

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

Meeting of November 21, 2019
Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Main Office

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Armenta called the meeting to order at 6:29 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. Matt Hester, Board Member, Holtville Unified School District
Mr. Jacinto “Jay” Jimenez, Board Member, Central Union High School District
Mr. Victor Lopez, Board Member, Imperial Unified School District
Mr. Raul Navarro, Board Member, Calipatria Unified School District
Ms. Carol Sassie, Board Member, Brawley Union High School District
Mr. Gabriel Aguirre, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Ms. Isabel Barraza, Clerk Typist III, Imperial Valley ROP
Mr. Luis De La Torre, Director of Business & Human Services, Imperial Valley ROP
Mr. Adrian Gonzales, Program Manager, Imperial Valley ROP
Mr. Miguel Gutierrez, Project Specialist, Imperial Valley ROP
Mr. Junior Mejia, Project Connect Participant, Imperial Valley ROP
Ms. Maria Pantoja, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Ms. Wendy Ramirez, Office Manager, Imperial Valley ROP
Ms. Viridiana Rodriguez, Development Specialist, Imperial Valley ROP
Mr. Luis Torres, Program Manager, Imperial Valley ROP

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Calderon led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None.

INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Gonzales introduced Ms. Rodriguez and Mr. Mejia. Mr. De La Torre introduced Ms. Barraza.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Jimenez and seconded by Mr. Lopez to approve the items on Consent Agenda as presented. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- Minutes of October 17, 2019, Regular Meeting;
- October ‘19 Warrant Order #'s: 20065240-20065335; 20066370-20066433; 20067349-20067398; 20068225-20068273; 20069742-20069814.
- Quarterly Investment Report – ending September 30, 2019.

PERSONNEL: **APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL.** A motion was made by Mr. Lopez and seconded by Mr. Jimenez to approve the appointment of personnel of Mr. Ricardo Padilla. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS: **ACCEPT THE CONTINUATION OF.** A motion was made by Ms. Sassie and seconded by Mr. Calderon to accept funding for Project ACE (\$215,000), Project Connect (\$1,505,363), and THP-Plus Program (\$112,387). **Motion carried unanimously.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE. Mr. De La Torre reported he is working on the First Interim Report. He pointed out a \$9,245 reduction in deficit spending due to increase in revenue for District Services. The goal is to continue to reduce deficit spending. Mr. De La Torre mentioned the cash flow can handle the deficit spending.

IVROP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. Mr. Jimenez reminded the IVROP Board that the 2020 Dancing with the Stars Gala will be held at the Saint Mary's Hall on Friday, May 8, 2020. He mentioned the DWTS Coordinator has signed the contract. He informed the IVROP Board that the IVROPCF Board was pending confirmation on an additional Star.

CTE UPDATE. Mr. De La Torre informed the Board that Mr. Juan Campos and Ms. Adriana Hernandez were attending CAROCP Conference from November 20th through November 22nd. Mr. De La Torre reviewed the 2019 Imperial Valley CTE Regional Advisory Meeting Board Meeting Update. There were forty-three attendees from Education and thirty-three attendees from Industry at the 2019 Imperial Valley CTE Regional Advisory Meeting. It was well attended. Mr. De La Torre reviewed the next steps. He provided the Board with the Calipatria High School Update. Ms. Martina Castro is the Career Specialist for Calipatria High School. Mr. Hester asked how many Calipatria Students are attending the Skills USA.

Mr. De La Torre reported the Ag Summit was held on November 8, 2019. The Ag Summit was a success. Two hundred students and thirteen teachers attended the Ag Summit. Holtville High School hosted the Ag Summit this year. Mr. Jimenez mentioned the Schaffner's Diary tour was awesome. He shared his positive experience. Mr. De La Torre mentioned Southwest High School and Holtville High School attended the Ag Summit. Mr. Jimenez stated that Ms. Jennifer Sutter was at the event.

WASC UPDATE. Mr. Aguirre provided the WASC update. He reported the work groups will be adding additional members to their teams. On December 9th the Focus Group will be meeting. Mr. Aguirre shared a template is being used to assist with the WASC process.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Gonzales, Program Manager presented on IVROP Project Connect. IVROP Project Connect is a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Services Program. IVROP Project Connect provides a large variety of services to youth between the ages of 14-24 years old who reside in Imperial County. Services are aligned directly with the 14 WIOA Youth Elements. Two hundred and sixty-five students are being served this fiscal year. Currently seventy-five percent of out of school youth and twenty-five in school youth are being served. Mr. Gonzales mentioned which youth are eligible for IVROP Project Connect. Staff are located at Brawley AJCC, El Centro IVROP and Calexico AJCC. Mr. Gonzales mentioned he is waiting for the waiver to be approved to shift the ratio to serve fifty percent out of school youth and fifty percent in school youth. Mr. Gonzales provided the list of workshops and tutoring services that are available for the youth. IVROP Project Connect advertise their services on billboards, social media, and a commercial. Mr.

Gonzales shared a clip of the commercial. Students are provided with the opportunity to do some work experience training. The hours are based on the students age. Students must follow labor laws and observe work hour limitation as stated on the work permit. IVROP Project Connect work with over eighty work experience sites. The participants are provided with additional supportive services and resource linkages.

IVROP offers the following Vocational Trainings: Security Guard, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Truck Driving, and Certified Medical Assistant (CMA). Youth participants are provided with Leadership Activities, Community Service Opportunities, and Job Shadowing Opportunities. Participants attended the CWA Youth Conference. The 2019 Imperial Valley Youth Job Fair was a successful event. There were 513 attendees. The agencies that attended were IVROP, EDD, AJCC, Columbia College, DOR, Job Corps, CET. Twenty-one employers attended the job fair. Staff did an excellent job of recruiting employers and participants to attend the 2019 Imperial Valley Youth Job Fair. Over 200 attendees received a second interview. So far 73 attendees have been hired. High School Financial Literacy Workshops have been provided to 111 Central Union High School Students and 108 Imperial High School Students. These workshops are provided in collaboration with the IVROP Career Specialists and the Instructors.

Mr. Mejia, former Project Connect Participant shared his personal experience being an IVROP Project Connect Participant. Mr. Mejia mentioned he is in his second year of college. He participated in the Work Readiness Program. Mr. Mejia currently has a Data Entry position. He feels that he has his current position due to the IVROP services (how to complete an application, how to do a resume, and the mock interview) he received. He said he was very thankful for IVROP Project Connect. He also said IVROP Project Connect is a very valuable program. He said he offered a promotion to Data Analyst. He is happy he was finally able to go back to school. He said IVROP Project Connect Staff continue to follow-up with him. He is very thankful for the IVROP Project Connect Staff that believed in him. He is looking forward to going back to UC Berkeley.

CORRESPONDENCE: Ms. Armenta reviewed the letters and thank you card from Brawley Union High School, Simon Canalez, Superintendent; Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program, Alicia Armenta, Board President and Advocates for Physicians' Rights.

LEGISLATION: None.

OTHER: **ARTICLES.** Ms. Armenta reviewed the Imperial Valley Press articles dated October 13, 14, 18, 21, 24, 29, 2019 and November 2, 8, 2019.

EVENTS. Mr. De La Torre mentioned the Middle Schools are interested in participating in the IVROP Showcase this year.

Mr. Lopez departed at 7:37 a.m.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:

Ms. Armenta said the IVROP Project Connect commercial is impressive. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She thanked Ms. Barraza for attending the IVROP Board Meeting.

Mr. Calderon, Jr. said it was a good presentation. He looks forward to hearing back from Mr. Mejia in the future. He said the presentation from Mr. Mejia was a good reminder of what we are doing.

Mr. Hester said it was a great presentation. He said the Imperial Valley CTE Regional Advisory Meeting was great. He mentioned it was a great format, great discussion, and good presenters.

Mr. Jimenez pointed out the unemployment rate has decreased in the Imperial Valley. He said coaches and mentors are important in life. He said discipline is hard to teach. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Navarro thanked Mr. Gonzales and Mr. Mejia for their presentation. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Sassie said it makes her proud to help these kids. She congratulated everyone.

Mr. De La Torre said Mr. Edwin P. Obergfell sends his greetings, holiday greetings and thanked Management Staff.

NEXT MEETING: The next IVROP Board Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 6:30 a.m., at Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) Main Office.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:44 a.m.