

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

Meeting of March 13, 2025
Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Main Office

CALL TO ORDER: Alicia Armenta called the meeting to order at 6:30 a.m. The following persons were present:

Alicia Armenta, Board President, Imperial County Office of Education
Fabiola Calderon, Calexico Unified School District
Deby Ellet, Board Member, Central Union High School District
Elvira Hernandez, Board Member, Imperial Unified School District
Larry Iten, Holtville Unified School District
Raul Navarro, Board Member, Calipatria Unified School District
Gloria Santillan, Clerk of the Board, Brawley Union High School District
Gabriel Aguirre, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Vicente Ayala, Director of Business & Human Services, Imperial Valley ROP
Chantelle Gerardo, Program Manager II, Imperial Valley ROP
Edwin P. Obergfell, Superintendent, Imperial Valley ROP
Maria Pantoja, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Wendy Ramirez, Office Manager, Imperial Valley ROP
Stephanie Sandoval, Data Manager, Imperial Valley ROP

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alicia Armenta led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None.

INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Board Members and the Senior Cabinet team introduced themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Larry Iten and seconded by Gloria Santillan to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- Minutes of February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting;
- February '25 Warrant Order #'s: 25310097-25310174; 25310946-25311027; 25311744-25311777; 25313155-25313217.

PERSONNEL: ***APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL.*** A motion was made by Elvira Hernandez and seconded by Gloria Santillan to approve the appointment of personnel for Crystal Carrasco, Jacob Castañeda, and Fernando Hurtado. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

RESIGNATION. A motion was made by Gloria Santillan and seconded by Fabiola Calderon to approve the resignation of Alejandro R. Paniagua, Jr. and Daniel Valdez. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS: **2nd INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FY 2024-25.** Vicente Ayala reviewed the 2nd Interim Financial Report for FY 2024-25. Edwin P. Obergfell commended Vicente Ayala. He thanked the management team and clerical team. **Motion carried unanimously.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE. Vicente Ayala referred to the Monthly Budget Update. He said the Monthly Budget Update reflected the 2nd Interim Financial Report. He informed the board that fifty project completion letters would be given to staff. Vicente Ayala shared a visual that demonstrated the non district funding at 85% and ROP district funded at 15%. This was a reminder that most of the IVROP funding is grant funding. The Imperial Unified School District and Central Union High School District will not continue with the current District Services Agreement (DSA). Meadows will not continue with their current instructor.

IVROP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board the IVROPCF board met on Tuesday, March 11th. The IVROPCF 16th Dancing with the Stars (DWTS) Gala was scheduled for Friday, May 2, 2025. He announced the IVROPCF 16th DWTS Stars: Robert Amparano, Councilman, City of Imperial; Danny Arguelles, Orange Coast Title; Eric Hanson, President and Owner, Imperial Valley Air Conditioning; Alex Hauger, Area Vice President, Gallagher Insurance-El Centro Office; Kimberly Celest Ortega, Big J Fencing Inc.; Keila Rodriguez, Meadows Union School District Superintendent, and Rebecca Terrazas-Baxter, Assistant County Executive Officer, County of Imperial. The IVROPCF Board consists of Sam Couchman, IVROPCF President; Eric Rodriguez, Vice President; Marianne Fenley, Secretary; and Edwin P. Obergfell, Treasurer. Wendy Ramirez is the IVROPCF Volunteer and Anne Irigoyen is the DWTS Coordinator. The IVROPCF Scholarship Applications are due tomorrow, March 14, 2025. IVROPCF Scholarship awards are provided to the following five categories: Scholastic Achievement, Exemplary Community Involvement, IVROP/Career Technical Education (CTE) Student, General and Empowerment Youth. Awards range from \$1,000, \$750, and \$500. The IVROPCF also awards ten CTSOs \$1,000 scholarships to CTSO within Imperial County school districts. This year a Louis Vuitton Handbag, a Louis Vuitton duffle bag, and a Yeti ice chest will be raffled at the 2025 IVROPCF DWTS Gala. Vesper Society is a Diamond Sponsor (\$10,000), State Farm Marianne Valenzuela Fenley is a Ruby Sponsor (\$5,000), we had an anonymous Ruby Sponsor (\$5,000); KXO is a Sapphire Sponsor (\$2,500), and Victoria Homes is a Sapphire Sponsor (\$2,500). Fernando Lynn, Desert Oasis Barber Instructor, has been selected as the 2025 Teacher of the Year. Fernando Lynn will be receiving two free tickets to attend the IVROPCF 16th DWTS Gala.

CTE UPDATE. Chantelle Gerardo provided the CTE Update. CTE provided Central Union High School support with their advisory board. The IVROPCF Scholarships are due March 14th at 5:00 p.m. The Career Specialist assisted with outreach and promoting the scholarship. Fernando Lynn, Barbering Instructor, has been selected as the Teacher of the Year. The Outstanding Student interviews are scheduled for March 17th through March 21st via Zoom. The CTE Teachers nominated one or two students. A total of seventy-one applicants were nominated for Outstanding Student. Holtville, ICOE, and Brawley MOAs are pending. Meadows will not continue with the Ag. teacher. Central Union High School will not move forward with the A-G Career Specialist. Chantelle Gerardo provided information on upcoming events.

WASC UPDATE. Gabriel Aguirre provided an update on the WASC accreditation process. He shared the current status of the Action Plan and highlighted recent progress. An instructor meeting was held on March 6th to inform instructional staff of updates and ensure alignment with the goals outlined in the Action Plan. The Mid-Cycle Report is scheduled for submission by June 1st. The Action Plan is currently under evaluation to assess progress and identify any necessary adjustments moving forward.

PRESENTATION: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

LEGISLATION: None.

OTHER: **ARTICLES.** Edwin P. Obergfell referred to the Imperial Valley Press articles dated February 12, 2025.

EVENTS. Edwin P. Obergfell extended an invitation to the board to the events.

IVROP/IVROPCF NEWSLETTERS. None.

**BOARD AND
SUPERINTENDENT
COMMENTS:**

Alicia Armenta thanked Chantelle Gerardo for the presentation.

Fabiola Calderon thanked Vicente Ayala and the team for the 2nd Interim Financial Report. She announced she is selling raffle tickets for the IVROPCF Louis Vuitton handbag, Louis Vuitton duffle bag, and the Yeti ice chest.

Deby Ellett thanked Chantelle Gerardo for her presentation at Central Union High School District. She mentioned that the ambassadors shared their experiences, which were very impressive.

Elvira Hernandez had no comment.

Larry Iten had no comment.

Raul Navarro thanked IVROP Administration and staff. He said they are doing a great job.

Edwin P. Obergfell shared IVROP and IVROPCF are preparing to transition from Microsoft Windows 10 to Microsoft Windows 11. Vesper made a generous donation to update hardware and software. He thanked ICOE for the collaborative effort to assist with technology. Vesper also donated funds for EAR. Strive is in its last year. Edwin reminded the board that staff leave because of competitive wages, job security, and career opportunities. The turnover rate has slightly decreased. Raul Navarro thanked Edwin P. Obergfell for recognizing the staff. Edwin P. Obergfell said staff are working on the organizational goals. Edwin P. Obergfell reminded the board that he will be retiring in June 2026. He thanked the board and wished them a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

NEXT MEETING: The next IVROP Board Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:30 a.m., at Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) Main Office.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:55 a.m.