

East Central BOCES Board Meeting

April 15, 2026

7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Diana Elliot – board president over Zoom; the following Board members were in attendance:

Lindsey Michal - Arriba/Flagler
Nancy Barden - Bennett
Georg Homm - Burlington
Allison Harris - Byers
James Halde - Cheyenne Wells
Regan Hahn - Deer Trail
Mark Hollowell - Genoa/Hugo
Craig Soehner - Idalia

Kurt Dutro - Karva
Andrew Pruitt - Kiowa
Jason Vermillion - Kit Carson
Kari Schultz - Liberty
Ryan Frasier - Limon
Diana Elliott - Strasburg
Darren Hornung - Stratton

Those Board members not in attendance were:

Doug Purdy - Agate
Jennifer Koolstra - Arickaree

Todd Tagtmeyer - Hi-Plains
Brandy Cutshaw - Woodlin

Those Superintendents in attendance were:

Terry Weber - Bethune
Tom Turrell - Byers
Mike Jobman - Deer Trail
Dan Melendrez - Genoa/Hugo
Kristi Minor - Idalia

Sarah Nuss - Karval
Myles Johnson - Kit Carson
Rhonda Puckett - Liberty
Kelle Bongard - Strasburg

Those Superintendents not in attendance were:

Malinda Walls - Agate
Mike Page - Arickaree
Kelly Packer - Arriba/Flagler
Robin Purdy - Bennett
Shane Walkinshaw - Burlington
Corey Doss - Cheyenne Wells

Giget Brubacher - Hi-Plains
Clough/Wise - Kiowa
Rob McMullan - Limon
Julie Shue - Stratton
Paul Griese - Woodlin

Others in attendance were: Jason Westfall, Beverly Blagg, Moira Hawks, Megan Eikleberry, Nicole Kollath, Lorie Coonts, Craig Bailey, Jarred Masterson - BOCES.

II. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Nancy Barden - Bennett, to approve the agenda as presented. A second by Allison Harris – Byers. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes

Lindsey Michal - Arriba/Flagler, made the motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2026 meeting as presented. Kurt Dutro - Karval, seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

IV. Public Comments

There were none.

V. Consent Agenda Items

Nancy Barden, Bennett, made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with the following items:

- Resignation of Mary Spolarich - Transition Consultant, Lori Hale - West CBLP Teacher Mohd Sammoor - OT Independent Contractor, Mitchell Richardson - East CBLP Teacher, Lauren McCaffrey - Family Resource Specialist, Katlyn Campbell - East CBLP Para, Tara Gaede - SPED Facilitator
- Employment of Rhonda Clark - School Psych. Intern, Sara Foose - East CBLP Para, Christina Gonzalez - East CBLP Teacher
- SAC recommendation for hiring lobbyist, Ed Bowditch, for 2026-2027 at \$24,491.

A second by Kari Schultz - Liberty. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

VI. Business – Action Items

A. Adoption of 2026-2027 ECBOCES Budget

Jason shared the following information about the FY 2026-27 Budget. There are 3 resolutions that will have to be read into the minutes. He went on to highlight the following:

- We will need to have a resolution to spend down the beginning fund balance by \$687,884. This won't affect our reserves.
- The formula to districts has changed to 70% and BOCES 30% for ECEA funds.
- Continue to have a steady climb in reserves.

On the Revenue side:

- Tuition, Out of District & In-District, there is a reduction of \$1,315,747 to zero. Now instead of billing the districts for the out of district programs, and then paying us and we pay the bill, we are skipping a step and sending the bills directly to the districts to pay directly to the facility/program which more accurately reflects it in our budget.
- The line for private pay Alternative Programs is down, but the line for state grant funded candidates is increased due to the anticipated enrollment this fall.

- Revenue from State ECEA funding is up with the actual inflationary increase.
- We had estimated \$900,000 for high cost, but actually received \$1.6 M reimbursement for this year. We increased the budget line by \$200,000 to \$1.1M.
- Actual allocations from State and Federal were flat funded in April and the June budget reflects actual allocations.
- Perkins is up approximately \$50,000. A teacher from Woodlin wrote a competitive Perkins grant for Range Management and received it. It was for \$142,000.

On the Expenditures side:

- Salaries are down a little because of one less CBLP teacher and we have two employees that have reduced to part-time contracts.
- Benefits line is up because of a 17% increase in insurance premiums.
- Purchased Professional Services is down \$111,000
- Other purchased service lines increased \$239,387 because of moving it from the 0599 flow-thru for more accurate information.
- The \$1.3 M out of district tuition will be billed directly to the district from the program or facility school so that line has been zeroed on the budget.
- Flow Thru 0599 for ECEA dollars will now be split 70% to district, 30% BOCES.
- Supplies are still being ordered and delivered for the Perkins Grant.
- If you look at the pie chart on page iv in the middle of the page on the General Fund Expenditures by Program, you will see that 90% of the budget goes to supporting our district's students and teachers. Which is what it should be.

There was a motion made by Nancy Barden - Bennett to adopt the 2026-2027 Budget as presented; second by Allison Harris - Byers. A roll call vote was taken; motion passed.

B. Adoption of Budget Resolutions

Jason asked for a board member to read the following three resolutions into the minutes for adoption. Nancy Barden - Bennett, read the following resolutions:

a. Resolution to Appropriate Funds for the 2026-2027 ECBOCES Budget:

EAST CENTRAL BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES BOARD OF EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY

Be it RESOLVED by the Board of Education of East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in Lincoln County that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the "Adopted Budget" for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027.

General Fund \$23,374,450.00
Trust Fund Scholarship \$2,000.00

TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$23,376,450.00

Adopted this 24 th day of June, 2026.
BY: EAST CENTRAL BOCES

/s/ Diana Elliott 06/24/2026 06/24/2026
Signature: Board President in accordance with 22-44-110(4) DATE

b. Resolution to spend down the beginning Fund Balance of the BOCES General Fund FY 2026-2027.

EAST CENTRAL BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES BOARD OF EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION TO SPEND DOWN THE BEGINNING FUND BALANCE OF THE BOCES GENERAL FUND

Be it **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) authorizes the use of a portion of the beginning fund balance from the General Fund for FY 2026-2027. This is a planned spend down of funds. The Beginning Fund Balance will be spent down by \$687,884 to help support Special Education purchase service contracts and related expenses, and other BOCES support programs. The projected June 30, 2027, Ending Fund Balance is projected to decrease to \$3,208,800. We believe the fund balance is adequate for cash flow for East Central BOCES and its programs.

Adopted this 24 th day of June, 2026.

BY: EAST CENTRAL BOCES

/s/ Diana Elliott 06/24/2026
Signature: Board President in accordance with 22-44-110(4) DATE

c. Resolution to spend down the LGLA Scholarship Fund

Lester & Georgia Lee Andersen Scholarship Fund

A RESOLUTION TO SPEND DOWN THE BEGINNING FUND BALANCE OF THE BOCES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Be it **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) authorizes the spend down of the Beginning Fund Balance from the Scholarship CD for FY 2026-2027. The portion to be overspent is approximately \$2,000. The fund spend down is due to one scholarship being awarded in this fiscal year and interest rates being too low to keep up with the scholarship award. BOCES received permission from the scholarship benefactor to spend down the funds. Funds will eventually be spent to zero and the scholarship will be done in approximately twelve years.

Adopted this 24 th day of June, 2026.

BY: EAST CENTRAL BOCES

/s/ Diana Elliott

06/24/2026

Signature: Board President in accordance with 22-44-110(4) DATE

Allison Harris - Byers, made the motion to accept the resolutions and read. A second by Regan Hahn - Deer Trail. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

C. Banking Resolutions

We will need to pass these resolutions for the transition of Jason Westfall to S. Shane Walkinshaw for the various accounts we have. Jason asked for someone to read all the resolutions into the minutes. Ryan Frasier - Limon, read the following resolutions:

**RESOLUTION of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
EAST CENTRAL BOCES
Limon, CO 80828**

TO: First National Bank of Hugo - Limon Branch, Colo.
High Plains Bank, Flagler, Colo.
Eastern Colorado Bank, Limon, Colo.
Colorado Local Government Liquid Asset Trust (Colo. Trust)

AUTHORIZING SIGNING OF CHECKS AND NOTES

The Board of Directors of the EAST CENTRAL BOCES, do hereby certify that the following resolution was adopted at a board meeting, duly called and held on June 24, 2026, at which said meeting more than a quorum of said directors was present, that said resolution is attached to the minutes of said meeting, and that the same have never been amended, rescinded or revoked:

First National Bank of Hugo (now part of High Plains Bank):

RESOLVED, That on the following Account: **NOW Checking (General Fund)**, ANY TWO of the following officers and employees of this company be, and they hereby are authorized, in the name of this company, to collect, discount, negotiate, endorse and assign all checks, drafts, notes and other negotiable or non-negotiable instruments payable to this company, or in which this company has an interest, and to draw, sign and deliver, in the name of this company, checks or drafts against the funds of this company on deposit in said bank.

Signature requirements do not apply to electronic transactions.

Treasurer, Darren Hornung

Secretary, Jacob Herrera

Executive Director, Stephen S. Walkinshaw

Director of Financial Services, Craig Bailey

FURTHER RESOLVED, That on the following Accounts: **Scholarship Savings Account & Scholarship Certificate of Deposit**, ANY TWO of the following employees of this company be, and they hereby are authorized, in the name of this company, to collect, discount, negotiate, endorse and assign all checks, drafts, notes and other negotiable or non-negotiable instruments payable to this company, or in which this company has an interest, and to draw, sign and deliver, in the name of this company, checks or drafts against the funds of this company on deposit in said bank.

Executive Director Stephen S. Walkinshaw

Director of Financial Services, Craig A. Bailey

Executive Assistant, Lorie Coonts

FURTHER RESOLVED, That ANY of the following employees of this company be, and they are hereby authorized to initiate and process Payroll; ACH Vendor Accounts Payable Direct Deposits.

Director of Financial Services Craig A. Bailey
Executive Director Stephen S. Walkinshaw

High Plains Bank:

RESOLVED, That on the following Account: **Certificate of Deposit (General Fund CD)**, ANY TWO of the following officers and employees of this company be, and they hereby are authorized, in the name of this company, to collect, discount, negotiate, endorse and assign all checks, drafts, notes and other negotiable or non-negotiable instruments payable to this company, or in which this company has an interest, and to draw, sign and deliver, in the name of this company, checks or drafts against the funds of this company on deposit in said bank.

Executive Director Stephen S. Walkinshaw

Director of Financial Services. Craig A. Bailey

Special Educ. Co-Director Nicole Kollath

Eastern Colorado Bank:

RESOLVED, That on the following Account: **Certificate of Deposit (General Fund CD)**, ANY TWO of the following officers or employees of this company be, and they hereby are authorized, in the name of this company, to collect, discount, negotiate, endorse and assign all checks, drafts, notes and other negotiable or non-negotiable instruments payable to this company, or in which this company has an interest, and to draw, sign and deliver, in the name of this company, checks or drafts against the funds of this company on deposit in said bank.

Executive Director Stephen S. Walkinshaw

Director of Financial Services. Craig A. Bailey

Special Educ. Co-Director Nicole Kollath

Colorado Trust:

RESOLVED, That the Designee and Authorized Signatories listed on the Trust Registration Form are revised to be as follows:

Stephen S. Walkinshaw, Executive Director
Nicole Kollath, Co-Special Education Director
Craig Bailey, Director of Financial Services

The Authorized Signatories are authorized by the Participant to direct the investment of such Participants' investment funds.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That for the purpose of making a deposit in the account or accounts of this company with said banks, any officer or employee of this company may endorse, sign or deliver on behalf of this company, any checks, orders or other evidence of indebtedness for the payment of moneys payable to the order of this company;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the authority of the aforesaid officers and employees to perform each and all of the powers conferred by the foregoing resolutions shall continue until notice in writing, terminating such authority, shall be served upon said bank, and shall be noted upon the original copy of such resolutions delivered to said bank.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the authority previously granted to Jason Westfall and Bev Blagg is hereby terminated as of July 1, 2026.

WITNESS, our hands on behalf of said company this 24 th day of June, 2026.
EAST CENTRAL BOCES

By _____
President

ATTEST:

Secretary

A motion was made by Jason Vermillion - Kit Carson to approve the aforementioned Banking Resolutions as read. A second by Curt Dutro - Karval. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried.

VII. Discussion Items

A. August Board Meeting

Our next meeting will be on August 19, 2026 over Zoom and this will be Mr. Walkinshaw's first meeting and will need to approve any new hires. Please get that date on your calendar so we have a quorum and can get the business taken care of. Again, Wednesday, August 19th over Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. Reports - Enclosed

A. **Executive Director** – Enclosed

Jason shared that he has now met with Shane several times, but because Don Andersen had things lined out for him monthly, he shared that same information with Shane and hopefully it will be as ready as he can be for a smooth transition. We have an amazing BOCES staff here and I know they will help him with the transition and any questions he might have.

Nancy Barden wanted to share that as a past president of the BOCES Board President, working with Jason was a pleasure. He was very precise and professional and ultimately someone you would want in your corner. She will personally miss him and wished him well in his retirement.

Diana Elliott also agreed with Nancy and thanked him for his dedication and work here at the BOCES.

B. **Additional Staff Reports** – Enclosed

Diana had a couple of comments/questions. She was glad to see that SPED is offering other reading strategies other than Orton-Gillingham for the older students.

For the summer PD for reading with Catapult Learning, why are there so many more for reading than for Math, which our students seem to be low in? Megan felt that a lot of them still needed the READ Act requirements for renewing their licenses and not needing the credit hours in math. We are working with our PD Needs Assessment team and will look at ways to possibly re-envision our Title II and HB dollars are spent. Math scores are not great but we don't have enough teachers coming to the training to justify the cost of the trainers.

C. **Quarterly Financial Report**

There were no quarterly reports since they were presented at the April meeting.

IX. Adjournment

The next BOCES Board meeting will be August 19, 2026 starting at 7 p.m. over Zoom.

There was a motion by Allison Harris - Byers, to adjourn the meeting. A second by Nancy Barden - Bennett. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

BOCES Board Secretary

Date Approved