

**San Luis Valley Board of Cooperative Educational Services
Board of Director's Meeting – March 10, 2021 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. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial
Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat
Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley
Mr. Cory Off, Upper Rio Grande
Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista
Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos
Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford
Ms. Gina Mitchell, Sargent
Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande
Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos

The following members were not present:

Ms. Misty Palacios, Center
Ms. Jennifer Harbert, Creede
Ms. Keeli Larsen, Sangre de Cristo

SLV BOCES Staff & Guests:

Ms. Tina Goar, SLV BOCES Executive Director
Mr. Travis Garoutte, SAC Chair
Ms. Stacey Holland, SLV BOCES SPED Director
Ms. Staci Turner, Recording Secretary
Ms. Adeline Duarte-Lee, SLV BOCES Medicaid Coordinator/Admin Assistant
Mr. Gary Waller, Dixon, Waller & Co., Inc – Auditor

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda with an amendment to move the Executive Session to follow Legislative Reports at the end of the agenda was made by Mr. Cory Off, seconded by Mr. Mr. Curt Wilson, 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. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent</i>	<i>Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 (January 20, 2021) - Financial Reports - Personnel Reports

A motion to approve the consent agenda (BEDB – Agenda) (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities) with the correction of SR2 to ESSER2 was made by Mr. Curt Wilson, seconded by Mr. Cory Off, and the votes were cast by roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye
Mr. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye
Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent
Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 - Aye
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. Audit Review – Mr. Gary Waller

Mr. Waller gave a clean opinion regarding the San Luis Valley BOCES financial statements and schedule of federal financial awards. Federal money that we have receive were expended properly. No issues. Mr. Waller explained in more detail the Statement of Net Position on page 3. This is a report that puts BOCES into a commercial entity. Statement of Activities on page 4 was also explained into more detail. Mr. Waller explained on page 5 the Balance Sheet which includes the assets, liabilities and fund balance. He also explained on page 38 the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures. Total revenue budgeted \$5,135,897 with actual of \$4,965,121. Total expenditures budgeted \$ 6,323,575 with actual \$4,944,792 which is \$1,378,783 under budget. Ms. Staci Turner explained why we were \$1.3 million under budget; some due to COVID most with planning for worst case scenarios.

b. Financial Reports – Staci Turner

Ms. Turner went over the financial highlights for July 2020 -February 2021 with a PowerPoint. Financial highlights include preliminary 2021/2022 budget, Completed Title III Budget Revisions Carryover in Supplies, Submitted SWAP 2021/2022 Budget, Budget Revisions for Various Grants Due in March, ESSER Application Approved, Submitted the High Cost Application. Ms. Turner also reviewed the bank statement as of 1-31-21; no interest \$255,486, money market \$4,069,514, petty cash \$3,000 and Colo Trust \$2,623. Total revenue report included a budgeted amount of \$8,893,851, revenue received \$6,412,012 with a balance of \$2,481,839. Ms. Turner also gave more detail on grant revenue over \$100,000. Total expenditures were budgeted for \$6,013,595, expenditures to date \$2,557,868 and a balance of \$3,455,727. Ms. Turner gave more details on expenditures of grants over \$100,000. She also explained monthly comparison revenue and expenditure and Admin/Sped/Part B grants.

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

Mr. Travis Garoutte from Mountain Valley is the SAC chair for 20/21 reported on the confusion on House Bill 21-1161. This bill is in regarding the Statewide Assessments For Select Grades. Grades 3-8 will take one test; English Language or Math. In a normal year they would test in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Bill will require grades 3rd, 5th and 7th to test in English Language and grades 4th, 6th and 8th will test in math. Parents can opt their child in to test in both English and Math. Eliminating Science and Social Studies for all students this Spring. General concusses with rural districts is what are the scores going to be compared too? That are scores going to be used for? District realized students have gaps in learning and would prefer the teaching to continue. Mr. Garoutte also spoke regarding House Bill 21-1164, Total Program Mill Levy Tax Credit. Concerning reductions in the property tax credits that apply to school districts' total program mill levies for purposes of funding the "Public School Finance Act." Mr. Garoutte also spoke regarding Senate bill 21-116 which prohibits the use of American Indian mascots by public schools as of June 1, 2022. The bill imposes a fine of \$25,000 per month for each month that a school continues to use a mascot after such date, payable to the state education fund. This bill will affect Mountain Valley and Sanford School District. Mr. Garoutte also updated the board on the Binax COVID Testing. Previous test was for staff to test at home but now schools that were part of the mask program from the State have received Binet test for staff and students to test at the school with a nurse administrating it. Mountain Valley School District received 160 last week and school can receive 3 months free. Some districts are focusing testing on their sports programs. Mr. Garoutte also stated the SAC has reviewed and discussed Ms. Tina Goar's Executive Directors evaluation.

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

Ms. Goar reviewed that major dates for the rest of the school year. The Educator Recognition Dinner will be held this year on April 21st, 2021 at Mountain Valley School District beginning at 6:00 p.m. Each school district will have 4-5 attend. The nominated teacher plus one guest and three guests representing the school district. A dinner will be served by the Oasis Restaurant in Saguache in pre-prepared container. The BOCES has partnered with CDE's Literacy Team and we now have two options for our K-3 teachers to meet the READ Act Literacy training requirement for their license. We have one cohort meeting virtually for seven Fridays between January and April and another cohort who will meet virtually for seven days in mid to late June. We have a total of 62 K-3 teachers in the valley participating. SLV BOCES did not receive the RISE grant Ms. Goar will continue to pursue the possible foundation and grant opportunities as they come available. New windows arriving and being installed sometime in March as weather permits. New windows will help significantly in reducing our heating costs. After spring break, Staci Turner and I will begin the process of selling a couple of the BOCES vehicles that are no longer being used. The BOCES has one small school bus and four passenger vans to consider.

d. Director Exceptional Student Services – Ms. Stacey Holland

Ms. Stacey Holland reported that we have hired 3 new para and will be hiring 3 new teachers for the Extended Services programs. March 5th is IXL training for our Extended Services teachers. IXL has been successful as our online platform for students who are learning remotely and we were able to purchase it to supplement all of our Extended Services classrooms. April 9th is our Autism training which is hosted by CDE and will be available to our staff and also to the district special education teachers. Waiting for allocations on ESSER II funds, but continue to be told that BOCES will receive some funding.

Assistant Director Exceptional Students Services - LJ Garcia

Mr. Garcia submitted his report that he has been dealing with staff concerns related to job performance and we appreciate the feedback from SPED teachers that this has impacted. He has been working on IEP Compliance and have uncovered some areas of concern that will be addressed moving forward. We want to make sure that SPED teachers are utilizing EasyCBM, which is purchased by the BOCES, to monitor student progress. For the most part, IEPs are looking better but just need to fine tune them as a whole BOCES. With state testing around the corner, he will work with building administrators to get a schedule for testing so my staff is aware and can adjust their schedules so students do not miss their services during this time.

7. Board Member Reports & Requests

Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos, Interviewed for a history teacher for next year, substitute for this year. District needs a Literacy Coach for the elementary. Sped position has been advertised. High School is currently quinquennial until 3/11/21 and the basketball until 3/13/21. For the first time in a long time middle will offer volleyball and wrestling. Coaches have been hired.

Mr. David Smalley, Mountain Valley, District is planning an in-door graduation this year. Interviews are underway for a new principal. Sports have been affected due to COVID because other school cancelling.

Mr. Walter Roybal, Sierra Grande, had 38 students in 4th-11th participated in the Regional Science Fair due to great things happen with science teacher and board member Wendy Fisher. One student did make it to State Science Fair. A lot of focus on the new school construction. One wrestler made it to the State Tournament. Last day of school Sierra Grande School District will May 7, 2021.

Ms. Gina Mitchel, Sargent, Students and staff are happy to be in person. Great basketball and wrestling season. Excited for the upcoming volleyball season. Several students did well at the Regional Science Fair. School Board is working on 3-5-year plan and specific goals for the future.

Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford, Spring sports are looking good. Successful basketball season. Navigating through Senate bill 21-116 which prohibits the use of American Indian mascots.

Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos, Updated on the new school construction. Conejos County has turned BLUE; which sport fans are excited. Sending several wrestlers to the State Tournament. Discussion are happening on State testing, Prom and graduation.

Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista, Boys basketball is going to the State Tournament for the first time in 38 years. Sending one wrestling to State. After Spring Break all students are back to in person school. Good success at the Regional Science Fair.

Mr. Cory Off, Upper Rio Grande, Starting a new superintendent search.

Mr. Lucas Casias, Centennial, After Spring Break students are will be back in person full time.

Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa, School board has had several work sessions looking to re-district due to no one running for board. Superintendent interviews will start in a couple weeks. Sending several wrestlers including one female to State. First year for female wrestling and e-Sports for the district. Prom and graduation discussion have begun. Working over time on the Migrate Head Start.

Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat, Conducting interviews for a new principal with no hire. Currently have a Dean of Students. First time in two years district has a full board.

Ms. Misty Palacios, Center, not present

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

Ms. Jennifer Harbert, Creede, not present.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Discussion Items (BDA – Board Organizational Meeting)

a. Budget – Staci Turner

Ms. Turner reviewed the Sped District Assessment. Proposed Sped Assessment will stay the same at \$810,000. Districts may see a difference in their amount due to student count. Ms. Turner will continue to check student count through CDE. We will start billing district July 1st and then monthly. Admin District Assessment based on \$270,000; district buy in of \$2000 per school and \$250 building repair per school. Ms. Turner also reviewed the Multi-year Comparison which includes Federal Part B, Federal Pre School, Local Sped and Admin. This showing the carry over for the past 5 years. Ms. Turner is proposing a 1% of base salary plus a one-step increase of each employee. Received Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) money in the amount of \$25,000. Received ESSER money in the amount of \$43,402. Proposing the increase of mileage from .42/mile to .45/mile. Not sure what health insurance will increase to, so budgeted a 20% increase. PERA will increase on 07/01/21 from 20.9% to 21.4%. Possibly look at having HB1345 pay for the portion of the Executive Director's salary that revolves around induction and alternative licensure. HB1345 application is opening on 03/01 & will close on 05/01, plans will include Lindamood-Bell and professional development.

10. Action Items (BBA – Agency Board Powers & Responsibilities)

a. Approval of 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget (District Assessments & Salary Schedule)

A motion to approve the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget (District Assessments & Salary Schedule) was made by Mr. Cory Off, seconded by Mr. Kurt Holland, 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. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent</i>	<i>Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 motion to approve the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget (District Assessments & Salary Schedule) was approved as presented.

b. 21-22 San Luis Valley BOCES School Calendar

Ms. Tina Goar spoke regarding the 21-22 San Luis Valley BOCES School Calendar. She stated that SLV BOCES calendar was built from all 14 school districts in the San Luis Valley. Staff work days will be the second Friday of each month.

A motion to approve the 21-22 San Luis Valley BOCES School Calendar was made by Mr. Cory Off, seconded by Mr. David Smalley, 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. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent</i>	<i>Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 motion to approve the 21-22 San Luis Valley BOCES School Calendar was approved as presented.

c. CASB’s Special Policy Update

Ms. Tina Goar spoke regarding the update of CASB’s Special Policies.

A motion to approved all five of the CASB’s Special Policy Updates was made by Mr. Curt Holland, seconded by Mr. Brandon Thomas, 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. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye</i>	<i>Mr. Brandon Thomas, North Conejos - Aye</i>

Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent
Ms. Jennifer Harbert, Creede – Absent
Ms. Tina Freel, Moffat – Aye
Mr. Kurt Holland, Monte Vista – Aye
Ms. Theresa Sisneros, South Conejos – Aye

Mr. Austin Miller, Sanford - Aye
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 motion to approve all five of the CASB’s Special Policy Updates was approved as presented.

11. Legislative Report

Tina Freel addressed the issues that two of our districts are facing with Senate bill 21-116 which prohibits the use of American Indian mascots by public schools as of June 1, 2022.

12. Executive Session – CRS 24-6-402 (4) (h)

A motion to move into Executive Session and inviting Mr. Travis Garoutte and Ms. Tina Goar was made by Mr. Kurt Holland, seconded by Mr. Austin Miller, and the votes were cast by roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye
Mr. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye
Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent
Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 - Aye
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 motion to move into Executive Session was approved as presented.

A motion to rehire Ms. Tina Goar as the San Luis Valley BOCES Executive Director was made by Mr. Walter Ruybal, seconded by Mr. Kurt Holland, and the votes were cast by roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Katrina Brown, Alamosa – Aye
Mr. Dwight Mondragon, Centennial - Aye
Ms. Misty Palacios, Center – Absent
Ms. Jennifer Harbert, 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 - Aye
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 motion to rehire Ms. Tina Goar as the San Luis Valley BOCES Executive Director was approved as presented.

Executive session adjourned at 9:48pm.
Returned to open session at 9:50pm.

13. Next Regular Board Meeting June 2, 2021

14. Ms. Tina Freel adjourned the meeting at 9:53pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Adeline Duarte-Lee, Recording Secretary	Date
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Tina Freel, President	Date
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Katrina Brown, Secretary	Date
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