

**Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board's Minutes  
June 16, 2021**

**Schools Present:** Lafayette, Blevins, Fouke, Hope, Spring Hill, Texarkana, Nevada, Prescott (proxy).

**Schools Not Present:** Genoa

**Co-op Staff Present:** Phoebe Bailey, Monica Morris, Eva Wood, Gina Perkins, Tanya Collins, Lynn Foster, Shannon Puckett.

**Guests Present:** Steve Harris and Robin Bass.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Buie.

Tom Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes from May, seconded by Bobby Hart. The minutes were approved.

Robert Edwards made a motion to approve the financial and expenditure reports for May and Bobby Hart seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Phoebe Bailey

Personnel Slate: Ms. Bailey recommended for hire Jerica Shelby for the position of ABC para in Prescott. She also recommended the hiring of Kristin Parker for a para position in Lewisville. Ms. Bailey asked to change Emily Powell-Carpenter's contract to the position of Digital Specialist instead of Instructional Designer. Jennifer Breedlove submitted a letter of resignation as an ECH teacher. Ms. Bailey recommended that be accepted. Mr. Wilson made a motion to accept all the recommendations by Ms. Bailey and Bobby Hart seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Contract Amendments: Ms. Bailey shared with the board a list of all the contract amendments for the 2020-2021 contract year. Tom Wilson made a motion to accept all the amendments and Robert Edwards seconded. The motion passed.

Personnel Policy Changes: Ms. Bailey asked the board to approve the updated policies based on model policy from AR School Boards and recommended by the SWAEC policy committee. Robert Edwards made a motion to approve these recommended changes and was seconded by Bobby Hart. The motion passed.

Fixed Assets Removal: Ms. Bailey asked for the board approval to remove a MacBook computer from our fixed assets. Robert Edwards made a motion to approve and was seconded by Tom Wilson. The motion carried. Ms. Bailey asked for permission to sell the Canon poster machine located in the teacher center. Bobby Hart suggested posting it for sale on our website and taking bids.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

Steve Harris with the Hempstead County Economic Development and Robin Bass from the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce addressed the board about the NCRC certification and how it would benefit their schools, students and community. It was explained that gaining this career readiness certification would allow their students to be "work ready" upon entering the workforce. Ms. Bass will share the presented power point with Shannon Puckett and Ms. Puckett will send it to all the superintendents.

**INSPIRE CHARTER UPDATE:** Monica Morris

Ms. Morris let the board know that she had submitted the application for the charter school and she was awaiting a response for feedback and that there will be a hearing in August for a decision. Ms. Morris then led a discussion among the superintendents and asked for their input about the application process for students as well as transportation and funding.

With no other business, Robert Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Bobby Hart.

The meeting was adjourned.