



Four Corners Regional Education Cooperative #1

*Aztec Municipal Schools – Bloomfield Public Schools—Central Consolidated Schools—Farmington
Municipal Schools—Gallup-McKinley County Schools—Zuni Public Schools—San Juan College*

MEETING MINUTES November 12, 2025

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Meeting was held in person and via Zoom and was called to order at 10:03 am.
- II. Roll call and Determination of Quorum – Quorum was determined as follows:

Present:

Steve Carlson – Central Consolidated Schools
Lynda Spencer – Bloomfield Schools
Cody Diehl – Farmington Municipal Schools
Lauren Laws – Aztec Municipal Schools
Dr. Toni Pendergrass – San Juan College

Absent:

Mike Hyatt – Gallup McKinley County Schools
Dr. Randy Stickney – Zuni Public Schools

Also in Attendance:

Dr. Leandro Venturina, Director REC-1
Laverne Brown – Bloomfield Schools/Finance Director REC-1
Evelyn Garcia – Aztec Municipal Schools

- III. Action: Approval of Meeting Agenda – The meeting agenda was presented and reviewed. Mr. Diehl moved to approve the meeting agenda and Ms. Laws seconded. The motion passed to approve the meeting agenda.
- IV. Action: Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – The previous meeting minutes were reviewed for August 13, 2025 regular Board Meeting, the September 18, 2025 and October 28, 2025 Ad-Hoc meetings. Dr. Pendergrass moved to approve the previous meeting minutes and Mr. Diehl seconded. The motion passed to approve the previous meeting minutes.
- V. Action: Review and Approval of Quarterly Financial Budget Reports – Mr. Carlson called for questions. Ms. Brown mentioned that the Federal Grant has not been transferred to the new director due to the shutdown. However, drawdowns are still taking place as needed. The audit has been moved to January, 2026. Dr. Pendergrass asked with the Federal Grant ends and was told by Mr. Venturina that it ends December, 2025. Mr. Venturina mentioned he has met with the schools regarding them spending their allocations. No one has done that yet. Dr.

Pendergrass suggested Mr. Venturina contact the grantor and request and extension given the amount of funds left over and because there is a new director.

There was no further discussion. Mr. Diehl moved to approve the Quarterly Financial Budget Reports and Ms. Laws seconded. The motion passed to approve the Quarterly Financial Budget Report.

VI. Discussion, Updates, and Actions

- a. Discussion and Possible Action: Transfer of fiscal operations to Aztec Municipal Schools – Ms. Laws said it was in the best interest of the REC-1 to shift all finance operations to AMS. Ms. Spencer questioned this. Why not keep finance operations at Bloomfield since it has been there from the beginning? Mr. Diehl was asking why they had to do hiring and Ms. Spencer said Bloomfield could take the hiring as they did with Dr. Venturina. She was also concerned on the successful transfer of I-Vision. Ms. Laws said there wouldn't be a problem with I-Vision. Ms. Laws said financial questions in the past were not answered. Ms. Spencer then brought up the bylaws and much discussion happened over the fact that the bylaws and Policy and Procedures were not aligned. The board agreed to look into amending and aligning the two documents. Ms. Spencer was concerned that some of her people who helped with the REC-1 would lose their stipends. Dr. Pendergrass said she supported moving the finances to AMS and mentioned there was no trust in the previous director due to lack of answering financial questions. Mr. Carlson asked, if the vote passed, when the transition would take place. Ms. Spencer asked why the board wanted the financial operations moved. She said she would not vote for that. Dr. Pendergrass said she supported it. Dr. Venturina said he wants the REC-1 to be sustainable and have continuity of services. Discussion was to wait until the end of the fiscal year to look at it again. The action was tabled.
- b. Discussion: Building Lease Agreement – Mr. Carlson called for discussion from Dr. Venturina about keeping the building. He said with REC-1 having its own space was beneficial. It was agreed that REC-1 having its own space was a good idea as the building is a central location for schools. It was suggested looking into a 6-month lease, if not possible, continue with a 12-month lease. Ms. Spencer mentioned the bylaws stated the REC-1 should be housed at a school location.
- c. Discussion – Updates of EEDW Project – Dr. Venturina said he has collaborated with EEDW partners for updates. Partners included;
Jaime Cherry, Business Coordinator and planning for events,
Ricky Williams, Support for Admin,
Eric Arpelar, HED Director,

Anna Brown , Counselor Support and school visitation
RAND – final reporting, surveys.

Dr. Venturina mentioned he has not heard anything on the no cost extension yet. Dr. Pendergrass said she would like an accounting report of how the money is being spent on monthly basis. She also requested a summary of the RAND past and current evaluations. Mr. Diehl he would finally like to be able to discuss things that affect their schools and what the REC-1 is doing for them.

- d. Discussion: Update of Executive Director Meetings with Members – Dr. Venturina thanked the superintendents he has already met with. He is planning on meeting with the rest of them at some point. He will be visiting with Dr. Stickney on Monday. He wants to discuss the needs of all the districts. He mentioned the Strategic Plan needs to be aligned with the districts.

VII. Superintendent Discussion: Mr. Carlson called for discussion. There was none.

VIII. Next Board Meeting: February 11, 2026 @ 10:00am to be held at the REC-1 Office.

IX. Action: Approval to Adjourn – Mr. Diehl made a motion to adjourn the current meeting and Ms. Laws seconded. The motion passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

 Secretary 02/01/2026
Board Member Signature Title Date Approved