

## REGIONAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE VII

---

April Williams, MS CCC-SLP - Executive Director  
PO Box 770 Hobbs, NM 88242  
621 N McKinley Hobbs, NM 88240  
(575) 393-0755 (575) 393-0249 Fax

### MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the REC VII Board of Directors was held at the REC 7 Board Room on December 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Brian Snider, President

Gene Strickland, Vice President-Absent

Greg Slover, Secretary

Bruce Hatch, Member

Pam Quinones, Member

April Williams, Executive Director/REC VII

Pat Jaco, Director of Finance/REC VII

Guest: Sonia Lawson, Hobbs Municipal Schools-Proxy

The meeting was called to order @ 9:58 a.m. by Mr. Snider.

### AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Hatch for approval of Consideration of Agenda (12/12/2024); motion unanimously carried.

### MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hatch to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting (11/14/2024); motion unanimously carried.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Slover for approval of Entitlement, Preschool, Title II, Medicaid, REC Operational, Pre-K, and State Directed Activities (November 2024)

---

**BRUCE HATCH**  
Superintendent  
Eunice Public Schools

**GENE STRICKLAND**  
Superintendent  
Hobbs Municipal Schools

**BRIAN SNIDER**  
Superintendent  
Jal Public Schools

**PAM QUIÑONES**  
Superintendent  
Lovington Municipal Schools

**GREG SLOVER**  
Superintendent  
Tatum Municipal Schools

**PAGE 2**  
**MINUTES**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**CONSIDERATION OF  
RENEWAL OF THE  
CONTRACT FOR EDGENUITY**

Motion by Mr. Slover for approval of renewal with Imagine Learning for Edgenuity; motion unanimously carried.

**CONSIDERATION OF  
AWARDING RFP FOR 1 TO 1  
FRIENDSHIP GRANT  
IGA #25-924-000206**

Motion by Mr. Slover for approval of awarding the RFP for the 1 to 1 Friendship Grant for 24-25; motion unanimously carried.

**INFORMATION:**

**Executive Director Discussion:**

1. Medicaid Information for November 2024.
2. Report from AESA-I recently attended the AESA conference in Orlando Florida. There were sessions for various topics ranging from teacher retention and recruitment, AI, leadership and special education. One session which was particularly interesting was regarding Inspired Leadership. Maria Jaramillo presented with another director from another state. Maria is the director at CREC 5 out of Albuquerque. She is also a former Speech Language Pathologist and has become a valued colleague of mine. Each director provided an overview of their implementation of this program in their organizations. It is about clarity and team collaboration so that you are all on the same page and all are empowered. It's not just about the attitude but the product result. I have provided a weekly newsletter in which you can register to receive. I can forward the email to those who are interested.

Initially, your organization or department completes an assessment, The Energy Leadership Index (ELI) as well as The Working Genius. I have included a handout in your folder. It shows the areas of measurement. The ELI helps teams with their leadership style by mastering seven levels of energy in order to enhance performance and engagement. The Working Genius is a framework that matches talents with tasks in order to increase productivity and promote collaboration and teamwork. If you would like more information on this, please reach out to me. I have contact information and more materials which were used during the presentation.

3. NMRECA visit with Secretary Padilla-On Tuesday I attempted to travel to Santa Fe; however, due to weather I was unable to attend. According to a report obtained from other directors, the secretary indicated that she was familiar with RECs and the work that we do. Each director was able to provide a report of what their REC specifically does. Dr. Jenkins and Amanda DeBell were both in attendance and indicated that they needed the RECs and wanted to collaborate with us moving forward. Amanda DeBell requested to attend some of our regularly scheduled meetings. Overall, it was a positive meeting.
4. LFC Proposal-NMRECA proposed budget to the LFC last week. Currently, each REC receives \$135,000. We proposed \$350,000 being the open the door costs and another \$150,000 for the years of unfunded mandated raises. In PED's Public School Budget request they rolled us over at \$135,000 per REC as directed by LFC prior to our request being made. We submitted the request despite the roll over.

**PAGE 3**  
**MINUTES**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2024**

Additional Information Items:

Academic Competition: The Academic Competition which was scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to the passing of Dr. Anna Burns, who was the moderator for the competition. Her memorial service was held on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Out of consideration of students and staff it was decided to cancel. A new date will be established and districts will be notified.

Special Education Academy: The Winter Special Education Academy will be held January 7-9, 2025 at Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa-conference registration is free.

Superintendent's Discussion:

1. LRP April 27-30, 2025

Upcoming Trainings/Events


- 1 LFC December 9-13, 2024
- 2 Lea County SPED Directors Meeting December 19, 2024 9-10:30 am
- 3 Secretary Call December 19, 2024 9:00 am
- 4 Lea County Transition Meeting January 15, 2025 1:00 pm Hobbs Central Office
- 5 IEP Monitoring/Review Lea County Districts January 30, 2025
- 6 REC7 Office closed for Christmas-December 23, 2024-January 6, 2025
- 7 Next REC7 Board Meeting Scheduled for January 9, 2025

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting of 12/12/2024 was adjourned at 10:55 a.m., motioned by Mr. Hatch; motion unanimously carried.



**April Williams**

**REC VII Executive Director**



**Brian Snider**

**REC VII Board President**