



# Four Corners

Regional Education Cooperative #1  
*Working for the Future*

## MEETING MINUTES JUNE 18, 2024


- I. Welcome and Introductions – The meeting was held in person and via Zoom, being called to order at 10:01 a.m.
  
- II. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – A quorum was determined as follows:
  - Present:
    - Cody Diehl, Farmington Municipal Schools
    - Mike Hyatt, Gallup-McKinley County Schools (Zoom)
    - Lauren Laws, Aztec Municipal Schools
    - Kevin Summers, Bloomfield Schools
    - Dr. Toni Pendergrass, San Juan College (10:14 a.m.)
  
  - Absent:
    - Steve Carlson, Central Consolidated Schools
    - Randy Stickney, Zuni Pueblo Schools
  
  - Also in Attendance:
    - David Bowman, Director
    - Staci Babcock, Business Manager
  
- III. Action: Approval of Meeting Agenda – The agenda was presented and reviewed. Mr. Diehl moved to approve the meeting agenda and Mrs. Laws seconded. The motion passed to approve the meeting agenda.
  
- IV. Discussion, Updates, and Actions
  - a. Action: Approval of REC-1 FY25 Budget – Ms. Babcock presented the budget, which was minimal. There are two finds: 25271 showing a carryover and 27101 indicating what was spent. Mr. Diehl motioned to approve the FY25 Budget and Mrs. Laws seconded. The motion passed to approve the FY25 Budget.
  - b. Action: Approval of Stipend Increases – Mr. Bowman requested that the stipends for the support staff be increased by \$3,000 to prevent the need to pay an

additional amount toward the end of the fiscal year. The current stipend is \$9,000, with increased purchase orders and expenses there is increased work. They are more than deserving. Mrs. Laws made a motion to approve the stipend increases and Mr. Diehl seconded. The motion passed to increase the stipend amounts for Babcock, Gabehart, and Longacre.

- c. Action: Review and Accept Early Childhood Education & Care Development (ECECD) Grant on behalf of McKinley County ECC (MKECC) – Mr. Bowman presented the initiative, as a two-year project with the first year guaranteed. If approved, the second year would be awarded. The benefit would be organization within our region to better prepare students for kindergarten. There has already been a precedence set with the LANL and Frost, with overall strategy for student growth. Mr. Summers noted that in reviewing the information received, and factoring in the additional time, effort, and expenses that it would not provide financial benefit to the REC. The revenue, after expenditures, would be no more than \$7,000. Mr. Bowman noted that it might be a good opportunity to collaborate with the ECED. Mr. Hyatt mentioned that GMCS already has a program in place to prepare students for kindergarten. Mr. Diehl agreed that there needs to be more benefit to the REC. With that, Mr. Summers moved to make no motion and take no action. The board agreed, therefore no motion or action was taken.
- d. Action: Review and Accept Kellogg Gran Funds on behalf of MKECC – As deemed in VI. c. no motion or action was taken.
- e. Action: Review and Approve updates to REC-1 Policy Manual – Mr. Summers noted that Mr. Hyatt and Dr. Mizell had reviewed and edited the policy manual previously with necessary changes made. However, there is no mention of compensation or accumulation of leave. Additionally, there are no listed protocols for travel, such as a) who approves and b) what constitutes a meal? Previous edits require prior approval for travel outside of San Juan County, modification is needed for flexibility. As for the definition of a meal, a single cup of coffe, a dozen donuts, a water, or a string cheese does not constitute a meal. Members noted that they do not have a policy outlining what a meal is; however, they would not allow expenses of this nature. It was also noted that Title I or federal grants would not allow expenses such as these either. Mr. Summers noted that a 30-day notice for travel outside of the county, as feasibly possible, and that the Executive Director’s

travel be approved by a Chair would be appropriate amendments. The director would still approve the other employee's travel, with the clarification that snacks are not meals. Mr. Hyatt made a motion to approve the updates to the REC-1 Policy Manual as described and Mrs. Laws seconded. The motion passed to approve the updates to the REC-1 Policy Manual as described.

- V. Action: Convene to Executive Session to Discuss Expectations for Director – Mr. Diehl made a motion to convene to Executive Session and Dr. Pendergrass seconded. The motion passed to convene to Executive Session at 10:39 a.m.
- VI. Action: Reconvene to Open Session – Mr. Diehl made a motion to reconvene to Open Session and Dr. Pendergrass seconded. The motion passed to reconvene to open session at 11:59 a.m.
  - a. Action: Accept Expectations for Director – Mr. Hyatt noted the addition of directives and expectations to the evaluation that was approved at the last meeting. Mr. Hyatt made a motion to TABLE the action and Mrs. Laws seconded. The motion was tabled.
- VII. Superintendent discussions regarding REC-specific topics – Mr. Bowman discussed the analysis of the strategic plan and provided a timeline of monthly activities.
- VIII. Next Board Meeting: August 14, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. – Mr. Bowman noted that this meeting will be the quarter 1 meeting and that meetings will be scheduled quarterly for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. to be held at the REC building. The next quarter meeting will be November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- IX. Action: Approval to Adjourn – Mr. Diehl made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Laws seconded. The motion passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

  
Board Member Signature

PROSIDENT  
Title

8/21/24  
Date Approved