

Rio Colorado Chapter Board Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2025

Sanguinetti Museum and Gardens

240 S. Madison Avenue

Yuma, Arizona 85364

1. **Call to Order:** 5:30 pm by Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson

2. **Roll Call:** Present: Bruce Gwynn, Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, Tom Rushin, Thelma Lundy, Tom Rush, Emilia Cortez-Sharkey

Absent: Tom Rush, Sue Ann Willen, Faron Owl, Dr. Ellen Riek, Dr. Monica Ketchum-Cárdenas

3. **Call to the Public:** No response

4. **Approval of minutes:** Minutes for the July 16, 2025, Rio Colorado Chapter (RCC) Board of Directors meeting were approved. (Bruce Gwynn, Thelma Lundy)

5. **President's Remarks:** Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson thanked everyone for being present. She gave updates on the Arizona Historical Society and National History Day.

On behalf of Dr. Ellen Riek and Dr. Monica Ketchum-Cárdenas, Dr. Elliott-Nelson shared that Drs. Riek and Ketchum-Cárdenas along with Tymmi Woods presented on Open Educational Resources and the Yuma History app at the 4th annual AZ HSI Summit last Friday and got a great response from those who attended the presentation. Drs. Riek and Ketchum-Cárdenas will be meeting virtually with Dr. David Turpie, the AHS Chief Communications Officer and Editor of the Journal of Arizona History, on November 20th to discuss a collaborative “release party” for the Yuma History app and Yuma Walking Tour booklet. The Yuma Walking Tour booklet was funded by Mark Hansberger. They are seeking funding for the 3rd year of the app (around \$6K beginning March 2026) and are welcome to suggestions for this funding. AWC had funded the initial development costs.

Students in their ENG 102 and History classes are working on an impressive list of research projects for posting in the app. Drs. Riek and Ketchum-Cárdenas are talking with others on sharing this information.

Bruce Gwynn talked about preparations for the next Redondo Day and the locations that have been discussed.

6. Rio Colorado Chapter Board Members Needed. Board members were asked to reach out to individuals interested in serving on the RCC Board.

7. **Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Update** – Emilia Cortez-Sharkey reported on the festivals that the YCNHA is doing and that the YCNHA bylaws have been updated.

8. **Announcements and matters for consideration at future board meetings.** The next RCC Board meeting will be held on December 9, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

The RCC Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.

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Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, President of the Rio Colorado Chapter Board

The RCC of the Arizona Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the administration of its program and services as prescribed by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, or alternative formats, by contacting AHS-Yuma at 928-782-1842. Request should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.