

EAST CENTRAL BOCES BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2021
7:00 p.m. (Over Zoom)

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Nancy Barden, President; roll call was taken; the following Board members were in attendance:

Doug Purdy – Agate
Deanna Schrock – Arickaree
Nancy Barden – Bennett
Shawna Calhoon - Bethune
Stacie Perez - Burlington
Allison Harris - Byers
Wesley Thompson – Deer Trail
Julia Boger – G/H

Janet Kravig - Karval
Justin Golding – Kit Carson
Christine Herrick - Liberty
Wendy Pottorff - Limon
Diana Elliott - Strasburg
Jerry Clapper - Stratton
Doug Vondy - Woodlin

Those Board members not in attendance were:

Renae Saffer – Arriba/Flagler
Jake Pelton – Cheyenne Wells

Dustin Weyerman – Idalia
Kurt Wassail - Kiowa

Those Superintendents in attendance were:

John Weigel – Arriba/ Flagler
Robin Purdy – Bennett
Tom Turrell – Byers
Randy Holmen – Cheyenne Wells
B.J. Buchmann – Deer Trail
Terry Weber – Genoa/Hugo
Myles Johnson - Idalia

Sarah Nuss - Karval
Rhonda Puckett - Liberty
Rob McMullen - Limon
Monica Johnson - Strasburg
Kandy Davis - Stratton
Chris Whetzel - Woodlin

Those Superintendents not in attendance were:

Malinda Walls – Kiowa
Lisa Weigel – Arickaree
John Haddan – Bethune
Chuck Smitley - Burlington

Jerry Monks – Hi-Plains
Silvia McNeely - Kiowa
Robert Framel – Kit Carson

Others in attendance were: Jason Westfall, Beverly Blagg, Mitzi Swiatkowski, Lorie Coonts, Moira Hawks, Jarred Masterson, Megan Eikleberry and Craig Bailey.

II. Approval of Agenda

Doug Vondy - Woodlin, made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Diana Elliott – Strasburg. Jason did have an addition to the Agenda, under Consent Agenda B. Business, item iv. He would like to add Amend Federal Application Narrative. Doug Vondy – Woodlin, would like to rescind his last motion and make the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item iv. under B. Business, to Amend the Federal Application Narrative. Diana Elliott – Strasburg, would also like to rescind her second motion to show the noted change/addition to the agenda. Roll call vote; motion carries.

III. Approval of Minutes

Doug Vondy - Woodlin, made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. A second by Dianna Elliott - Strasburg. Roll call vote; motion carries.

IV. Public Comments

There were none.

V. Consent Agenda Items

Jason shared of the information on the summary sheet about personnel resignations and new hires and also our purchase service contracts. There are no non-renewals at this time.

Under business there is the standard quarterly reports that Craig has enclosed. Policy GBGG regarding leave payment change. They only change to this policy is the rate that the paraprofessionals will be paid out at the same rate as the rest of the staff. Previously they had been paid out at half the rate as the rest of the staff. We wanted to make that change so everyone is paid out at the same rate if their days are over 50 or they resign.

We would like to move the June BOCES Board meeting from the 15th to the 29th so that we can have more accurate budget allocations numbers for you. Otherwise we are doing just a “best guess.”

Diana Elliott - Strasburg, made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. A second by Allison Harris - Byers. Roll call vote; motion carries.

VI. Business – Action Items

A. Kiowa Letter to Leave the EC BOCES

In your packet I enclosed a letter from Elbert County School District C-2 which is Kiowa. In the letter they explain their rationale for moving to Pikes Peak BOCES. The deadline for them to submit their application to CDE is September 1st and then the independent third-party audit of our BOCES, Pikes Peak BOCES and the district financials, is due by October 1st. The intent of the audit is to make sure that no entity would be harmed financially by the move.

There were questions from board members about how it would affect the rest of our districts assessments if they pull out. Jason shared the biggest one would have been the shared tech positions where the 5 districts share in the cost of that position, but this year Cheyenne Wells also wanted to be a part of that so if Kiowa does end up leaving it will not be as big an impact on that position. If they did leave, Bev and Moira would have to look at student numbers to make sure we are not over staffed. Jason explained that part of this process is letting our board know and discussing the impact it will have, so we will keep you informed throughout the process.

Doug Vondy – Woodlin, made the motion that we acknowledge the receipt of Elbert County School District C-2 – Kiowa, intent to leave the East Central BOCES. A second by Christine Herrick – Liberty. Roll call vote; motion carries.

B. Updated Budget Information

Budget Revision -You will see on the agenda to approve a major budget revision. Normally we wait and do revisions at the January meeting but this year we've had a significant increase in new grant funds since June that we felt we should go ahead and make budget revisions now. Those include but are not limited to:

- BEST Grant -this is a continuation of the grant, we didn't know if it would finish in June or not and it didn't so the remaining (\$161,892 & \$615,750) are added to this budget. This also includes a change in V-nets for matching funds.

- Perkins Competitive Grant -Emma wrote and received a grant for \$192,885 which includes in-kind matching of \$67,000.
- SpEd ECEA final allocation increased by \$221,082. Also they are projecting a possible increase of \$75,000 in high cost application for next year.
- GERC increased by \$9,743. GT Regular also increased but we are still awaiting final allocations from COE so there will be additional revisions in January
- Connecting Colorado Students Grant -Jarred wrote and was approved for a grant related to connecting Colorado students internet for \$526, 185.48
- ESSER II and ARP funds-We were awarded \$181,856 in ESSER II funds and\$487,836 in ARP funds all related to COVID19. \$31,839 of that was inadvertently budgeted to the Federal Preschool line in June and is corrected with this revision. Bev Blagg wanted to let everyone know that a portion of the ARP funds also goes to Colorado Ed Solutions.
- RUS Grant -the multi-year RUS grant we also had originally anticipated completing in June but some of the equipment was backordered and so\$18,483.26 is still remaining and so is now budgeted in this fiscal year.
- SpEd is projecting an increase in their beginning fund balance of \$300,000.

- **Total increase in Revenue and Expenditures \$2,533,691.48**
- **New Total Budget \$15,537,928.05**

A motion by Wendy Pottorff – Limon, made the motion to approve the EC BOCES 2021-2022 Budget as amended. A second by Stacie Perez - Burlington. There was a roll call vote and motion carries.

VII. Discussion Items –

A. Strategic Planning Session

We will be gathering for our yearly Strategic Planning Session in Monument, September 6-8 at the Hideaway where we are secluded and away from all distractions. With all of the change in our superintendent ranks, we will be spending the better part of a day getting to know each other while updating our EC BOCES Legislative Platform. My goal is to create a more inclusive and supportive dynamic among our superintendents through collaborative work. I would ask you to please encourage your superintendent to attend.

B. November BOCES Board Meeting

The November Board meeting is on Wednesday the 17th at the Limon BOCES office face to face. We will have dinner served at the Senior Center (across the back parking lot from the office) at 6pm with the meeting to start at 7pm. We are required by law to hold at least one face-to-face meeting a year. So please get that on your calendar to attend. We will also be holding election of officers and we may have several new board members in November after the local board elections.

VIII. Reports - Enclosed

A. Executive Director – Enclosed

Jason shared that our beginning of year with our staff was face-to-face and it was great to see everyone together and meet our new staff from last year again and our new staff hired this year. We

were together at the beginning of last year and then were not able to all be together again the rest of the year. So it was good to get reacquainted with everyone again.

Also, Jason gave a shout out to Monica Johnson on a job well done as the president of CASE for 2020-2021. Monica played a central role in the CASE conference and was in a word, AMAZING! Her speeches and sessions were full of passion, expertise and a love for educators, students and families. Thank you to Monica for representing your school district and our BOCES with professionalism and enthusiasm.

B. Additional Staff Reports – Enclosed

Mitzi wanted to share that on October 14th and 15th we will be holding a School Based Enterprise workshop with members of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to work with students in CTE classrooms. We want to extend an invitation to all administrators and board members who would like to attend and learn about SBE. Please attend on Friday the 15th, either register on the website or give us a call here at the BOCES if you can attend.

Wendy Pottorff – Limon, also wanted to remind everyone of the CASB Legislative session that will be held here in Limon on September 2nd at the school. Please register!

Nancy Barden – Bennett, wanted to thank the BOCES staff and everyone who has served on this board and will not be returning after the elections. Thank you for your time and commitment to this BOCES and the students in your districts. And to the superintendents who already have so many meetings to attend, but you still come. Thank you!

IX. Adjournment

There was a motion by Allison Harris – Byers, to adjourn the meeting. A second by Doug Vondy - Woodlin. Roll call vote; motion carries. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

BOCES Board Secretary

Date Approved