

BOC Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday October 10, 2006
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Present:	John Darst	Boc Dept Chair
	James R. Showalter	Showlow Bluff Contractor
	Peggy Belknap	Dean Worforce Developement
	Jeanne Swarhout	VP, Learning
	Leslie Collins	Advisor
	Thomas Montoya	Navapache Hospital Maintenance Sup.
	Robyn Mercer	Major League Electric Contractors
	Anna-Marie Rea	AMR Building Contractors

I. Welcome

Peggy opened the meeting with a greeting and a thanks to everyone for attending. After everyone introduced themselves, the meeting got started.

Thomas Montoya indicated that Navapache Hospital has an incentive program for employees who want to further their education. They [Navapache] will reimburse the students for tuition and books if they maintain good grades and finish the course.

Anna – Marie Rea interjected that the biggest problem was finding and keeping qualified personnel. (this seemed to be the common theme throughout the meeting) With their company, entry level tradespersons can start out at \$16.00 per hour and if they show any expertise move up very easily. They (AMR Builders) were paying up to \$30.00 per hour. Still, at that rate, it was hard to find reliable people. Anna, who is a member of C.A.N.A (Contractors Association of Northern Arizona) suggested that a Representative of C.A.N.A. be present at our next meeting.

John Darst interjected and concurred with the previous speakers that job ethics was a problem and that part of the new curriculum is how to comport yourselves with your employer and fellow workers.

Robyn Mercer of Major League Electric concurred with Anna-Marie that qualified help was a problem and she would like to see the BOC dept become a pool of future trades-people.

James Showalter presented the plan for a purchase of facilities for the college. He asked at this time that we keep the information confidential if possible for the time being. He presented a scenario of the coming next 20 years of the population shift to the White Mountains and the current laid back attitude of contractors and workers here is going to come to an end. His research showed an increase of 1,000,000 people in rural Arizona in the next 25 years. Contractors in flagstaff, Prescott, Sedona, Phoenix see the writing on

the wall of where the jobs are and they (the jobs) are here in the White Mountains. Mr. Showalter wants to see an effort to reach out to the High school students here and have them and the High school counselors take another look at the construction trades as a viable career where a lot of money can be made. The stereotype of the construction tradesmen has to be changed. The feeling is that unless you have a degree and a white-collar job, you can't make any real money. He feels that catching them early while they're still in school is the way to go.

The next meeting of the Advisory Board was not scheduled at this time. Mr. Showalter was going to a meeting with the NPC President after this advisory board meeting to discuss the BOC facilities.