



**MINUTES – MEC REGULAR MEETING
4:00P.M, WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Dr. Louis Albert, Dennis Barger, Dr. Kent Barrabee, Diego Martinez Barrera, Jen Darland, Deborah Embry, George Favela, Jennifer Flores, Steve Freeman, Teri Laguna, Paul Lovelis, Vicky Mullins, Aaron Myers, David Nicholson, Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel, Jennifer Sprung, Dr. Alan Storm, Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Patricia Wiedhopf.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Bill Ardern, Dr. Linda Arzoumanian, Dr. Mary Jan Bancroft, James Cook, Richard Elias, Molly Gilbert, Javier Herrera, Amber Mathewson, Jo Riester, Regina Romero, Dr. Kasey Urquidez.

NON-COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Edward Nossem, Johanna Duffek, Dr. Robert Breault.

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PAT WIEDHOPF
The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
- 2.0 ROLL CALL – PAT WIEDHOPF
Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.
- 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PAT WIEDHOPF
The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.
- 4.0 APPROVAL OF APRIL 15, 2015 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF
Motion to approve: Steven Freeman
Second: Jennifer Sprung
Motion carried 18- 0.
- 5.0 APPROVAL OF APRIL 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT – PAT WIEDHOPF
Motion: Dr. Kent Barrabee
Second: George Favela
Motion carried 18-0.

6.0 MEC RETREAT – DR. JUNE WEBB-VIGNERY

The MEC Retreat is currently scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2015 at the University of Arizona Student Union Catalina Room, 7:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon. After discussion of the possibility of getting more school district student representatives if the retreat were postponed by one week, it was decided that we would see if we could move the date to Saturday, August 15th. A September option was also discussed, as well as Pima Community College West Campus as an alternate venue.

Topics and committees for the Retreat will be the Regional College Access Center (RCAC), the Youth Advisory Council/Tucson Teen Congress (YAC/TTC), and Education Funding. The MEC office will be sending out emails requesting that Commissioners choose one of these committees. Dr. Webb-Vignery indicated that the Commission should start sounding out various entities on where they stand on the issue of state funding for public education. Jen Darland stated that there will be some education funding town halls that will be scheduled in late August and early September, and it might be a great opportunity for students to sit in.

Regarding guest speakers, Jennifer Flores suggested someone from the Arizona Education Association, which has excellent speakers on education funding such as the state lobbyist Jennifer Loreda. We should also have a student address the gathering. JTED could consider videoing the event.

Related discussions included Dr. Webb-Vignery stating that we need to start sounding out different entities on where they stand on education funding. George Favela relating his attendance at the Governor's leadership Summit in Phoenix, and Jen Darland, who said that there are very bad precedents being set by the Legislature, and that there ought to be student-led education forums, with student moderators to ask questions to ask questions of candidates and tell their stories. Diego Martinez Barrera suggested that messages to students be given with repetition and consistency, and that students will get involved once they understand the gravity of the situation. Dr. Storm reiterated the gravity of JTED's situation.

7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS – PAT WIEDHOPF

7.1 Budget – Bill Ardern (Not present; delivered by Pat Wiedhopf)

The budget is tracking appropriately.

7.2 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb -Vignery

The 25th Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon was held on Friday, May 8th, 2015. We had 35 tables; the event grossed \$30,355.00 and the net was \$17,193.60. Almost \$2,000 in additional funds were raised through the donation envelopes. Pima County Administrator Chuck Huckleberry delivered welcoming remarks, along with Mayor Rothschild, both of whom donated. Dr. Breault put Dr. Webb-Vignery in contact with Elizabeth Alvarez del Castillo, who is on the Arizona Optics Industry Association Board of Directors, who may provide funding assistance.

7.3 Appointments –Paul Lovelis

No action.

- 7.4 YAC/TTC – David Nicholson & Diego Martinez Barrera
The meeting is David Nicholson’s final meeting as MEC Youth Commissioner; the Commissioners thanked him for his service to the YAC/TTC and the MEC.
- 7.5 Issues –Pat Wiedhopf –
No action.
- 7.6 Regional College Access Center – David Rodriguez (not present)
No action.
- 7.7 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem
The next Key to Employment for the 21st Century Symposium will take place on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at the U of A Student Union. The possibility of conducting a UA Telemedicine virtual video broadcast, including the RCAC Workshop and other aspects of the event, is being discussed.
- 8.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC
Dr. Robert Breault made suggestions regarding strategies regarding the state funding of education, including discussions with political campaign managers instead of politicians, scrutinizing elected officials’ voting records, and possible boycotts of businesses that do not support education funding.
- 9.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF
Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Kent Barrabee
Second: Deborah Embry
The motion passed 18-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.