

**Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program  
Agriculture Pathway Employer Advisory Board  
Minutes of October 28, 2014**

**Introduction of members and guests:** Mr., Gabriel Aguirre called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m. Self-Introductions were made and the following members were present.

**Voting Members:**

Bill Browning	Customer Representative for Lowes
James Birger	Owner Birger Ranches
Ronnie Severt	Trucking Manager Elms Equipment
Jerry Armstrong	Imperial High School

**Non-Voting Members:**

Johnny Esquer	Ag. Science teacher at Imperial High School
Luke Larson	Ag. Mechanics Teacher Holtville High School
Gabino Mendoza	Ag. 1,234, Ag Mechanics & Fabrications Teacher
Vicente Ortiz	Guidance Technician
Gabriel Aguirre	Project Coordinator, IVROP

**Purpose of meeting/announcements:**

Mr. Aguirre explained the purpose of the meeting was to have employees review the curriculum and provide input on what may be improved. An announcement was made to inform them about moving more toward an agricultural pathway.

**Review an approval of minutes:**

Mr. Browning made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2012 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Birger and carried unanimously.

**4 Industry Update/ Course Analyses**

Luke Larson explained how hours in the Course may be the reason why people may not get a certificate or have limited proficiency. Those that have Proficiency usually are the ones that have the max amount of time in the class. He elaborated on how a reason would be that they are one-year students for a two-year course. The students need to be a two-year student in order to be a program complete. He has two hours for one class. He explained that if the goal is to have students who complete every year, then we must lower the hours in order for one-year students to complete it. The difference is maintaining a four-year pathway in High School.

He went on to say that on top of wanting every student to come out college ready, it is affecting seniors due to not being taught the work ethic since not being enrolled in a ROP Class. Now seniors have classes off since they are not pushing for ROP courses. ROP Classes are not mandatory so now they have that liberty to take a class off.

Johnny Esquer explained that since incoming freshmen are enrolling into biology (college pushing) it is affecting our income of students. His program is really pushing to

develop student's leadership potential (FFA). It (college pushing from school) will impact our number of proficiency completers.

Mr. Mendoza also shared that he is having the same problem as all the other teachers (enrollment) are having. He also mentioned that Southwest may have another teacher (AG science or AG mechanics teacher)

#### **Introduction of CTE Career Readiness Certificate:**

Mr. Aguirre explained the reason why we were in need of a Career Readiness Certificate, was because it will show the proficiency of the students. This will help businesses recognize certain people that had the basic skills of employment readiness. Steps have been taken to introduce this to the business industry. As of today, CAL ENERGY already recognizes this certificate. Everyone was in agreement that the certificate would be beneficial.

#### **Articulation:**

Mr. Gabriel Aguirre presented how the tests for articulation will be free and that everyone that has taken an articulated class may test now, not just limited to seniors. He explained that this would benefit the students since they will be saving money by not having to take that class at college. Mr. Mendoza added that it was a benefit since they didn't have to take the intro classes.

#### **Motion to continue the operation of the course:**

Mr. Birger made a motion to continue the course. The motion was seconded by Mr. Browning and carried unanimously.

#### **IVROP/CTE Pathway Events:**

Mr. Gabriel Aguirre brought up the showcase event IVROP will be hosting at Casa de Manana this year. Dancing with the Stars was also another event that was mentioned. Everyone seemed please to hear that these events were already planned again and were set for the future.

Vicente Ortiz also introduced the new Agriculture Competition that will be taking place this year. He explained how it is still a tentative location, but that we may be having it at Imperial Valley College.

#### **Review and date of next meeting:**

No specific date was set for the fall meeting.

#### **Adjournment:**

Mr. Aguirre adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm