

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

SOUTHWEST COLORADO EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

Monday, February 7, 2022 at 9:00am through Zoom

Board Members

Present: Kevin Aten, Gisele Panzse, Troy Dyer, Tom Stritikus, Kim White

Absent: Kym LeBlanc-Esparza, Sam Dosumu, LaTitia Taylor, Nick Olson

Quorum present? Yes

Others Present

Jess Morrison, SW Colorado Education Collaborative

Hannah Sharfman, Empower Schools

Sara Butler, Empower Schools

Proceedings

- I. Call to order
 - Meeting called to order at 9:05am. Quorum is met.
- II. Welcome, introductions, and review of agenda
 - Board Chair Kevin Aten welcomes and reviews the agenda.
- III. Discussion and possible action of November 18, 2021 meeting minutes
 - Motion made by Troy Dyer. Seconded by Gisele Panze. Vote is 5-0. November 18th meeting minutes are approved.
- IV. Southwest Colorado Education Collaborative Updates by Executive Director Jessica Morrison
 - Jessica Morrison shares updates on Environmental and Building Trades Pathways, Steering Committee Convening on January 26th, Funding updates for grants submitted, community updates on 501c3 status approved, hiring and media highlights
 - Question from Board Chair Aten on whether there is a timeline on RISE Grant extension. Tom Stritikus reported not at this point.
 - Tom Stritikus expresses gratitude for ED and commends her updates
- V. Discussion and possible action on updating SWCEC fiscal policies

- ED gives rationale for the desired change on the fiscal policies to have an additional debit card for the operations manager to streamline larger purchases for the collaborative.
 - Board Chair asks for questions. Board Chair asks for a motion to approve fiscal policy change. Gisele Pansze motions. Kim White seconds. 5-0 vote passes.
- VI. Discussion and possible action of additional SWCEC pathways
- ED gives rationale for adding additional pathways - Health Sciences and Education
 - Question from Tom Stritikus: who would be on the task forces?
 - Tom Stritikus makes a motion to approve the two new pathways. Troy Dyer seconds. Vote 5-0 passes.
- VII. Discussion and possible action on new SWCEC Board of Director Members
- Kym LeBlanc-Esparza and Kevin Aten will be transitioning off the SWCEC Board of Directors.
 - Tom Stritikus thanks Kevin Aten for his service to the Bayfield School District.
 - Tom Dyer and Kim White comment their appreciation.
 - ED expresses gratitude.
 - Question by Tom Stritikus on what exiting Board Chair sees as the biggest challenges SWCEC will face over the next 4 months.
 - Kevin: financial pieces, make sure we have a quorum
 - Question by ED: can we change policy to have Kevin stay on through the transition?
 - Kevin: I don't recommend changing by laws for one person or one situation
 - Comment by Tom Stritikus: We need to have a Superintendent as the Board Chair. We need Durango Superintendent bought in for fiscal viability.
 - Comment by Kim White: Agreed. With Pagosa's change, was also thinking about Durango Superintendent.
 - Comment by Tom Stritikus: Would volunteer to be an interim Board Chair, for the short term.
 - Motion by Troy Dyer and Gisele seconds on vote for Tom Stritikus being the interim Board chair. 5-0 vote passes.
- VIII. Discussion and possible action on new districts joining the SWCEC
- ED gives rationale for adding additional districts in Montezuma and Dolores Counties.
 - Comment from Kim White regarding Steering Committee meeting: there was support for this by all districts, be intentional about timing
 - Comment from Troy Dyer: our workforce is in these regions, it makes sense. Move forward safely and intentionally.
 - Tom Stritikus makes a motion to approve expansion. Troy Dyer seconds. Vote 5-0 passes to approve adding additional districts.
- IX. Discussion and possible action on SWCEC financials, RISE Grant
- ED gives overview of budget memo included in Board pre-read documents.

- No questions by Board members.
- X. Discussion and possible action on SWCEC designation as an “Enterprise Zone”
- ED gives context and rationale for being designated an Enterprise Zone - this gives additional tax credits to any donations (cash or in-kind) to SWCEC. Application is due April 29th. An MOU will need to be in place between Region 9 Economic Development and SWCEC.
 - Kim White makes a motion to give permission to ED to pursue Enterprise Zone designation. Troy Dyer seconds. Vote 5-0 passes.
- XI. Discussion and possible action on a motion for the Board to convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, including specifically the evaluation of the Executive Director, as authorized by the Colorado Revised Statutes CRS 24-6-402(4)(f) for discussions of Personnel Matters
- Tom Stritikus makes a motion to enter into Executive Session with ED. Gisele Pansze seconds. 5-0 approve entering Executive Session.
 - Board Member LaTitia joined at 10:05AM
 - Board Members return to main session 10:25AM
 - Gisele and Empower Schools will connect on next steps regarding ED evaluation
- XII. Discussion and possible action of scheduling future SWCEC board meetings
- Comments from ED on potential in person Board meeting
 - March and April timeframe (March 21-25 is 9R and Bayfield spring break)
- XIII. Meeting adjournment
- Tom Stritikus motions to adjourn. Troy Dyer seconds. Motion passes 5-0 and the meeting is adjourned at 10:31AM.