

STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 1, 2026 • 2:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

Members Present:	Vance Checketts, Jamie Morningstar, Vic Hockett, Rich Nye, Andrea Ibanez, Kat Potter, Chiao-ih Hui, and Rebecca Benner
Members Absent:	
Staff:	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Lynn Reichert, Allison Spencer, Kellie Yates, Clarence Ames, Jana Alexander, Shelby Averett, Emma Casey, Madeline Page, and Viena Zeitler
Visitors:	

I. WELCOME

- a. Welcome from Vance Checketts, Board Chairperson
 - i. Checketts opened the meeting at 2:06pm.
- b. Approve STEM AC meeting minutes Vance Checketts
 - i. As there was not a quorum at the beginning of the meeting, approval of meeting minutes was delayed and will be voted on at the July meeting.
- c. Board STEM share outs Vance Checketts
 - i. Andrea Ibanez volunteered at the STEM Fest at University Place. Would love to see the STEM Ac and its board volunteering at this event in the future. Averett explained that we do have connections with the southern STEM Fest.
 - ii. Vic Hockett reported about the STEM Pathways program, Intermountain Health are doing early exposure to health care STEM careers and spoke about a new internship program starting in the fall. AI and emerging energy partnerships will be shared.
 - iii. Checketts is launching a new company in Utah Work HMY+T with the non-profit residing in New York.
- d. Personnel changes (Tanner, Julianne, Donna) Vance Checketts
 - i. Checketts spoke on the personnel changes at the STEM Action Center, introducing Tanner and the new marketing intern, Madeline. Julianne and Donna are leaving for new opportunities elsewhere.
- e. FY 2026 budget review Sue Redington
 - i. Redington reported on the budget summary for FY26. There were no questions regarding the year-end closing process or budget. Redington will send out the data collected for the year with the board.

II. PRESENTATIONS & BOARD DISCUSSION

- a. Legislative session (15 minutes) Tami Goetz/Kat Potter
 - i. Potter gave an update on the legislative session. Both one-time funding requests did get funded. Almost every division in CCE was cut by 5%, including STEM. Next steps are to look at the coming year to strategize and meet with legislators to be sure they understand the impact that the STEM Action Center has on communities. This is also the year that CCE has a budget accountability

audit. This will be another opportunity for the STEM Action Center to differentiate from the USBE. Goetz will pull together the talking points from the legislator meetings to share with the board.

b. STEM Foundation (15 minutes)

Allison Spencer

- i. Nine programs are funded by the Foundation (Hydroponics - Green Our Planet, STEM School Opportunity Fund, STEM AC Satellite HUB Program, Innovation Hub, STEM on Stage, STEM Fest, STEM in Motion, Tinker Totes, mySTEM), and we will hit \$1M by the end of this fiscal year, which hasn't happened since before COVID. We have applied for \$70,000 in grants for FY27, as well as looking to partner with the NBA, Canyons Innovation Center partnership, and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (early literacy program). The STEM Best Practices conference this year is in Price and Ogden – Valentina has brought in several thousand in In-Kind donations for prizes for the teachers.

c. Strategic plan (10 minutes)

Tami Goetz

- i. Goetz reviewed the new priority goals that came out of the 5-year strategic planning. Tami then asked the Board for feedback over the next week or two to fine-tune the plan before sending back to CCE in July. Goetz then answered questions from the Board. Vic Hockett was very happy with the dashboard and ties to industry.

d. Events (10 minutes; Best Practices, Innovation Lab)

Shelby Averett/Tami Goetz

- i. Averett reported on the next events – STEM Best Practices (100 for Price and 420 for Ogden), with the Utah Historical Society for the museum opening, Show Up for Teachers tabling, CHILL OUT event in August, and Cedar City Rural Schools conference in July. Goetz brought up the STEM Innovation Lab convening in partnership with STEM Connector at the Davis Catalyst Center on June 10.

e. Miscellaneous business

Vance Checketts

- i. Checketts requested that invites be sent to the Board for events we are hosting or co-hosting to keep the events on the radar of Board members.
- ii. Checketts would also like a level reset with the Board regarding CCE so that the Board knows what else is going on at the departmental level.
- iii. Checketts asked what the Board can be doing for the STEM Action Center for this new fiscal year and strategic goals. Goetz will think and send out an email with possible suggestions and needs.
- iv. Talk with Board members about time remaining or members expiring soon. Checketts and Goetz will be talking with each Board member individually.

II. WRAP UP AND ADJOURNMENT

Vance Checketts

- a. As there were no further business, Checketts adjourned the meeting at 3:36pm.