

Bitterroot Valley Education Cooperative Management Board

Thursday, May 29, 2025

11:00 AM-Cooperative Office/Zoom

MINUTES- FINAL

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Thennis called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. Board Members in attendance: Mr. Thennis, Mr. Fiske, Mr. Stiegler, Mr. Biesiot (via Zoom). Ms. Murphy, Lone Rock principle, attended as the Lone Rock representative. BVEC Administration in attendance: Ms. Rammell, Ms. Gillespie. BVEC staff in attendance: Cami Hildebrand, Florence School Psychologist and BVEC CPI Trainer. Others in attendance: Sierra Bauer, Stevensville Elementary School Principal and CPI Trainer. Board Clerk: Jill Reynolds.

2. **Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve Mr. Fiske. Second by Mr. Stiegler. Motion carries 4-0.

- A. Minutes
- B. Warrants
- C. Resignation-none
- D. New Hires-none
- E. Next Meeting: June 24, 2025

3. **Public Comment** – None.

4. **Correspondence/Communication** – None.

5. **Board Action-**

- A. **BVEC Board Chair (2025-2026 Term)** – Ms. Rammell explained BVEC policy for Board Chair is to follow alphabetically by District name which would be Scott Stiegler, Victor School District Superintendent as the next BVEC Board Chairperson. Mr. Fiske made a motion to approve Mr. Stiegler as Board Chair for 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Thennis seconded the motion. Mr. Stiegler abstained from the vote. Motion carried 2-0.
- B. **BVEC Special Education Budget** – Ms. Rammell stated that she and Ms. Reynolds had spoken to all Superintendents regarding the draft budget. No changes have been made to the budget since then and no subsequent questions were raised since those conversations. Ms. Murphy, from Lone Rock, had also had discussions with Ms. Rammell. Ms. Rammell proposed the Board accept and adopt the Special Education Draft budget for 2025-2026. Mr. Fiske made a motion to accept and adopt the Special Education draft budget. Mr. Stiegler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- C. **BVEC CSCT Budget (Florence, Lone Rock, Victor)-** Ms. Rammell stated that she and Ms. Reynolds had spoken to Mr. Fiske and Mr. Stiegler regarding the draft budget. No changes have been made to the budget since then and no subsequent questions were raised since those conversations. Ms. Murphy, from Lone Rock, had also had discussions with Ms. Rammell. Ms. Rammell proposed the Board accept and adopt the Mental Health Draft budget for 2025-2026. Mr. Fiske made a motion to accept and adopt the Special Education draft budget. Mr. Stiegler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- D. **Contract Renewal-Ashley Gillespie, CSCT Program Manager-** Ms. Rammell explained contract term for Ms. Gillespie is for 180 days with a 2% increase. The increase percentage was based on the

step increases for staff which are also approximately 2%. Mr. Biesiot made a motion to approve the contract renewal for Ms. Gillespie as proposed. Mr. Fiske seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

- E. **Contract Renewal-Jill Reynolds, BVEC Business Manager** – Ms. Rammell explained the current contract term for Ms. Reynolds is 209 days and \$55,500 per year. Ms. Rammell also explained that in comparison to other Cooperative Business Managers with the same number of contract days at \$72,000, Ms. Reynolds' pay is too low. In addition, Ms. Reynolds has additional tasks that the other Cooperative business managers do not have, such as Mental Health and Special education billing, maintaining two budgets, one for Special Education and one for Mental Health, managing facility maintenance, cleaning, and repairs, and managing maintenance of Cooperative vehicles. Ms. Rammell proposed a 7.9% increase, \$59,985, for 209 days. Mr. Fiske made a motion to renew Ms. Reynolds contract as proposed. Mr. Stiegler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- F. **Contract Renewal-Jenny Rammell, Director** – Ms. Rammell explained that her current contract is for 235 days. Ms. Rammell proposes a 2% increase based on the staff increase of approximately 2%, same 235 days. Ms. Rammell also explained that in comparison to the Director at MAEC, with this increase her daily rate will be \$24 less than the MAEC director. Mr. Fiske made a motion to renew Ms. Rammell's contract as proposed. Mr. Stiegler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Information and Discussion

- A. **CPI Training Schedule for 2025-26** – Ms. Hildebrand reviewed the CPI schedule that is based on the Cooperative district member calendars that are currently available, acknowledging some of those calendars are still preliminary. The current schedule is as follows:
 - a. Darby and Victor districts training will be August 12, 2025. The location is to be determined as well as how Ms. Hildebrand and Ms. Bauer will manage the training (together or separately).
 - b. Stevensville will be Renewal training only, ½ day, on August 13, 2025, location to be determined.
 - c. Florence, Lone Rock, and the BVEC Preschool will be on August 14, 2025. Mr. Fiske asked about the option of having Florence training on a Friday when they will not have school, possibly one of their PIR/PD days.

Ms. Hildebrand will be sending out the staff training list by district, if they are certified, if they need initial training or just renewal. There will be another class later in the year, Thursday MEA day for any staff unable to attend one of the classes listed above. It is possible there might be another one in January if needed.

There was group discussion on how to add other staff, such as students who will be working in Life Skills class in Victor, and what training is appropriate, if they should be included in training with staff, etc. Ms. Hildebrand is going to review the CPI materials she has to see if she can put together something appropriate for this type of situation.

- B. CSCT end of year transitions – Ms. Gillespie provided details of the plans for closing down sites that are leaving Mental Health services. Ms. Gillespie and Ms. Moresi will be at Stevensville Schools on June 9th and 10th. Mr. Thennis recommends they reach out to the school principals regarding access to the schools and offices. They will be in Victor on June 18th and 19th. Mr. Stiegler stated that they will all still be in school to help with access. They will be in Darby on June 16th and 17th and Mr. Biesiot agreed those dates would work. In addition, Ms. Gillespie and Ms. Moresi will be in the schools on the last days of school to conduct exit interviews with staff and gather laptops, monitors, printers, etc.

7. Adjourn – Mr. Thennis adjourned the meeting at 11:44 AM.


BOARD CHAIR SIGNATURE

8/26/25
DATE


BOARD CLERK SIGNATURE

8/25/25
DATE