

**BITTERROOT VALLEY EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Tuesday, May 26, 2020
9:00 a.m. – Web meeting

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Stiegler called the meeting to order at 9:06. Board members attending Johnston, Pearson, Scully and Moore. BVEC office staff attending Miller, Hughes, Reynolds and Zieglowsky. Other BVEC staff attending Welch, Mutchler, Lindsay, Olds, Pepion, O'Connell and Gillespie.
2. **Introduce Staff Representative** – Melody Lindsay, Mental Health Therapist for Victor Schools.
3. **Consent Agenda** – Scully Motion to approve, second by Johnston. No discussion. Roll call vote – all approved. Motion carries 5-0.
 - A. Minutes – April 24 Board Meeting, April 30 Board Interview Meeting
 - B. Warrants
 - C. Financial Report
 - D. New Hires
 1. Daylin Baker, Preschool Paraeducator, 2020-21 school year
 - E. Resignations - attached
 1. Tim Kolberg, Assistant Business Manager/IT
 2. Melody Lindsay, CSCT Therapist, Victor
 3. Niki Talley, CSCT Behavior Consultant, Darby
 - F. Next Meeting – ~~June 23, 2020~~ After motion was approved, before final adjournment, this date was changed to June 18, 2020. Miller to follow up with meeting invitation.
4. **Public Comment** - Melody Lindsay was the staff representative for this month and she thanked everyone for all the hard work done due to the COVID 19 pandemic to support the students and parents. Miller thanked Melody for her years of service at the co-op and for being a valuable employee. Hughes followed up with a thank you to Melody and stated that she had been a rock in Victor for the co-op all these years as both a Behavior Consultant and a Mental Health Therapist. Johnston thanked Melody for being a great help and a great friend.
5. **Correspondence** – none
6. **Board Action**
 - A. **School Emergency Relief Funds to Restart Mental Health Programs** –
 - 1) Plan to Utilize and Preserve Funds, 2) Forecast and Funds Required to Restart

Stiegler asked for clarification on how reserve limits for the Co-op are different than reserve limits for school districts. Miller explained that co-ops do not have a 10% limit that school districts have, co-ops are not limited. He also explained the issue we have with the

lag of payment for services versus payroll when the CSCT program is restarted. Reynolds and Hughes agreed with this and reiterated that we will not have our "normal" summer services this year to cover the CSCT expenses during the 20-21 school year.

Johnston asked if we were planning to have summer programs running. Hughes explained that we would continue with Outpatient services combination of telehealth and face to face where appropriate. If the situation changes and COVID 19 constraints are lifted, we will bring back staff for CSCT services. Johnston clarified he was asking if we were planning to bring back staff for normal CSCT summer programs. Hughes answered no not at this time and that it is not possible with the current COVID 19 constraints. Miller commented that if the situation improves and it makes sense, we will bring back staff.

Miller asked for commitment from the BVEC Board, knowing that it would require the school district boards approval, to the recommended funds from the school emergency relief fund. Johnston asked what happens if the BVEC Board votes to approve the recommendation, but one school district votes not to approve the recommendation. Miller answered that we would have a problem and it could mean we would be unable to restart CSCT in that district. There was further discussion about the possibility of phasing back in teams versus starting all teams at the beginning of school. Miller, Hughes and Zieglowsky spoke to caseload sizes and not being able to conduct group meetings as reasons why the programs would not be scalable.

Moore made motion for a resolution to seek a reserve funding contribution from each district participating in the BVEC mental health (CSCT) program based on a per team assessment of \$15,517. Second by Johnston. Discussion followed. Moore wanted everyone to know and remember that everyone is coming after the emergency relief funds and that this is a finite resource and a one-time thing that will require long discussions with their school boards. Miller commented that BVEC staff would be happy to attend any meetings if that would be helpful. Superintendents agreed this would be helpful and they will send invitations and dates to Miller.

Roll call vote – all approved. Motion carries 5-0.

B. 2020-21 Contract Renewals for Licensed and Non-Licensed Staff under CBA –


Discussion around what was better, sending contracts out and possibly having to do another furlough if we don't have funding or aren't able to provide CSCT services due to COVIC 19 or the impact of not sending out contracts and possibly losing staff due to uncertainty. Agreement was made that it was better to send out the contracts as it is important to have staff that knows our caseloads, understands our programs and policies and we won't have to "ramp up" like we would if we lost staff. It also allows us to start conversations with the Union since next year is a bargaining year. Moore made the motion to approve the recommendation to approve contract renewals for licensed and unlicensed staff covered by the CBA. Second by Pearson. No discussion. Roll call vote, Scully abstained because his son is included – all approved. Motion carries 4-0.

- C. **Rehire CSCT Classified Staff** – Moore motion to approve rehiring CSCT classified staff as recommended. Second by Scully. Roll call vote – all approved. Motion carries 5-0.
- D. **Mental Health Clinical Supervisor Request for Insurance Language Change in Contract** – On behalf of Zieglowsky, Miller asked the board to consider a single request ahead of negotiating a wage and benefit package for the CSCT Clinical Supervisor due to impending enrollment dates. Discussion around legality of the recommended wording and also meeting any deadlines from MUST for enrollment at either Hamilton School District or BVEC, concerns regarding incentivizing employees not to enroll in our Health Plans because we have a contractual agreement with MUST to ensure percentage of enrollment. Moore motion to table this until we seek legal advice regarding wording in the contract. Second by Johnston. Roll call vote – all approved. Motion carries 5-0.

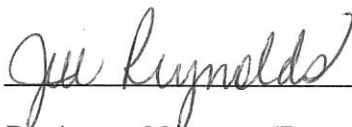
7. Information and Discussion

- A. **CSCT 90 Day Financial Report** – Reynolds reviewed totals for CSCT through March for the month, year to date and the full year projection. The sign off sheet will be distributed for Superintendent signatures.
- B. **Notice - Annual Destruction of Special Education Records** – Miller reviewed the public notice and letters school should send out to families.
- C. **Updates/Revisions on School District Restrictions for In-person Contact** – Miller explained the tracking form we were using for our staff based on the information gathered from schools. He asked Board members to review it for accuracy and to let us know if anything changes. He also asked that the co-op be notified if districts would be unable to provide supplies, equipment, custodial support for sanitization if on campus. Also, the students receiving telehealth over the summer will need their school assigned devices.

9. Adjourn – Stiegler adjourned the meeting at 10:46.

 6-18-2020

Board Chair Signature and Date

 6/23/2020

Business Manager/Board Clerk Signature and Date