



ACTE AZ PURPOSE

To **CONNECT** all CTE professionals with the network, resources, and abilities they need to make a meaningful difference

ACTE AZ Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2025

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Executive Board Members Present: Heather Webb, Jennifer Kaufman-Fourness, Jim Greishaber, Patrick Clawson, Lori Luzier, Michelle Crary, Cathy Bagby, Patti Pastor

Board of Directors Members Present: Kevin Imes (ADE), Michelle Martinez (ADE), James Kaltenbach (AATA), Eric Sorenson (ACOVA), John Morgan (AOAC), Brandeice Garza (AZHCEA), Dennis Esparza for Brad Whitaker (ATIEA), Jennifer Brooks (AZCTECC), Lisa Draper (University Liaison), Michael Terry (Business Partnerships), Amy West (CTED's)

Fellows Present: Debbie MacKinney, John Lebsock, Heidi Resh, Dr. Kathryn Strevell, Kristina Guy, Lisa Weisenfluh, Moises Centeno, Page Quinn (Coordinator)

ACTE AZ Employees Present: Stephen Weltsch, Shelly York, Courtney Cook, Amber Gloria

Quorum Established: Heather established there was a quorum present. Meeting was called to order by Heather Webb at 4:02 pm.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda: Heather called for a Motion to Adopt the Agenda; Michelle Crary makes a Motion to Adopt the Agenda, Cathy Bagby seconded and there being no opposition, motion carries.

**ACTE AZ practices a flexible order agenda allowing items to be taken out of order at the president's discretion.*

Welcome: Heather welcomes everyone and gives the President updates and the Board of Director updates.

Heather welcomed everyone and thanked them for their dedication and time during this busy season.



Motion to Approve Consent Agenda:

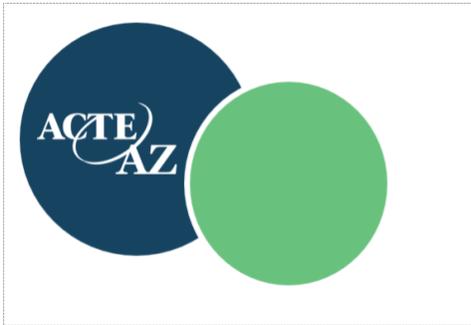
- Approval of October 20, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Treasurer’s Report and Budget Update

Heather indicated that Stephen had sent the October Board Minutes and Treasurer’s Report as a pre-read and asked if there were questions. There being no questions, Heather called for a Motion to Approve Consent; Jennifer Kauffman makes a Motion to Approve Consent, seconded by Lori Luzier and there being no opposition, motion carries.

- ❖ Per Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure, all items on the Consent Agenda will be taken with one vote. Board members can request an item to be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

ADE Update: Michelle reported first and said they are in the middle of monitoring. Additionally, there are three retirees being honored this month: Cathy Bowersock who has been with the ADE for 25 years, Kendra McCullough and Cathy Reed. Additionally, gearing up for Midwinter and Summer Conference. Stephen interjected and thanked Michelle and her team for the heavy lift happening now recruiting great speakers for summer conference. Michelle said that they are using survey feedback to help shape this year’s conference.

Kevin stated ADE is busy wrapping the technical skills assessment and 80% of the students in the state passed with 70% or better. ADE is in the process of planning ACTE AZ Midwinter Conference with Stephen and believe we have a very great lunch presentation planned. We will have input from our industry leaders, on the topic of professional skills. Additionally, we are working quickly on developing a semiconductor program. We are working with our industry partners with the curriculum and standards that have been built at Chandler and West MEC to get this program up and running very soon.



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Affiliate and Special Group Representatives Reports

- **Arizona Agriculture Teacher Association (AATA):** Jim Kaltenbach said the Arizona AG Teacher Premier Series Course is approved! 89 Ag teachers participated in the 7 different FFA Summit Conferences in September and October. While teachers met and participated in training, 2,058 FFA members worked their way through freshman, sophomore and junior curriculum delivered by State FFA Officers. 73,000 people attended the 97th FFA National Conventions. Arizona had 3 Top 10 CDE teams, including second place in Parliamentary Procedure. 45 Arizona students earned their American Degrees.

Dr. Bobby Torres who is President of ACTE is still claimed by Arizona Ag. He represented Arizona wonderfully at the ACTE National Conference. The new President of The National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE) is our own Bethany Matos. Arizona is well represented.

Many FFA students will be helping at the Arizona National Livestock Show over New Years. The State Pinnacle and Peoria Mini Camp is happening January 23-24. The Regional EDE contests around the state in late January/early February, State CDE's at US is February 20-21, and Regional LDE's are in April. Our State LDE's Conference is June 4-6.

- **Arizona Business Education Association (ABEA):** Hector Reyes - No report provided.
- **ACOVA: Eric Sorenson** brought holiday greetings and stated they will have some mentoring minutes that will be coming out shortly. ACOVA sent a survey out to all directors to help with data reporting as a result of the last mentoring minutes session with Charles Jarvis. ACOVA is hoping to help directors utilize reports out of student information systems. Rebecca Robinson is heading that up through their critical issues. Visions was a great conference—lots of folks there to share ideas with. Gearing up for the Midwinter Conference with ACTE AZ, the Fellows and fundraising. If I remember correctly, we are close to \$10,000 in the scholarship fund so that's exciting.
- **Arizona Occupational Administrators Council (AOAC):** John Morgan said they are in heavy discussions with the Commerce Authority and OEO at the community college level on CTE things. There are a lot of concerns stemming around how much is coming to Arizona, how many unfunded mandates that we are all having to face. The costs are staggering for technology needed. The Commerce Authority is talking about creating potentially three major accelerator hubs in the state where perhaps schools can pitch in to use. Our focus is

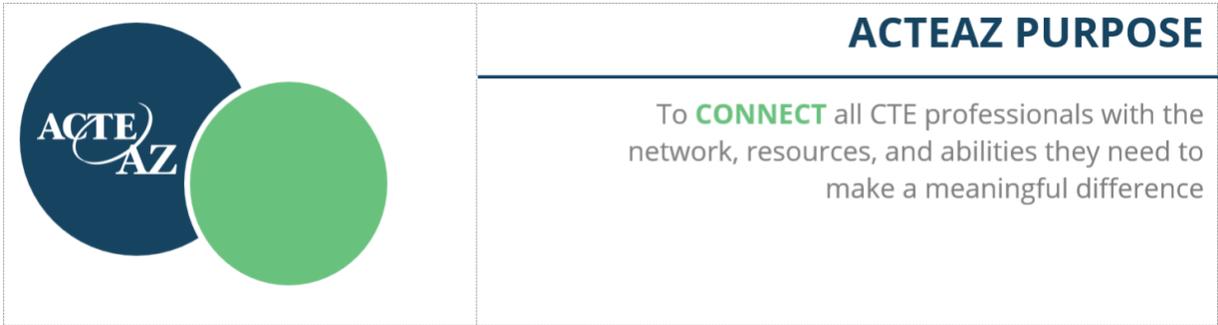


the big three which are manufacturing, healthcare and construction. The movement is those three are staggering and we already have workforce shortages in them.

- **Arizona Marketing Educators (AME):** Mikayla Cerwinske - No report provided
- **Arizona Technology Industry Education Association (ATIEA):** Dennis Esparza reported for Brad Whitaker that they are working on rebuilding membership. They are also beginning fundraising for scholarships for summer conference; considering a skeet shoot in the Spring.
- **Arizona Health Careers Education Association (AZHCEA):** Brandeice Garza said AzHCEA is excited to continue to support ACTE AZ at the summer conference with sessions. Brandeice relayed that Krista Reiling from AzHCEA is a region representative and a Fellow with ACTE AZ. AZHOSA Fall Leadership Conference is November 5th and they are excited to meet with Arizona teachers to lay the groundwork needed to continue momentum of support. They are again planning multiple sessions and hope to bring some new speakers and sessions along with the tried-and-true popular sessions.
- **AZ CTE Curriculum Consortium:** Jennifer Brooks said the AZCTECC team wishes to congratulate all of the 2025 Career Tech Vision Arizona presenters, award nominees and winners. Jennifer asked that we visit the CTE Curriculum Consortium today for high-quality instructional resources and curriculum for all program areas: <https://cte.ctecaz.org/>.

The Spring 2026 AZCTECC Curriculum Development Grant window is open! Funding teacher-crafted projects, units or lesson bundles through grants ranging from \$250 - \$1,500. Visit <https://ctecc.my.canva.site/azctecc-curriculum-grant> for all details and a link to the application. The Spring 2026 Scope & Sequence event will be held on February 19-20, 2026 at West-MEC in Glendale, AZ. They look forward to welcoming teachers from the Automation & Robotics, Cabinetmaking, Carpentry, Film & TV Production and Mental & Social Health Technician program areas. Nominations are open through January 30th and ADE Premier Series credit is offered to participants with deficiencies on their certificate. To nominate a teacher, visit <https://forms.gle/CdM5jSgy6Aa1C1Q7>

- **Business Partnerships:** Michael Terrey reported that 150 high school students from five different automotive CTE programs attended the GOODGUYS “Careers in Hot Rodding” Event. A 1.5 hour panel discussion with custom car builders and other members of the



industry followed by awarding a West-MEC Southwest campus automotive student the BATMAN Tool Scholarship (A \$5,000 Snap on Toolbox with tools). After the sessions ended, the students toured the car show with guides to interact with the show participants. Other news is Northland Pioneer Community College added a satellite Automotive Program at their Holbrook Campus.

- **CTE University Liaison:** Lisa Draper - No report provided.
- **Career Technical Education District (CTED):** Amy West said the CTED Superintendent meeting is Wednesday, December 17. Nothing else to report currently.
- **Fellows Coordinator:** Paige Quinn said the fellows are working hard on auction items and attendees will be pleased with uniqueness of items. Items are still being received, and you can reach out to Paige or Joel Wakefield from ACOVA to contribute donations. Currently, they are in the process of planning the issues day that will take place at the Midwinter Conference. The fellows will have the opportunity to sit with different leaders from ACOVA and talk about critical issues and how, through their projects, work to address those issues.
- **Retiree Committee Co-Chairs:** Jim Grieshaber and Lisa Doll will be meeting with Stephen Thursday, December 18th to talk about how to best support ACTE AZ with scholarship readings, awards and anything else needed. Jim stated that the committee will meet in January at West-MEC to talk about how to support the work of ACTE AZ.
- **Financial Review Chair:** Dennis Esparza stated that they know this is a very busy time for staff, but he will meet with Jim Hawk in January to set a date, so the financial review is ready for summer conference.

Motion to Approve ACTE AZ Awards: Patrick outlined the Outstanding Nonprofit Organizations of the Year Award and the Affiliate Award, emphasizing their significance in celebrating the significant contributions to CTE. Stephen elaborated on the awards' criteria and the potential for multiple affiliates to be recognized. Heather called for a Motion to Approved New or Revised ACTE AZ Awards. Jim Greishaber made a Motion to Approve New/Revised ACTE AZ Awards, Jennifer Kaufman seconded and there being no opposition, motion carries.



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2025 Vision: Heather Webb and Stephen Weltsch Heather stated that there were over 6,500 attendees at Visions with 200 participants from Arizona and 20 presenters. She said it was cool to hear all the state updates and brag on Arizona. Stephen added that Heather's poem reflecting Arizona was well done.

Stephen said that in alignment with our Program of Work to strengthen resources and understand the challenges of high-quality programming in rural communities, we offered a session to solicit ideas from other states about challenges and to curate some better resources to offer here in Arizona. Jim and Stephen will be visiting Kingman and Lake Havasu in January thanks to Amy. Heather added that the issues of transportation and access, work-based learning, teacher recruitment and retention are not unique to Arizona and we share concerns nationwide. This was a big takeaway for me and then the excitement behind asking ACTE for a rural division.

ACTE AZ had two national award nominee finalists, Curt Bertelsen for the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Tina Gudvangen for Administrator of the Year. Even though they did not win they were our shining stars in the crowd. Stephen added that Travis Black and a West-MEC student team all received national awards and recognition which is super exciting and well deserved!

Lastly, but not least, Arizona is a Gold Standard Quality Association recipient award winner again!

ACTE AZ Awards: Patrick Clawson, Stephen Weltsch – Stephen said that the Awards are due in January this year so now is the time to submit. There are so many great candidates that can be written up. As we discussed earlier, the Affiliate Award has been changed and is no longer just one winner. All affiliates have the opportunity to be recognized. Shelly and Stephen will be reaching out after winter recess to help affiliates where needed.

Midwinter Launch & Preparations: Heather Web, Stephen Weltach, Shelly York

Stephen said there are about 200 registrations to date, over 70 session proposals submitted and with the Executive Boards' help, we narrowed it down to the 24 sessions we can accommodate. We will have a draft program out shortly.

Other sessions that were not chosen were asked to submit to present at summer conference. It was thought that summer conference was a better audience for that type of session.

We are still looking for exhibitors, so reach out to Shelly or Stephen with any great folks you might work with in your district. We need two more.



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We will be doing an “unconference session” at midwinter to gather summer conference feedback and share ideas. We have a contract for 2026 – 2028 but this information will shape the 2029 conference. We want to look at keynote speakers to better meet the needs of CT professionals in the state. Please extend grace and patience at midwinter as we move to an automatic check-in. It will be our test for summer conference to streamline check in.

Connection Conference Planning: Stephen Weltsch, Shelly York

2026 – July 9-15; 2027 – July 8-14; 2028 – July 7-12 are the contract dates we are signed for. We are currently forming a special committee to explore dates and formats for 2029.

Session Proposals are Live – Extended to January 7, 2026. Shelly said we normally have 80 to 100 session proposals submitted for Summer Conference and this year we only have 12. Collecting proposals this way helps ADE, so they don’t have to find so many presenters and sessions.

Please help with getting more exhibitors and conference sponsors for the summer conference. Currently we have 12 exhibitors for summer conference. Companies are doing their budgets this time of year so now is the time to recruit! Registration for summer conference will launch in March and then hotel registration will launch in April.

Bylaws Considerations: Stephen Weltsch and Shelly York

Changes for the Bylaws areas follow:

- Determining of a Quorum
- Proxy Voting of Affiliates and Representatives
- ASA and AZSCA
 - Because we are so inclusive, our board is like 23 members which makes determining a quorum scary at times. We would like to determine a quorum by at least the majority of our elected officers. Everyone is still voting. Look for language change to come out in January.
 - We’ve been allowing proxy voting but it’s not officially in our bylaws. Arizona is a state where you can do proxy voting, but its needs to be in your bylaws so we are working to formalize this.
 - We want to make sure all voices are heard and that we include all important stakeholder groups. That includes Arizona School Administrators and Arizona School Counselor Association. ASA recently created a CTE division so that can

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be more CTE inclusive so we would like to have representation from them. We used to have a representative from AZSCA in the past but have had executive board representation from Lori and Heather for the last several years, it really is setting us up for success to have this group represented. AZSCA could pick a representative. These two groups could determine how the term looks, etc. Our bylaws already include the president appoints a member from the current groups. We would just add these two names to the list. Look for language change to come out in January.

Motion to Adjourn: Heather Webb

There being no further business, Heather called for a Motion to Adjourn. Jim Grieshaber made a Motion to Adjourn, and Amy West seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Submitted by:

Patti Pastor