

BITTERROOT VALLEY EDUCATION COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Tuesday, November 26, 2024
10:00 AM – Cooperative Office/Zoom

MINUTES - DRAFT

1. **Call to Order-** Mr. Thennis called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Board members in attendance: Mr. Thennis, Mr. Fiske, Ms. Schneider, and Mr. Biesiot via Zoom. BVEC admin staff in attendance: Director Jenny Rammell, SBMH Supervisor Ashley Gillespie, SBMH Clinical Supervisor Rachella Moresi. Board Clerk: Jill Reynolds.
2. **Consent Agenda** – Approved by unanimous consent.
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Warrants
 - C. Resignations: Alice Bratches, IT Coordinator – There was discussion regarding this resignation and future plans. Ms. Rammell explained we had spoken to both K12 Montana and Granite Technology solutions. K12 Montana is covering IT services in Darby, Victor, and Lone Rock Schools. They do some other larger project service with Stevensville and Florence. Granite Technology is the VIOP phone service in Lone Rock, Stevensville, and the Cooperative. The deciding factor in going with Granite Technology was customer service as they have always been very responsive and helpful with any phone issues. They will also provide some additional services that K12 did not offer, but for the same price as K12, with a three-year price guarantee. We can cancel the agreement at any time if we are unhappy with the service.
 - D. New Hires: Katie Lewis SLP Lone Rock 2025-26 – There was discussion on the timing of this contract and our current agreement with Connections to Communications providing speech therapy in Lone Rock. Deciding factors included the timing of Connections exiting would be around April 2025 and we want to avoid a last-minute change right before school ends.
 - E. Next Meeting: January 28, 2025.
3. **Public Comment** – None.
4. **Correspondence/Communications** – None.
5. **Board Action-**
 - A. 2011 Chevy Impala – Ms. Rammell explained the vehicle is getting older, is rarely used, and we have sufficient transportation options with our two vans. Mr. Fiske made a motion to approve selling the 2011 Chevy Impala as recommended. Ms. Schneider seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.
6. **Information and Discussion**
 - A. Montana Autism Education Project (MAEP) – Ms. Rammell explained this program and the coaching that would be available. Ms. Rammell would like to leverage these services to support our Districts.
 - B. IDEA B Grant Application Update – Ms. Rammell explained the ongoing issues we have with the proportionate share numbers that are delaying our submission of the grant. This will also delay our ability to request cash.

C. CSCT/School Based Mental Health Financial Review – Ms. Gillespie explained well our teams are doing in relation to billing and “hitting the ground running” as requested at the start of the school year. October performance was very good and should cover program costs for October. Ms. Gillespie then updated the Board on the status of the CMS grants for CSCT. The grants should be available in December based on the update at the last Mental Health Coalition meeting. There is no update on the calculation of the grants, only that they will be paid based on billing by team and will continue until funds are depleted. Ms. Gillespie also stated that she and Rachella will meet with Jenny to discuss and plan how to disseminate the Risk Assessment training from Monday, 11/25/24, to the mental health teams in the schools.

7. Adjourn – Mr. Thennis adjourned the meeting at 10:43 AM.