

# East Central BOCES Board Meeting

November 19, 2025

7:00 p.m.

## I. Call to Order

**Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Diana Elliot – board president; the following Board members were in attendance:**

Doug Purdy - Agate  
Jennifer Koolstra - Arickaree  
Nancy Barden - Bennett  
Amie Powell - Bethune  
Allison Harris - Byers  
Gale Bell - Deer Trail  
Mark Hollowell - Genoa/Hugo  
Craig Soehner - Idalia

Lisa Crawford - Karval (Zoom)  
Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa  
Jason Vermillion - Kit Carson  
Kari Schultz - Liberty  
Autumn Lorensen - Limon  
Diana Elliott - Strasburg  
Darren Hornung - Stratton

**Those Board members not in attendance were:**

Lindsey Michal - Arriba/Flagler  
Stacie Perez - Burlington  
Jake Pelton - Cheyenne Wells

Joel Tanner - Hi-Plains  
Brandy Cutshaw - Woodlin

**Those Superintendents in attendance were:**

Shane Walkinshaw - Burlington  
Tom Turrell - Byers  
Corey Doss - Cheyenne Wells  
Mike Jobman - Deer Trail  
Dan Melendrez - Genoa/Hugo  
Gidget Brubacher - Hi-Plains  
Kelly Packer - Arriba/Flagler

Myles Johnson - Kit Carson  
Rhonda Puckett - Liberty  
Rob McMullan - Limon  
Kelle Bongard - Strasburg  
Julie Shue - Stratton  
Sarah Nuss - Karval

**Those Superintendents not in attendance were:**

Mike Page – Arickaree  
Kristi Minor - Idalia  
Melinda Walls - Agate

Travis Hargreaves - Kiowa  
Paul Griese - Woodlin

Others in attendance were: Jason Westfall, Beverly Blagg, Moira Hawks, Megan Eikleberry, Nicole Kollath, Lorie Coonts, Craig Bailey, Stacey Brown, Jarred Masterson - BOCES And Scott Szabo - Lauer, Szabo & Associates, PC.

## II. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Allison Harris - Byers. A second by Nancy Barden - Bennett. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

## III. Approval of Minutes

Kari Schultz - Liberty, made the motion to approve the minutes for the August 20, 2025 meeting. A second by Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

## IV. Public Comments

There were none.

## V. Consent Agenda Items

Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. A second by Allison Harris - Byers. During discussion Nancy Barden - Bennett, expressed concern that a student can change their name without parent knowledge or consent according to Policy ACA. Jason explained that there was a concern during the first reading, but that EC BOCES does not have students. This is a policy that CASB requires us to have because it is in the law. And there cannot be a name change on an IEP without court documentation. A roll call vote was taken. There were 12 "aye" votes and 3 "nay" votes; motion carried.

Tom Turrell-Byers later explained that if there is a specific item on the agenda requiring separate consideration, it may be removed from the consent agenda. The remaining consent agenda items can then be approved collectively, allowing for further discussion and an individual vote on the item that was set aside.

## VI. Business – Action Items

### A. Board Reorganization

One of Jason's goals is a smooth transition with the next Executive Director to be as smooth as possible and having an experienced board will make that transition easier. So he has reached out to President - Diana Elliott, Secretary - Jake Herrera and Treasurer - Janet Kravig. Stacie Perez - Burlington is term limited so she will not be able to serve as Vice-President. We will need to nominate and vote for these positions.

President - Allison Harris - Byers, nominated Diana Elliott - Strasburg for President. A second from Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

Vice-President - Diana Elliott - Strasburg, nominated Nancy Barden - Bennett for V.P. since she has served as president prior to her appointment. There was a second by Darren Hornung - Stratton. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

Treasurer - Darren Hornung - Stratton nominated Janet Kravig - Karval as Treasurer. A second by Jason Vermillion - Kit Carson. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

Secretary - Nancy Barden - Bennett, nominated Jake Herrera as Secretary. A second by Darren Hornung - Stratton. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

## B. Approval of the ECBOCES 2024-2025 Audit

Scott Szabo was on Zoom. He went through the packet; there were required letters of compliance. There is no Federal compliance due to the government shutdown, so it will be delayed but will need to be done by March 2026 to be in compliance.

He highlighted the following in the audit document:

- Pgs. 1-3: This is an unmodified opinion. The audit went very well and things and you have great leadership and the finances are always in good order.
- Pg. 4-5: Is the Management's Discussions and Analysis.
- Pg. 7: Is put in by the staff, you will want to read those when you get a chance.
- Pg. 14: Is the Balance Sheet . There is \$1.9 M in cash, there is \$490 K in Certificates of Deposit, and an increase of about \$1,136 and a total fund balance of \$3,869,071 in total fund balance.
- Pg. 16: Revenues increased about \$519,495
- Pg. 54: Is the same information showing the revenue and expenditures
- Pgs. 56-57: Are the month to month transitions.
- Pgs. 68-71: Are the different programs and various grants they maintain. There were no concerns.
- He asked for questions or comments, but there were none.

Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 Audit as presented. A second by Darren Hornung - Stratton. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

## VII. Discussion Items

### A. Executive Director Evaluation

He wasn't sure that you would need or want to do one, but the board suggested it would be a good idea in case Jason decided to seek employment later he would have that documentation. Usually the SAC Chair and Vice Chair serve on the committee which would be Dan Melendrez - Genoa/Hugo (Central) and Rhonda Puckett - Liberty (East). Darren Hornung - Stratton will serve as the east end board member and Jason will check with Janet Kravig - Karval, if she would be willing to represent the central area. So we will need to get a board representative and superintendent from the west end to serve. And we usually have a representative from our staff to serve on the committee. Jason will talk to some of the superintendents on the west end and get some representation and then send out a Doodle poll to find a date in January or

early February to get this done and then bring it to the board at the April 15, 2026 BOCES Board Meeting.

B. January Meeting over Zoom

Our next meeting will be on January 28th over Zoom and will hopefully have a candidate to approve for the next Executive Director. And we will also need to approve the Federal Compliance Audit that is delayed due to the government shutdown. We will also get the remaining board meeting dates to the new board members so you can get those on your calendars.

## VIII. Reports - Enclosed

A. Executive Director – Enclosed

Nothing more to add.

B. Additional Staff Reports – Enclosed

Nothing more to add.

C. Quarterly Financial Report

Nothing more to add unless there were questions. No questions.

## IX. Adjournment

The next BOCES Board meeting will be January 28, 2026 starting at 7 p.m. over Zoom.

There was a motion by Allison Harris - Byers, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. A second by Darren Hornung - Stratton; roll call vote was taken; motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

---

BOCES Board Secretary

---

Date Approved