frank Straka reported that he has had conversations with Randy Schiller at Arizona School Boards Association about better recognition of JTEDs and will be attending the Legislative Workshop on the 12th of December.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – AGENDA ITEM #4B

Superintendent, Greg Donovan, presented the 2011 Certificate of Achievement in Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Governors Finance Officers Association to the Business Department: Elaine Hess, Patricia Halligan, and Barbara Thompson.

He also presented the 2013 ACTE Image Award to the West-MEC Interactive Media Department: Chris Cook and Adriana Parsons. This award was presented at the 2012 CareerTech Vision Conference.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC - AGENDA ITEM #5

Jack Erb spoke on behalf of the Yes for West-MEC Committee and shared a few thoughts. He quoted Herb Brooks, 1980 USA Olympic Hockey Team Coach, in saying that “Great moments are born from great opportunities.” He felt that because the Governing Board had the fortitude, vision, and courage to call for a bond election, students will now have great moments in West-MEC Satellite and Central Programs. Against all the odds that were faced, programs will be developed and provided for students because of the bond passage. He thanked the Board and staff for all their efforts in making the passage of the bond successful.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - AGENDA ITEM #6

Joe Holcombe made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Roger Freeman seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE EXTEND THE DEADLINE PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION A OF SECTION 42-17257 ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES – AGENDA ITEM #7

Roger Freeman made a motion to approve the resolution requesting that the Director of the Department of Revenue extend the deadline prescribed by Subsection A of Section 42-17257 Arizona Revised Statutes. Joe Holcombe seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

REPORT FROM DEER VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT - AGENDA ITEM #8

Debbie Holland, CTE Director at Deer Valley Unified School District, reported on Career and Technical Education in her district. Their CTE mission statement is to empower students to develop leadership, academic and technical skills needed in the global economy for continuous learning and workforce success.

There are 26 CTE Programs of Study at Deer Valley which are divided amongst its 5 high schools, Barry Goldwater, Boulder Creek, Deer Valley, Mountain Ridge, and Sandra Day O’Connor. A few of the programs are specific to each high school and three new CTE Satellite Programs are planned for FY 2013-2014. Debbie Holland also spoke on the completed CTE projects at Barry Goldwater and Deer Valley which were supported by West-MEC.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS – AGENDA ITEM #10

Superintendent Greg Donovan recognized Ray Malnar on returning to the Board and thanked him for his service.

He recognized Joe Holcombe and Roger Freeman as retiring Board Members and thanked them for their service on the Governing Board, and told them he looked forward to their continued support. He also thanked Board Member John Atkins who was not present. Each received a custom orange West-MEC pen and a plaque acknowledging their service. Both Board Members said they were happy to have an opportunity to contribute and to serve, and respected the West-MEC staff for all their hard work.

The current Board Members spoke their appreciation:

- Ray Malnar said he appreciated Joe Holcombe’s construction knowledge and exuberance and enjoyed Roger Freeman because of his background and in depth knowledge.
- James Kaltenbach said he will use both of them as a knowledge base in the future. He felt like they were family.
- Dwight Amery said he appreciated the knowledge from their diverse backgrounds and will have lifelong friendships with them. He wished them the best.
- Frank Straka said that it was a pleasure working with them and now considers them now as long lasting friends. He appreciated Joe Holcombe’s construction knowledge and Roger Freeman’s help in bringing Tolleson District to join West-MEC.

RECOGNITION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS – AGENDA ITEM #11

Superintendent Greg Donovan introduced Ken Varga as a new Board Member for District #4. He is a small business owner with a background in aerospace. He then introduced David Cosgrove as new Board Member for District #6. He is retired with previous business experience in HVAC sales.

Currently, there is no candidate for District #5, but the process for filling that seat will begin soon.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – ITEM #12

Future agenda items should include Member District Reports, ACR for Future Hires and Percentages, IGAs for Tolleson Union High School District and Elementary School Districts, Innovation Center, Zero Hour Programs, Future Programs, Money Spent on Districts, On-line Classes, Certifications/Trainings West-MEC can offer, Future Work-force Development Opportunities in the Valley, Superintendent goals, and Redistricting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – AGENDA ITEM #13

Frank Straka adjourned the meeting and the Board Members stood in adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Markham
Governing Board Secretary

*approved 1-9-13
Dee Markham*