

**San Luis Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services  
Board of Director's Meeting – August 19, 2020  
Minutes  
(Due to COVID-19 Restrictions the Meeting was Held via Zoom)**

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Tina Freel called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

*Roll call was taken & the following members were present:*

Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa  
Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial  
Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat  
Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista  
Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley  
Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos  
Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford (Arrived After Roll Call)  
Ms. Gina Mitchell, Sargent  
Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande  
Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos  
Mr. Cory Off, Upper Rio Grande

*The following members were not present:*

Ms. Misty Palacios, Center  
Mr. Tim Bachicha, Creede  
Ms. Keeli Larsen, Sangre De Cristo

*SLV BOCES Staff & Guests:*

Ms. Tina Goar, Executive Director	Mr. Travis Garoutte, SAC Chair
Ms. Stacey Holland, SPED Director	Ms. Staci Turner, Recording Secretary

**3. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Walter Roybal, seconded by Ms. Katrina Brown, and the votes were cast by roll call as follows:

<i>Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye</i>	<i>Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley - Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial - Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent</i>	<i>Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Absent</i>
<i>Mr. Tim Bachicha, Creede – Absent</i>	<i>Ms. Keeli Larsen, Sangre De Cristo - Absent</i>
<i>Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat – Aye</i>	<i>Ms. Gina Mitchell, Sargent- Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista – Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos – Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Cory Off, UR Grande – Aye</i>

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. Consent Agenda (BEDB – Agenda) (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities)**

Minutes (March May 27, 2020) - Financial Reports - Personnel Reports

A motion to approve the consent agenda (BEDB – Agenda) (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities) was made by Mr. Kurt Holland, seconded by Mr. Brandon Thomas, and the votes were cast by roll call vote as follows:

*Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye*  
*Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial - Aye*  
*Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent*  
*Mr. Tim Bachicha, Creede – Absent*  
*Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat – Aye*  
*Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista – Aye*  
*Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos – Aye*

*Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley - Aye*  
*Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye*  
*Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Absent*  
*Ms. Keeli Larsen, Sangre De Cristo - Absent*  
*Ms. Gina Mitchell, Sargent- Aye*  
*Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande - Aye*  
*Mr. Cory Off, UR Grande – Aye*

The Consent Agenda (BEDB – Agenda) (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities) was approved as presented.

#### **5. Audience Comments & Questions (BEDH – Board Members)**

There were no audience comments.

#### **6. Reports from Administration & Committees (BDA – Board Organizational Meeting)**

##### *a. Finance Presentation – Ms. Staci Turner*

The slides were based on the revenue & expenditure reports that were included in the finance portion of the board packet. There was a comparison of revenues and expenditures based on the current board packet reports, and reports for the same time period during the previous year’s meeting.

The slides were focused on funding year 19/20 from July 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020. Technically, the 19/20 funding year runs July 1 – June 30, but there were accrued expenditures and revenue still be received in July for the 19/20 year. The financial side of things are busy with the closing out of 19/20 while kicking off the finances for 20/21. The 19/20 audit is scheduled for October. Received No Cost Extensions (NCE) for several grants to carryover money from 19/20 to 20/21; which was due to COVID. Unfortunately, year 3 of the Retention Teacher grant was not funded due to COVID, but able to have a NCE of around \$75,000. Excited to announce that the BOCES was granted another 4 year EARSS grant. There was some discussion around GT funds.

In looking at May through July revenue, most of the money came from regular monthly cash receipts in the way of district assessments, request for funds for IDEA Part B & Preschool, SWAP, McKinney-Vento and Title III. Quarterly indirect costs were processed in the amount of \$38,625, received Coronavirus Relief Funds in the amount of \$25,000, and the yearly BOCES grant writing funds in the amount of \$26,595.

In looking at May through July expenditures, it was the normal monthly expenses of salaries, benefits, mileage, utilities, out of district placement, contracted services (OT, PT, Speech, and CSDB). Some bigger expenses that occurred during these months were GT reimbursements to most of the school districts, summer child find salaries/benefits, ESY salaries/benefits, making sure grants that needed expended by June 30 were, and COVID supplies/equipment.

Staci asked if the PowerPoints and current layout is working or if the board wants to see something else. It was agreed that the PowerPoints are a great resource, and are something that the board wants to continue seeing.

c. Superintendent's Advisory Council – Mr. Travis Garoutte

Mr. Travis Garoutte from Mountain Valley is the SAC chair for 20/21 and began the SAC report with appreciation for being the SAC Chair and being invited to the board meeting. He has had the pleasure of working with Tina Goar in the past and looks forward to this next year. He let the board know that there are two new Superintendents, Ms. Sarah White at Moffat and Mr. Keith Crispell at Creede. The Superintendents are meeting every Wednesday via Zoom in addition to their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. They are using the time on Wednesdays to do a lot of brainstorming around all of the issues surrounding COVID, what is and isn't working, budget concerns are being felt by all of the school districts, and it's better to work together.

d. Executive Director/Director Exceptional Student Services - Ms. Tina Goar

Ms. Tina Goar started out stating that she is excited to be at the BOCES, and the new school year is rocking and rolling. Staff are back with big smiles, full of energy and are ready to be back in the schools. It's important that everyone is flexible and up to the challenges that may arise. Tina is also enjoying getting to know everyone. Excited to announce that received the EARSS grant for another four years, and are in the process of hiring another counselor/advocate. Alternative licensure is up and running with a young and energetic group. Induction will kick off in early September. There was some discussion around the therapists, etc.

e. Director Exceptional Student Services – Ms. Stacey Holland

Ms. Stacey Holland let the board members know that she is excited to be in her new position at the BOCES. She has been attending SAC meetings all summer and happy getting to know everyone. It's going to be a crazy year. She is enjoying the opportunity of Zoom with families and the fact that she is seeing them on a different level and really seeing what their needs are. It's a totally different experience and perspective from meeting in person.

Upcoming important dates are CPI trainings in September/October, and more dates may be added depending on need. These trainings must be done face to face, but can only have 12 at a time. Have contracted OT's and a PT on staff, three new teachers, and two new counselors. Only need one more counselor/advocate to be fully staffed.

Will be doing a training with Alamosa on Friday, and then the rest of the districts soon to works on how to make changes & contingency plans to IEP's due to COVID. Have purchased IXL an on-line program to meet the needs of student and have a full-time Paraprofessional that will monitor it as well as work with the students. The Tech person retired, so have contracted with Netelligence and seems to be going well. Staff like that they can offer remote services. Also, will bill Medicaid in 20/21, so attending trainings, etc.

## **7. Board Member Reports & Requests**

*Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa*, starting off the school year with a hybrid staggered start, have approved the early retirement of current Superintendent, Rob Alejo with a final day of August 31, Marsha Cody will be the temporary interim Superintendent, the board president resigned in July, three district board seats are currently open & have received applications for two of the districts, due to budgeting have cut the SRO position, are having traffic issues with drop off and

pick up, so working with the city, trying to keep the teachers safe and feeling safe, 25% of the students are doing on-line so have reallocated staff, having issues with getting technology so that have 1:1 for all, and in person instruction will start on September 14.

*Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial*, same boat as Alamosa with the craziness of starting school, staggered start with cohorts A & B, have 1:1 technology, facing challenges like everyone else and dealing with the constant changes, issues with internet services to a lot of the families, looking at budget issues. Tech Company loaned a tower for the top of school, but have since taken it back. So, asked if the BOCES has a way to help & Stacey will reach out the following day to Toby Melster.

*Ms. Misty Palacios, Center*, not present.

*Mr. Tim Bachicha, Creede*, not present.

*Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat*, began face to face learning at the elementary school on the 17<sup>th</sup>, middle and high school starting remotely the first two weeks, approximately 25% of the students are choosing on-line option, kids are excited to be back, have a five member board and three resignation since May, boards seats are not easy to fill, interested to see how the sports season will play out.

*Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista*, off and running with K-2 full time each day, 3-5 50% in person, and middle/high school every other day in person with remote learning the other days, going smooth so far, hope to keep up the positive atmosphere, have a new gym floor at the high school, same boat as everyone else concerning COVID, have 1:1 Chromebooks for all students in grades 3 -12.

*Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley*, swimming uncharted waters, holding off and not making too many plans, teachers are busy interviewing students, all students have Chromebooks, all families have internet via Ciello, will start remotely and then gradually working way into classrooms, similar to online plan that Center is using....online to blended with A/B cohorts, evaluating at all board meetings to see if everything is going well, hired a facilities director, busy keeping everyone safe.

*Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos*, starting with full in-person learning, had to postpone middle school for another week due to plumbing issues, around 8 – 10% of students will do online, have fogging machines in each room and are being used each night, dividers in the classrooms, staying positive for the students, still early but hoping to keep going full-time, worried about additional traffic problems.

*Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford*, starting face to face instruction on August 24, will just echo what all of the board members are reporting, plans/policies/procedures in place to hopefully help keep everything running smoothly, have cohorts and hope all goes well.

*Ms. Keeli Larsen, Sangre de Cristo*, not present.

*Ms. Gina Mitchel, Sargent*, same situation as everyone else, first day was the that day for all secondary students, planning on face to face instruction for the year, people excited to be back

in the classroom, board meetings are around re-opening and budget concerns, several FFA students participated at the fair.

*Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande*, beginning with 100% remote learning, have had great success with their internet provider, board meetings revolve around planning for COVID and the construction of the new school, hope to have walls up by November, last day of school will hopefully be May 5 due to new construction, there will be excess items/equipment up for bid and on the website, will have live camera on the new construction, so can watch the building progress.

*Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos*, started school the previous Wednesday for middle/high school with a majority of students attending in person, small classes make it easier to be in compliance, online will attend the same classes as in person just in a remote capacity, staff are doing a great job.

*Mr. Cory Off, Upper Rio Grande*, going to pass as not prepared to report since it's his first BOCES meeting.

*Misc. Topics of Discussion during Board Member Reports*, none at this time.

## **8. Correspondence**

### a. FY 2018 – 2019 Audit & Financial December Data Pipeline Submission

The letter was received from cde and stated that the FY18-19 Single Audit for the district has been reviewed. There were no findings reported, nor were there any other issues noted during this review. Staci Turner commented that it was a good audit, and that she hopes the one scheduled in October as well. She also stated that she appreciates the year round work that Cindy Squires and Rebecca Gomez provide in finance to make the audits go so well.

## **9. Executive Session – CRS 24-6-402 (4) (h)**

There was no need for an executive session.

## **10. Discussion Items (BDA – Board Organizational Meeting)**

### a. Special Education Operating Agreement MOU 20-21

It's the annual MOU that revolves around SPED services. Each school is required to have signatures from their Superintendent and Board, upon receiving the signed MOU's the BOCES will then get appropriate signatures. There are no changes from the previous year, it just defines who is responsible for what such as legal costs, etc.

## **11. Action Items (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities)**

### a. First Reading - Policies AC; AC-E-1; AC-E-2; AC-R-1; AC-R-2; EBBA-R; EBBA; GBAB; GBGA; JBB; JII; JLCC; KI

A motion to approve the First Reading of Policies AC; AC-E-1; AC-E-2; AC-R-1; AC-R-2; EBBA-R; EBBA; GBAB; GBGA; JBB; JII; JLCC; KI was made by Mr. Kurt Holland, seconded by Mr. Lucas Casias & the votes were cast by roll call vote as follows:

*Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye*  
*Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial - Aye*

*Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley - Aye*  
*Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye*

