

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Arizona Western College  
District Governing Board Meeting  
Regular Meeting 11 am  
Yuma Campus and Via Zoom  
August 20, 2024

**Board Members Present:** Board President Dennis Booth, Maria Chavoya, Brad Sale

**Board Member present by phone, Zoom:** Dr. Kenneth MacFarland and Board Secretary Olivia Zepeda

**Board Member Absent:** None

**Others Present within Frances Morris Boardroom: (18)**

Dr. Daniel Corr, President

Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff

Ana English, Associate Dean of Enrollment Services

Bryan Doak, Vice President for Student Services

Cinthia Alvarez, Dean for Carere and Technical Education

David Riek, KAWC/KOFA General Manager

Dr. Joann Chang, Executive Director - Dean of Healthcare Programs

Dr. Kathleen Iudicello, Vice President of Learning Services

Dr. Kevin Kato, Communications Faculty

Jordan Amezcua, Administrative Assistant III

Jorge Ramirez, Student Government Association

Lori Stofft, Vice President of Advancement

Lou Gumm, KAWC/KOFA News and Operations Director

Mandy Heil, Associate Dean of Communications and Marketing

Noemi Barraza, Executive Administrative Assistant

Randy Hartless, Associate Dean of La Paz County Services

Ross Poppenberger, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services

Shara Skinner, Coordinator of Student Leadership & Activities

**Others Present by Zoom: (8)**

Kimberly Trujillo, Director of Human Resources

Stuart Gibson, Associate Dean

Michelle Struck, Advancement

Alfonso Zavala, Program Coordinator- LETA

Brenda Sawyer, Director of Purchasing

Miguel Alvarez, Associate Dean of Reskilling

Renee Munoz, Business and Finance Administration

Anthony Brown, Lt. Chief of Police

**Community Members Present by Zoom:** (1) Zafer Genc

**Community Members Present in room:** (0)

**Call to Order:** Board President Dennis Booth called the Regular Meeting to order at 11:02 am.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda for the August 20, 2024, meeting presented for approval.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

**Introduction of a New Board Member:** Dr. Corr welcomed the newest Arizona Western College (AWC) District Governing Board Mr. Brad Sale to the District #1 seat, representing La Paz County, following his appointment by La Paz County Superintendent Dru Waggoner. Sale, a longtime resident of Parker, Arizona, and Superintendent of Parker Unified School District #27, brings extensive experience in education and community leadership to this new role. Sale has been a dedicated educational leader in Parker, Arizona for many years. As Superintendent of Parker Unified School District #27, he has demonstrated a deep commitment to fostering academic excellence and supporting students and families across the community. His long-standing experience and local insight make him a valuable addition to the AWC District Governing Board.

Dr. Corr stated, “With Brad Sale’s expertise and deep commitment to education, we are confident the AWC District Governing Board will continue to thrive in advancing our college’s mission”, noting “His leadership and community insights align with our goals. This continues the historic commitment and support the La Paz board members have demonstrated over many years. We’re excited to work alongside him to shape the future of education in Yuma and La Paz Counties.

**Adoption of Minutes:** The minutes of June 11, 2024, meetings presented for approval.

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

### **Call to the Audience:**

Dr. MacFarland shared the community feedback and appreciation for the community programming within the Quartzsite area offered through the Entrepreneurial College. Additionally, the Entrepreneurial Workshop hosted in Parker garnered positive interest.

### **College Reports**

#### *Student Government Association, Presented by Jorge Ramirez*

Jorge Ramirez, the SGA President for the 2024-25 school year, introduced himself as a second-year student double majoring in political science and psychology. Jorge provided an overview of recent and upcoming activities by the Student Government Association (SGA) at AWC.

#### **Past Events:**

- **Student Leadership Training:** SGA officers and members participated in an energizing week of leadership training, setting goals and planning events for the 2024-2025 academic year. The training strengthened team bonds and prepared the group for the upcoming school year.
- **Student Orientation:** On August 10th, SGA members participated in the orientation for new students. Jorge delivered an inspiring speech encouraging students to get involved, resulting in the recruitment of three new members. SGA also held a mini session with incoming freshmen to ease their transition into college.
- **Students Help Students:** During the first week of school, SGA hosted its traditional “Students Help Students” event, sharing campus resource information, and giveaways like shirts and tote bags. The event was a success, with significant student engagement, leading SGA to extend the event into the following week with a "Deluxe Edition" featuring additional activities like cotton candy and tie-dye shirts.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Bring a Friend Day:** Scheduled for August 20th at 3:00 PM, this initiative aims to attract new members by encouraging current SGA members to invite a friend to a meeting. The event has been successful in the past.
- **Club Fair:** On August 28th, SGA will participate in the club fair to promote their organization. Their booth will feature interactive games to engage students and showcase the fun and opportunities within SGA.

Jorge concluded by expressing gratitude for the opportunity to provide updates and affirmed SGA's commitment to contributing positively to the board in the future.

Classified Employee Association, Presented by Jordan Amezcua

Ms. Jordan Amezcua provided an overview of recent activities within the Classified Employee Association (CEA). She introduced the newly appointed officers for the 2024-2025 term:

- **Chair:** Kaitlyn Kessler
- **Vice Chair:** Christopher Ramirez
- **Secretary:** Johanna Megui
- **Treasurer:** Stephanie Lodge
- **DGB/CGC Representative:** Gabe Urena
- **Ex-Officio:** Jordan Amezcua

The CEA has distributed cooling towels, mugs, and shirts to promote association identity and pride. Looking ahead, the Association plans to send out a survey to gather input for organizing events and workshops as part of the annual calendar.

Action Items

**Action Item #1** – Human Resources, Consideration to Approve Candidates for Exempt Positions – Presented by Katheline Ocampo

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

Summary –

- Czarina Gallegos, Director of Financial Services & Controller
- Diahanna Burton, Talent Acquisition Coordinator
- Gabrielle Frizzell, Professor of Nursing
- Jaana Noe, Professor of Nursing
- John Adriatico, Accountant
- Mark Sims, Professor of Homeland Security
- Manizheh Nafari, Professor of Mathematics
- Miguel Rios, Director of Industrial Assessment Center, Department of Energy
- Nadrah Strong, Professor of Medical Assisting & Allied Health
- Peter Zanzonico, Professor of Biology
- Roberto Verdugo, Sports Coordinator & Assistant Softball Coach
- Tiana Crumbley, Instructional Designer
- Yolanda Benites, Professor of Biology

➤ Dennis Booth stepped out of the meeting briefly. Quorum retained.

**Action Item #2** – Consideration to Approve New Curriculum- Presented by Reetika Dhawan

Motion by Olivia Zepeda, seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, and Olivia Zepeda

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as Presented.

*Summary-*

New Certificates proposed in:

- CERT.LGS. Basic Logistics Level 1 (3 credits)
- CERT.FLR Flooring Installation Technician – Tile (2 credits)
- CERT.FITR Flooring Installation Technician – Resilient (2 credits)

**Action Item #3** – Consideration to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with

Somerton School District No. 11

This item was removed from the agenda and no action was taken.

**Action Item #4** - Consideration to Update Yuma Area Benefits Consortium (YABC) Representation-

Presented by Ross Poppenberger

Motion by Dr. MacFarland, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, and Olivia Zepeda

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* Ross Poppenberger is the Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services and a Trustee representative to Yuma Area Benefits Consortium. In support of the Trustee role, AWC wishes to appoint Czarina Gallegos, Director of Financial Services and Controller, as a Proxy to the Yuma Area Benefits Consortium Board. The appointment of Czarina Gallegos then removes Michelle Landis.

**Action Item #5** - Consideration to Affirm the Education Foundation Board Representative for Arizona Western College

Motion by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* Mandy Heil has been serving on the Education Foundation Board representing Yuma/La Paz Counties Community College District since FY2023. The college recommends Mandy Heil to continue to serve as the Education Foundation Board Representative for Arizona Western College.

➤ Dennis Booth returned to the meeting. Quorum retained.

**Action Item #6** - Consideration to Approve Technology Purchase– Presented by Ross Poppenberger  
 Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Olivia Zepeda

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* The AWC Information Technology Department is requesting renewals for the Licensing and Maintenance Agreement with Sentinel Technologies for our Meraki network and infrastructure equipment. This agreement covers all network equipment utilized by employees and students in their day-to-day operations and learning and in the support of these operations are central to business continuity and security of the college. The total cost for a five-year renewal is \$505,051.00.

**Action Item #7**- Consideration to Approve Purchases from June through August 2024- Presented by Ross Poppenberger

Motion by Maria Chavoya, seconded by Brad Sale

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Action Item as presented.

*Summary-* During the June 11, 2024, District Governing Board meeting, the Board granted the President authority to review, and approve, presented purchases at the Board approved threshold of \$250,000.00 defined in Procedure 337.1. The following necessary purchases were made to support business continuity and preparation of a success Fall semester:

Service Description	Total FY25 Expenses
AES Distributed Energy Inc	\$480,000.00
Arizona Furnishings	\$300,919.13
Arizona School Risk Retention	\$461,751.00
Campus Works	\$3,751,464.00
Genuine McCarthy Enterprises	\$1,434,966.00
Sodexo Inc & Affiliates	\$2,982,000.00
Yuma Area Benefit Consortium	\$4,504,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 13,915,900.13</b>

**Action Item #8** – Consideration to Approve Vouchers for June and July 2024– Presented by Ross Poppenberger

Motion by Maria Chavoya seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

Nay: None

Abstain: None

The **Board Approved** the Voucher as presented.

The District Governing Board has requested additional information at following board meetings to include a running value of payables and revenues. Additionally, the board would like to see the value of the account for our reserve funds and how that aligns with the target value.

Summary-

**Fiscal Status Overview:**

• **All Funds Cash Balance**

- o **Fiscal Year End:** \$74,774,031 ending 2024, compared to \$73,157,928 ending 2023.
- o **Monthly:** \$62,245,881 July 31, 2024, compared to \$66,731,539 on July 31, 2023.

• **Monthly Operating Cash Balance:** \$10,596,295 July 31, 2024, compared to \$9,098,095 on July 31, 2023.

• **Current Strength:** For the month ended July 31, 2024, revenues exceeded expenses, indicating fiscal strength.

• **Revenues vs. Expenses:** The District received 15% of anticipated revenues, with 8% of the budgeted expenditures spent.

**Fiscal Revenue Analysis:**

• **Year-over-Year Comparison Revenues:**

- o **FY24/25 Actual Revenues:** \$8,535,054
- o **FY23/24 Actual Revenues:** \$7,930,998
- o **Percentage Change:** An increase of approximately 7.6% in actual revenues.

• **Year-over-Year Comparison Expenditures:**

- o **FY24/25 Actual Expenditures:** \$4,973,493
- o **FY23/24 Actual Expenditures:** \$5,529,582
- o **Percentage Change:** A decrease of approximately 10.1% in actual expenditures.

**Enrollment Status:**

- **Current Enrollment:** 56,663 credit hours billed to students.
- **Comparison with Previous Year:** Increased from 52,509 credit hours last year.

**Dual Enrollment Highlights:**

- **Current Enrollment:** 3,953 credit hours for dual enrollment.
- **Comparison with Previous Year:** Reflects significant growth from 3,160 credit hours.

**Detailed Financial Data & Key Observations**

1. **Fiscal Strength:** Despite a decrease in cash balance, the district maintains a strong fiscal position with revenues consistently outpacing expenses.
2. **Revenue Growth:** There is a notable increase in tuition revenue due to increased enrollment.
3. **Enrollment Expansion:** The growth in dual enrollment signifies a positive trend in student participation, providing significant savings to students and fostering community engagement.

**Informational Item #1-** Presentation of CDL Tuition Differential Presented by Ross Poppenberger  
The **Board Affirmed** the Information Item as presented.

No vote was necessary.

*Summary-* The College established the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) 12-credit Certificate program

at the March 20, 2024, District Governing Board meeting. The program fees had not been confirmed and thus are absent from the approved the 2024/25 Tuition and Fee Schedule. In the same meeting, the District Governing Board confirmed their approval for the authority by the College President to review and approve a Differential Tuition rate for programs created outside of the annual cycle. With program and partnerships growing regularly, this allows the College to remain responsive to industry needs, and program funding with public funding.

The College is seeking affirmation of the President approved rates noted below.

CDL 101 Introduction to Arizona CDL Course Fee \$1248

CDL 102 Safe Operating Practices Course Fee \$1248

CDL 103 Vehicle Control Course Fee \$1248

CDL 104 General Driving and Testing Course Fee \$1248

### **President's Report**

*Advancement:* Student Newsroom with KAWC – Presented by Lori Stofft

For over 60 years, AWC has hosted internationally recognized news programs broadcasted via public radio on AM and FM stations. A recent initiative, spearheaded by Dave Riek in partnership with Learning Services, seeks to secure grant funding from the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona. The goal is to support a student-run news organization during the summer, facilitated by KAWC radio from its new state-of-the-art facility in the Matador Activity Center (MAC). This collaboration is instrumental in fostering the next generation of journalists committed to serving the community.

The Student Newsroom is a 9-week immersive program where students engage in political discussions, voter education, and community civics, interviewing local leaders and accessing community resources. Led by Kevin Kato, Communications Faculty, and Lou Gumm, KAWC Newsroom Director, this program stands out as a pioneering model for community colleges, typically only found at research universities.

Throughout the program, students directed their work autonomously, producing content, conducting research, and creating segments using both local and national resources. They focused on comprehensive reporting, asking challenging questions, and honing journalistic skills. All content is accessible on the KAWC website at <https://www.kawc.org/kawc-student-newsroom>.

The program's success is highlighted by the impact and confidence gained by the 4- student interns, who effectively communicated information and shared their voices within the community.

All Newsroom materials can be found on the KAWC website: <https://www.kawc.org/kawc-student-newsroom>

Ms. Zepeda highlighted the quality of the Spanish spoken bit shared.

### **Closing Items:**

Dr. Corr highlighted the successful start of the Fall Semester, emphasizing the exceptional student experience and the notable impact of Outreach and Early College programs in driving enrollment growth and increased degree completions.

The Strategic Planning process remains ongoing through the summer, with a target presentation date set for February 2025 to the District Governing Board.

Matador Athletics has officially begun its competition season, with Volleyball and Men's and Women's Soccer teams beginning conference play soon.

The Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) facility is set to open for the next Academy session on October 7, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for Monday, October 28, in the late afternoon.

The DeAnza Residence Hall opened its doors to students last week, providing a modern and welcoming living space that complements the world-class resources available on campus. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for October.

The College continues to offer world-class facilities across the District, providing communities with high-quality resources that rival those of state and national universities.

**Next Meeting:** The next scheduled meeting will be September 11, 2024, with the next Regular meeting conducted both in-person and via Zoom and at the Yuma Campus.

Motion by Maria Chavoya seconded by Dr. Kenneth MacFarland

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Dr. Kenneth MacFarland, Brad Sale, Maria Chavoya, Olivia Zepeda, and Dennis Booth

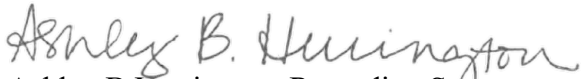
Nay: None

Abstain: None

The Board **Approved** the next meeting date and final matters of the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm

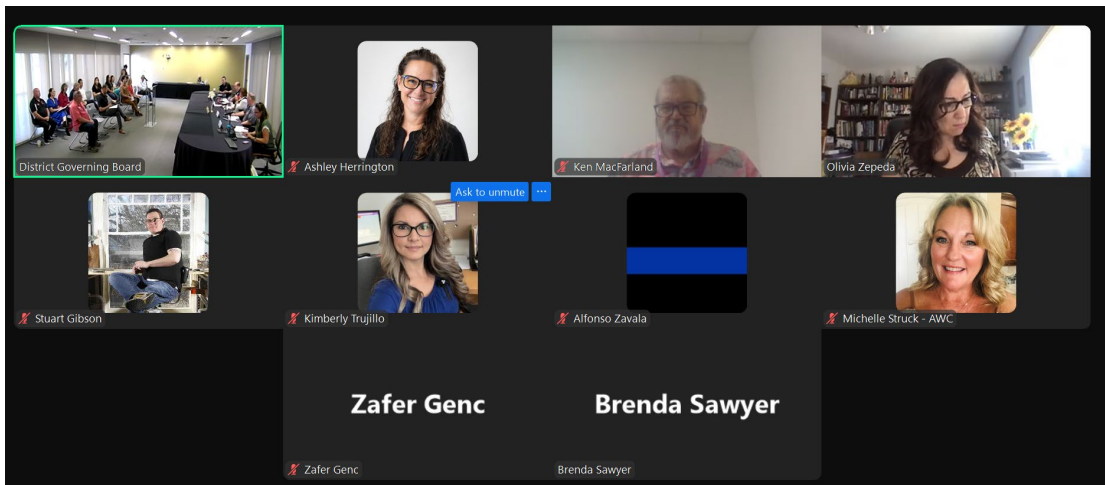
**Adjourn:** The meeting matters were complete.

Respectfully submitted,



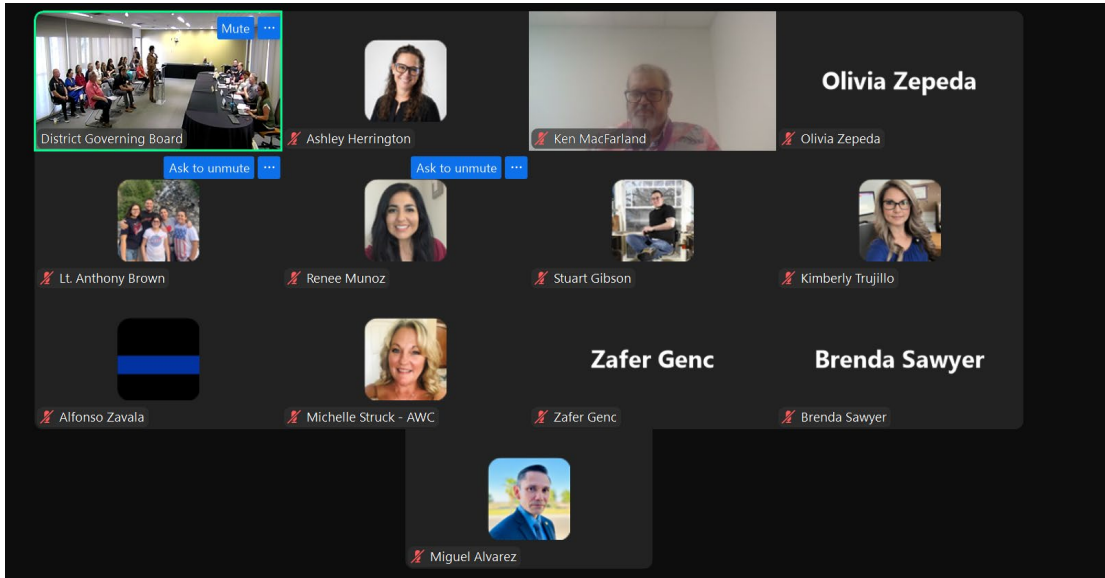
Ashley B Herrington, Recording Secretary

Attendance at 11:02 am





Attendance at 11:10 am



Attendance at 11:40 am

