

**Western Maricopa Education Center, District 402**

4949 W. Indian School Road – Phoenix, AZ 85031

June 3, 2009

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

1. Board President Dwight Amery called the Governing Board Meeting to order at 4:06pm. Board Members present were Dwight Amery, Ray Malnar, Frank Straka, James Kaltenbach, and Jack Lunsford. Joe Holcombe arrived at 4:30pm and John Atkins was in attendance by telephone conference for part of the meeting. Others in attendance were Greg Donovan, Cliff Migal, Jim Brown, Chris Cook, Adriana Alvarado, Ron Kalmbach, Barbara Thompson, Dean Petersen, Debbie Holland, Arlene McLaughlin, John Mulcahy, Wendy Rupe, Diane McCarthy, and Dee Dougan.

Mr. Donovan introduced new employee Wendy Rupe who will be working in the ADM office.

After the introductions, those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Arlene McLaughlin. A moment of silence was then observed and it was requested by Mr. Amery to remember the families in the valley who have had tragedies befall them.

2. Mr. Kaltenbach made a motion to approve the May 6th Governing Board Meeting Minutes, the Payable and Payroll Voucher Reports, the Personnel Report, and the resolution regarding garnishment of wages. Mr. Straka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. Arlene McLaughlin, CTE Director at Buckeye Unified School District gave a presentation regarding all the CTE activities in Buckeye's District.
4. Business Manager Barbara Thompson explained to the Governing Board that the final West-MEC budget figures for 09/10 will be computed when the State Legislature passes its 09/10 budget. As of 5-20-09, the last payment adjustment for the 08-09 year funding was \$2.6 million, of which West-MEC received only \$300,000. In October, the Legislature will look at the end of the 08-09 fiscal year and there is a possibility that another \$3 million might be subtracted from the payment. The secondary nickel tax levy that West-MEC will receive for 09/10 is \$10.4 million, so our equalization will be about \$7 million.
5. Mr. Brown gave a presentation on JTED funding. He told the Governing Board that West-MEC gets funded on JTED eligible students in CTE programs. The 40<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> day count from ADE are the numbers used in the funding process. Upper credits are also configured in the formula for JTED funding to districts. The more upper courses the districts have, the more funding the districts will receive from West-MEC. Next month, the Governing Board will vote on the formula and appropriations to West-MEC's Member Districts.
6. Mr. Donovan spoke regarding employee compensation. West-MEC, unlike other districts does not need to consider reduction in salaries because the overhead is less than 3% for the district salaries. He asked that the Governing Board consider a \$500 health stipend to each employee to help offset medical health insurance costs. He also asked that the Governing Board consider a rolling paid holiday for the employees. Future consideration would be tuition reimbursement, and front loading sick and vacation leave rather than earning it each pay period. Some of the Governing Board Members also thought that because of the exceptional year West-MEC had that a salary increase should be given to all employees. A benefit package for 09/10 will be presented to the Governing Board for consideration at the next scheduled meeting.

7. Mr. Kaltenbach made the motion to approve the adoption of curriculum and materials for the Medium Heavy Diesel Courses offered by West-MEC. Mr. Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
8. Legislative Liaison Diane McCarthy told the Governing Board that the Senate is in caucus and will be voting on the state budget tonight. The House is planning to vote on the budget tomorrow. HB 2639 and SB 1187 containing the funding formulas for the JTEDs are up for adoption in the Legislature. Senator Pierce and Representative Cavanaugh of the Appropriations Committees in the Senate and the House are setting up an ADHOC Committee on JTED issues which will be comprised of the following members, the Legislators, the Auditor General, JTED Superintendents, JLBC, the Governor's OSPB, AZ Dept. of Education, and Selected Businessmen. This group will meet over the summer and come back in the fall with a technical corrections bill.
9. Mr. Donovan told the Governing Board that West-MEC continues to struggle with the Department of Education. The current gross ADM is 5632 students.
10. Chris Cook from the Public Relations Department related that since school is not in session at the moment, his department is working on internal communication at West-MEC. The other forms of communication the Public Relations Department is working on are Constant Contact, Connect-ED, Facebook, SharePoint, and Twitter. West-MEC will also be featured in an Arizona Business Magazine article next month.
11. Mr. Lunsford made the motion to authorize Mr. Donovan to proceed with the acquisition of the Buckeye Land for the purchase price of 4.7 million. Mr. Holcombe seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.
12. The Governing Board gave affirmation and direction for West-MEC to proceed with dealings regarding the Opus property for District Office/Training Center/Warehouse. Since Opus is filing bankruptcy, we will be dealing with the bank. West-MEC will put together a package answering all the questions the Governing Board has regarding the property.
13. West-MEC program updates were given by Cliff Migal and James Brown. West-MEC has met with the City of Glendale planning commission and has put in a pre-application for 6 acres that have been donated to us. West-MEC is also working with Williams Aviation consulting to get every component of the Aviation program approved.

Currently there are not students at Cosmetology as they are on summer break.

EMT and Fire Science are ready to go for the fall semester.

The agreement with Freightliner for Medium Heavy Diesel has been signed and sent to the lawyer with the stipulations that the Governing Board requested last month. Books are being purchased along with tools, equipment, and training modules.

West-MEC will be hiring a new employee in July to begin the Health Academy. Acreage at Algodon has been donated to West-MEC and it is forecasted that the program will be up and running in 2011/2012.

Auto Tech and Auto Collision are planned for the 2011/2012 school year. The high schools involved in this will be Ironwood and PVHS at Star Tech.

14. Diane McCarthy relayed information to the Governing Board about the Tohono O’Odham Partnership. West-MEC would like to train students for job opportunities when the casino is built by the Tohono O’Odham nation.

The Communiversity at Surprise is another partnership West-MEC would like to focus on.

15. During the Call to Public, Mr. Kaltenbach told about the CTE Tech Camp he is involved in. He thought it was a great idea to get these 7<sup>th</sup> grade students thinking about their future careers.

Mr. Lunsford thanked the Governing Board about not having any negative comments regarding the letter he sent to EVIT.

It was made mention that the Governor of Arizona has presided over the largest budget deficit ever and that she is working hard to save education.

Mr. Amery made mention that Wells Fargo has a teacher programming aid.

16. Future agenda items include member district presentations, regular reports, budget, and information on staffing.
17. Mr. Holcombe made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Straka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
18. Following the Executive Session, Mr. Kaltenbach moved that the meeting return to Regular Session. Mr. Lunsford seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
19. Mr. Kaltenbach moved that the items discussed under Personnel be pursued as indicated in the Executive Session. Mr. Malnar seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
20. Mr. Kaltenbach made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Malnar and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Dougan  
Board Secretary

