

**IMPERIAL VALLEY REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Adopted Minutes

Meeting of November 18, 2021  
Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Main Office

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Armenta called the virtual meeting to order at 6:31 a.m. The following persons were present:

**Ms. Alicia Armenta**, Board President, Imperial County Office of Education  
**Mr. Lorenzo Calderon, Jr.**, Board Member, Calexico Unified School District  
**Mr. Carlos Hernandez**, Board Member, Central Union High School District  
**Mr. Matt Hester**, Board Member, Holtville Unified School District  
**Mr. Victor Lopez**, Board Member, Imperial Unified School District  
**Mr. Raul Navarro**, Board Member, Calipatria Unified School District  
**Ms. Gloria Santillan**, Board Member, Brawley Union High School District  
Mr. Gabriel Aguirre, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP  
Mr. Luis De La Torre, Director of Business & Human Services, Imperial Valley ROP  
Ms. Adriana Hernandez, Program Manager, Imperial Valley ROP  
Mr. Edwin P. Obergfell, Superintendent, Imperial Valley ROP  
Ms. Maria Pantoja, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP  
Ms. Wendy Ramirez, Office Manager, Imperial Valley ROP  
Ms. Stephanie Sandoval, Data Manager, Imperial Valley ROP

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Hester led the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mr. Lopez and seconded by Mr. Hernandez to approve the items on Consent Agenda as presented. The consent agenda was approved with the following roll call vote: AYES: President Armenta, Trustee Calderon, Trustee Hernandez, Trustee Hester, Clerk of the Board Lopez, Trustee Navarro, and Trustee Santillan. NAYES: None. Absent: None. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- Minutes of October 21, 2021, Regular Meeting;
- October '21 Warrant Order #'s: 22150291, 22151022-22151065; 22152145-2215210; 22152886-22152944; 22154193-22154244.

**PERSONNEL:**

**APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL.** A motion was made by Mr. Hester and seconded by Ms. Santillan to approve the appointment of Mr. David Blanco, Ms. Tiffani Escalante, Ms. Viviana Mariscal, and Ms. Maribel Santellano. The appointment of personnel was approved with the following roll call vote: AYES: President Armenta, Trustee Calderon, Trustee Hernandez, Trustee Hester, Clerk of the Board Lopez, Trustee Navarro, and Trustee Santillan. NAYES: None. Absent: None. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FINDINGS RECOGNIZING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361.** A motion was made by Ms. Santillan and seconded by Mr. Lopez to approve the Findings Recognizing a State of Emergency and Authorizing Teleconferenced Meetings Pursuant to AB 361. Mr. Obergfell pointed out that the approval would approve an additional thirty days to meet via Zoom. Findings Recognizing a State of Emergency and Authorizing Teleconferenced Meetings Pursuant to AB 361 was approved with the following roll call vote: AYES: President Armenta, Trustee Calderon, Trustee Hernandez, Trustee Hester, Clerk of the Board Lopez, Trustee Navarro, and Trustee Santillan. NAYES: None. Absent: None. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE.** Mr. De La Torre referred to the Monthly Budget Update. He explained he made some adjustments to the budget. He pointed out the budgets for Ready4Life, ACE, RISE, and Prop 47, were revised. We are seeing a reduction in deficit spending. To we continue to look at improving cost recovery. We have seen an increase in services due to the usage of the IVROP vehicles. We continue to see the trend of services increasing on a one-to-one basis with our participants. We do anticipate that we will continue to increase our cost recovery in cost allocation to those programs. He shared he was working on the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report. Mr. Obergfell pointed out that our fingerprint services are increasing. He mentioned Ms. Berenise Vazquez and Ms. Viviana Mariscal, that was appointed by the board are doing a fantastic job. We are very pleased to see that our fingerprint services are increasing and are generating revenue by providing a service to the community.

**IVROP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION.** Mr. Obergfell informed the board that the IVROPCF Board had met on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The IVROPCF Board heard updates from Project AB 1111 and Project Ready for Life. ReadyforLife was approved to be a Descriptive Study project instead of an Impact Study project. The enrollment numbers were decreased. The ReadyforLife budget was decreased from a \$1,000,000 budget to a \$900,000 budget. The

The IVROPCF Board received an update on ticket sales and sponsorships. Most ticket holders kept their tickets. The foundation currently has 100 tickets available to sell. The IVROPCF Board are considering increasing the sponsorship levels. Mr. Obergfell announced Ms. Jill Nelipovich, Mr. Mike Castro, Ms. Sherrie Cowie, and Ron Ritenour, and Mr. Geof Dale will be the 2022 Stars. He mentioned the IVROPCF Board are working on recruiting additional Stars for 2022. The CTE Student Leadership Applications were approved for \$500 each for Southwest High School: Future Health Professionals, Brawley Union High School HOSA, Imperial High School SkillsUSA (Graphic Design), Southwest High School El Centro FFA, Imperial High School SkillsUSA (CTE Culinary Arts 1 & 2), Imperial High School SkillsUSA (Health), and Brawley Union High School Brawley Future Farmers of America. Mr. Obergfell shared Mr. Sam Couchman, IVROPCF Board Member received the National Philanthropy of the Year Award.

**CTE UPDATE.** Ms. Hernandez provided an update on CTE. The Regional CTE Advisory General Session meeting was well attended. The meeting was held virtually. Mr. Stephen DeWitt, Deputy Executive Director, ACTE; Ms. Priscilla Fernandez, Research Analyst of the Center of Excellence

for Labor Market Research; Ms. Priscilla Lopez, Imperial County Workforce Development Board Director; Mr. Vincent J. Signorotti, VP, Resource & Real Estate Assets, Energy Source; Mr. Efrain Silva, Dean of Economic Workforce Development, IVC, and Mr. Victor Torres, Associate Dean of Economic Workforce Development, IVC were the speakers. The Public Services Breakout Session had a total of 19 attendees. Mr. Mario Vela, Imperial County District Attorney, Mr. Luis A. Saenz, Supervisory Special Agent, Contraband Smuggling Group I, ASAC Calexico, CA-DHS/HIS, and Mr. Hon. L. Brooks Anderholt, Imperial County Superior Court Judge were speakers at the Public Services Breakout Session.

Ms. Hernandez also provided an update on the Mentoring Programs, Work-Based Learning, and Upcoming Events. She said the date might change for the AG/ICT/Energy, Environment/Building & Construction/Engineering & Architecture/Manufacturing/ Transportation Regional Advisory Breakout Session. She provided a school update on Brawley Union High School District. She reminded the board that services are provided at each individual school as requested by administration.

**WASC UPDATE.** Mr. Aguirre said Ms. Hernandez has been working on updating our profile for WASC and updated demographics and attendance information for our different sites of instruction. The updated IVROP-SLO's (Student Learning Objectives) were sent out to the management team and staff. The updated IVROP-SLO's will be updated on the IVROP website. We haven't had any additional communication with the WASC visiting team.

Mr. Lopez departed at 7:00 a.m.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Obergfell introduced Ms. Pantoja, Project WorkAbility Project Coordinator. Project WorkAbility is funded by the California Department of Education. Ms. Pantoja provided a list of services offered by WorkAbility. She announced Ms. Raquel Lopez, School-To-Career Guidance Technician has been with IVROP since 2001. Ms. Raquel Lopez provides services to the High School population. There are 311 students enrolled in the WorkAbility High School Program. The enrollment goal is 253 students. Currently services are being provided to Brawley Union High School, Calipatria High School, Central Union High School, Desert Valley High School, Imperial High School, and Southwest High School. Ms. Pantoja shared Ms. Sofia Salazar, Youth Development Specialist has been with IVROP since 2018. Ms. Sofia Salazar provides services to the Middle School students. There are currently 125 Students enrolled in the WorkAbility Middle School Program. Ms. Pantoja is grateful for the employers that provide job placement opportunities for the WorkAbility High School Program students. Ms. Pantoja shared some pictures of the students and the contact information for her staff.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**LEGISLATION:** None.

**OTHER:** **ARTICLES.** Mr. Obergfell referred to the articles in the Imperial Valley Press.

**EVENTS.** Mr. Obergfell extended an invitation to the board for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional CTE Advisory Committee Meeting Breakout Sessions.

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:**

Ms. Armenta wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Calderon had no comment.

Mr. Carlos Hernandez thanked everyone for the meeting. He said he loves to see students and teenagers join the work force and gain experience with the guidance of IVROP. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Hester thanked staff for the updates. Thanks for the presentation and kudos to everyone for their work.

Mr. Navarro thanked staff for the presentation and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Santillan thanked staff for everything they do.

Mr. Obergfell announced that at the December IVROP Board Meeting the board stipend would be placed in the agenda. As a token of our appreciation, he will be requesting to increase the current board stipend from \$130 to \$170. He informed the board that staff are working on the acronym list that was requested at last months board meeting. Mr. Obergfell informed the board that we are in the process of learning how to use the new digital sign. The IVROP Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> in observance to Thanksgiving. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next IVROP Board Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 6:30 a.m., at Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) Main Office.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 7:40 a.m.