

**BITTERROOT VALLEY EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 9:00
a.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Dr. Moore called the meeting to order at 9:03. Board Members in attendance: Dr. Moore, Mr. DoBell, and Mr. Rayburn. Board Members not in attendance: Mr. Toynbee and Mr. Pearson. BVEC Admin staff in attendance: Ms. Rammell and Mr. Hughes; BVEC staff in attendance: Liza Gostevskyh, Angela Pell, and Liz Pepion.

2. **Introduce Staff Representative** - Angela Pell, MHT Stevensville Elementary.

3. **Consent Agenda** – No request for change, no discussion. Consent agenda unanimously approved.

A. Minutes

B. Warrants

C. Financial Report

D. Resignations-None

E. New Hires-None

F. Next Meeting – March 23, 2021 at 9:00 am

4. **Public Comment** – Angela Pell, staff representative, discussed how the CSCT team continues “trucking along” and how she loves being with the kids. They continue to adapt to changes due to COVID 19 and larger caseloads. Mr. Hughes thanked Ms. Pell for the amazing she job she does and for being our rock and helping us figure out how to operate with all the changes this past year. Dr. Moore agreed with Mr. Hughes and stated they consider Ms. Pell to be their rock star and appreciates the job she does.

Mr. Rayburn thanked the CSCT group for their support in the Florence schools last week during their crisis.

5. **Correspondence** – None

6. **Board Action**

A. **Appeal Request**

BVEC Preschool teacher Liza Gostevskiyh submitted a notice of intent to move to the next lane of the salary schedule. This notice of intent was denied due to the fact it was received February 5, 2021 which did not meet the February 1st deadline as specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The employee will notify the Employer in writing of his or her intent to move to the next lane of the salary schedule not later than February 1 of the year prior to such intended move.

Liza has submitted a letter for Board consideration to appeal this decision.

Dr. Moore explained that this was a case to be considered and decided on by the Board and that the Director should always follow the CBA to the letter. Ms. Rammell explained the situation that led to her denying the intent to move to the next lane of the salary schedule due to the missed deadline. Ms. Gostevskiyh asked for an appeal and explained that it was her mistake, she is new to the CBA process and had missed the deadline, but that she would learn from this and ensure she meets deadlines in the future.

Dr. Moore asked for comments, there were none. Mr. Rayburn made the motion to accept the appeal as a one-time, non-precedent setting, exception to the CBA. Mr. DoBell seconded the motion. In discussion, Mr. Rayburn stressed the importance for Ms. Gostevskiyh to read through the CBA each year and understand deadlines. He also stated he appreciated the straightforward explanation of what happened, and the way Ms. Gostevskiyh owned her mistake.

Dr. Moore called for the vote; motion carried 3-0.

7. Information and Discussion

A. Contract for Listening and Spoken Language Services

Mary Koch-Cline has been providing services since 2019. Listening and Spoken Languages Services are provided as an IEP provision. Ms. Rammell explained we extended a new contract to Ms. KochCline for this year.

B. CSCT - Mr. Hughes gave an overview of his understanding of CSCT funding being reviewed by the legislature. At this time, it is still uncertain what will happen. The House did not assign any funding, which moved the bills to Senate Claims and Financing. There are discussions regarding an intergovernmental transfer process to keep the Medicaid rate where it needs to be, covering a six-million-dollar gap, etc. Mr. Hughes hopes to have a better understanding of the likelihood of any legislation soon. He is also looking at how we would continue to provide services if there is a gap in funding, possibly a combination of HHS and outpatient services or targeted case management.

Mr. Hughes acknowledged the remarkable job done by our teams this year. Our forecast is that although we may lose money this year, we should still end the year with healthy reserves. Ms. Reynolds added that CSCT covered costs in January. All districts, except Lone Rock, covered costs and only three schools were unable to cover costs.

Dr. Moore asked if we would be able to provide summer services as a level to cover school year costs next year. Mr. Hughes explained that there is a lot of unknown with COVID 19, but he felt we would be able to do better than this past summer but was not sure we could have a "normal" summer program.

8. Adjourn – Dr. Moore adjourned the meeting at 9:35.



Board Chair Signature

3-23-2021
Date



Board Clerk Signature

3/23/2021
Date