

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes  
April 9, 2020**

**Schools Present via Zoom:** Texarkana, Hope, Genoa, Fouke, Prescott, Lafayette

**Schools Not Present:** Blevins, Spring Hill, Nevada

**Co-op Staff Present via Zoom:** Monica Morris, Gina Perkins, Eva Wood

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Buie.

Robert Poole made a motion to approve the minutes from March, seconded by Bobby Hart.  
The minutes were approved.

Bobby Hart made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from March.  
Robert Poole seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**SWAEC BOARD SECRETARY NOMINATIONS** – Robert Poole made a motion to nominate Becky Kesler for Secretary of the board in the 2020-2021 school year. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**TEACHER CENTER UPDATES** – Monica Morris

**STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT** – SWAEC is working with DESE to make Strategic Reading, Critical Reading, and Academic Reading digital PD.

Science of Reading Assessor Training will be held virtually, July 15-16, 2020.

The RISE face to face sessions were not designed to be virtual and will continue as face to face trainings once the Co-op is allowed to host them again. The deadline for completion hasn't changed.

Mrs. Morris asked districts to take a few minutes to complete and share the SWAEC Perkins V Needs Assessment. This survey will decide how Perkins funds will be spent.

Now that school districts have worked with their chosen CCR Tool provider for one year, DESE is providing schools an opportunity to change their selected vendor before beginning a three year commitment. By June 1, 2020, superintendents must submit a Certified Selection of Provider for the 2020-2021 thru 2022-2023 school years.

College Board will be providing webinars, videos, and other resources to help AP teachers and coordinators leading up to exam day.

Superintendents of all public school districts and charter schools with K-2 enrollment will need to submit their K-2 assessment choices to the Office of Student Assessment by Friday, May 1, 2020.

**OTHER INFORMATION** –

SWAEC's AMI Resource Page can be found on its website. The superintendents were told to please share this with teachers and parents. It's being updated often.

Mrs. Morris asked that districts complete the User Satisfaction Survey. This survey is required for all Co-ops and feedback is needed.

AMI Guidance from DESE is coming soon. This will include things such as time on task, grading, communication, etc.

The TCCs are working with DESE to develop a parent survey for use during this time. If the districts have already done something similar, they were asked to please share.

DESE is working on a professional development waiver, which may allow the teachers to go ahead and work on required PD in April and May, instead of waiting until June 1, 2020. More information will be coming soon!

Mrs. Morris told the superintendents the Co-op is unsure about what summer PD will look like right now, but is working on moving PD online for early summer. She will send more information once it's decided.

**PERSONNEL** – Ms. Bailey

Interviews have been conducted and Ms. Bailey recommended the hire of Callie Fore as Early Childhood Clerk.

Ms. Bailey also notified the board that Donna Carozza has rescinded her resignation, due to the applicant backing out after being offered and accepting the position.

Robert Poole made a motion to accept the personnel changes, as presented. Debbie Huff seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**DISCUSSION OF AMI AND ONGOING ISSUES**

Ms. Bailey asked the board for input on how the Co-op can best serve the districts at this time, due to social distancing and building closures. There was a brief discussion, and the board decided they would continue to contact SWAEC staff as needs arise.

The superintendents discussed the cost of speech therapy and telehealth. They shared some changes that they have made with current contracts and how much money that could save their district. They made plans to further discuss these costs and contracts in greater detail to ensure everyone is getting the best services for the best price.

**OTHER ITEMS**

With no further business, Robert Poole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bobby Hart seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.