

Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes

June 18, 2026

Schools Present: Genoa, Prescott, Lafayette, Nevada, Hope (via zoom), Texarkana (via zoom)

Schools Not Present: Fouke, Blevins, Spring Hill

Co-op Staff Present: Phoebe Bailey, Gina Perkins, Jenny Smead, Kelly Cornelius, Hannah Ward

The meeting was called to order by Jonathan Crossley.

Lloyd Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from May. Roy McCoy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Roy McCoy made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports from May. The motion was seconded by Larry Smith. The motion was approved.

Annual Report - Ms. Bailey presented the 2025-26 annual report to the board. A motion was made by Jon Estes to approve the report as printed. It was seconded by Larry Smith. The motion was approved.

Contract Amendments - Ms. Bailey presented a list of contract amendments for the 2025-26 fiscal year. A motion was made by Jon Estes to approve the amendments, seconded by Roy McCoy. The motion was approved.

Dyslexia - Kelly Cornelius discussed new dyslexia state updates. Students identified through ATLAS screening or assessment data as at risk will receive required dyslexia screening. Additional provisions address evaluation procedures for grades 3-12 and appropriate reading class placement for secondary students with reading deficits or characteristics of dyslexia.

Director Updates- Phoebe Bailey

Director Vehicle- Ms. Bailey presented two AEPA contract bids from Melloy Chevrolet for a new director vehicle: a Chevrolet Traverse and a Ford Explorer. Following discussion, Lloyd Jackson made a motion to purchase the Traverse through the vendor, seconded by Roy McCoy. The motion carried.

AEPA- Ms. Bailey provided an update on AEPA procurement activities. The national organization is preparing to release solicitation documents for new categories on June 30, 2026, with bids to be opened on August 13, 2026. SWAEC has completed the required legal notices in statewide publications.

Federal Updates

-Merit pay recipient list and award amounts will be distributed to districts on June 24, 2026, at which time funding will also be released. Districts are not expected to process these payments before June 30.

-The LAUNCH for Students programs is designed to support the development of implementation of Student Success Plans (SSPs) and student-centered academic and career planning aligned with Arkansas law. Districts are required to confirm their designated LFS Facilitators by completing the form by Friday, June 26, 2026.

Personnel- Ms. Bailey presented a personnel packet for approval of hires. Jon Estes made a motion to approve the packet as presented, and Roy McCoy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Bailey presented Dr. Crossley with a plaque in recognition of his service as the 2025-2026 SWAEC Board President.

With no further business, there was a motion made by Roy McCoy to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bradley Wright. The meeting was adjourned.

