

**HIGH PLAINS REGIONAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE  
BOARD MEETING  
January 18, 2022**

**ATTENDING:** Mr. Ray Maestas, Clayton Municipal Schools  
Ms. Kodi Sumpter, Des Moines Municipal Schools  
Ms. Amy Roble, Maxwell Municipal Schools  
Ms. Johnna Bruhn, Mosquero Municipal Schools  
Ms. Kristie Medina, Raton Public Schools  
Mr. Kamau Turner, Roy Municipal Schools  
Ms. Julie Crum, Springer Municipal Schools  
Mr. R.Stephen Aguirre, HPREC Executive Director  
Ms. Mary Lisa Gonzales, HPREC Business Manager

**ABSENT:** Mr. Adan Estrada, Cimarron Municipal Schools

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Mr. Robert Abney, MLSS Coach  
Ms. Michelle Hopper, Raton School District  
Ms. Kristen Forrester – Perkins Grant

**ACTION:**

**I. Call to Order**

The HPREC #3 Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

**II. Roll Call**

**III. \*Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Aguirre requested that the agenda be approved as presented. Ms. Kristie Medina made the motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Mr. Ray Maestas seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

**IV. \*Approval and Signature of Minutes**

Mr. Aguirre requested that the minutes from the November 16, 2021 Board Council meeting be approved and signed, as presented. Mr. Kamau Turner made the motion to approve the minutes, as presented. Ms. Amy Roble seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

**V. Executive Director's Report**

**1. Robert Abney – Multi-Layered System of Supports (MLSS)**

Mr. Aguirre introduced Mr. Robert Abney, who is the HPREC MLSS Support Coach. Mr. Abney explained that he has served as the MLSS Coach for all HPREC districts over the past two school years. There have been many challenges in regards to development, implementation, and maintenance of the Multi-layered Student Support System plan. He suggested a formalized system of collaboration. He informed the Board that he begin meeting with Superintendents around October of 2021 to begin the process of creating a needs analysis. Mr. Abney proposed

to the Board that Superintendents agree to commit their school staff to collaborate, to agree upon three or four dates for virtual collaboration meetings, agree to find and commit one instructional leader from their districts to help support the planning and facilitation of this collaboration, and lastly, reserve judgement on the effectiveness of said collaboration until the end of FY23. The Board discussed professional learning days and the options for making this project work. Ms. Kristie Medina requested that he provide the Board with a formalized proposal that outlines these things so they can further review before committing to the process. Ms. Kodi Sumpter and the Board thanked Mr. Abney for his hard work and presentation.

## **2. Kristie Medina – Raton Public Schools Superintendent**

Mr. Aguirre informed the Board that Raton Schools will provide information regarding Virtual Tutoring. Ms. Kristie Medina introduced her Principal, Ms. Michelle Hopper to provide a brief presentation on their experience. Ms. Hopper explained that Raton Schools utilized Family Income Index funds to dive into Virtual Tutoring with Mr. Michael Gallegos through PCG. Their focus was Ed Recovery with TutorEd. This program is very comprehensive. Ms. Hopper provided the Board with an overview of their experience, including the coordination, content specifications, project execution, and program design. Ms. Kodi Sumpter thanked Ms. Hopper for her presentation and information.

## **3. Kristen Forrester – Perkins Grant**

Mr. Aguirre informed the Board that HPREC has contracted with Ms. Kristen Forrester to be the Carl Perkins Project Coordinator. Ms. Kristen Forrester provided the Board with an overview of the Next Gen CTE Project and the Carl Perkins Grant Project. This year, the Next Gen CTE project continued with the FAA Drone Pilot certification project. Del Sol Aviation provided two days of on-site instruction to students before testing them at the Del Sol Aviation facility in Albuquerque. There were twenty-two students who passed the FAA Unmanned Aircraft Drone Certification Program this year. Our plan is to try and move forward with the next step of adding a GPS (Global Positioning System) and a GIS (Geographic Information System) component to the course. We will keep you posted. The Federal Carl Perkins Project includes welding, wind energy, and mixed construction. We have not been able to make any progress with the welding project since Luna Community College has not been able to offer regional training due to shortage of instructors. Last year, we purchased Augmented Reality Welding Simulators that are currently being rotated throughout Region C schools for student use. We also trained two instructors in October of 2021 to deliver instruction to designated staff at each member school on the use and operation of these units. The wind energy technician certification project will move forward in the spring semester of 2022 with courses being offered by Mesalands Community College. There will be three courses: RNBL 1010-intro to Renewable Energy; COMM 1050-Intro to Communication Technology; and WIND 1400-Climb Safety Class. We will provide more information on dates and travel information as we identify students and school personnel. The students will also take courses in the fall to complete their IRET certification. The goal of the mixed construction trades project is to partner with the NM Construction Trades Building Council to deliver MC3 Pre-apprenticeship online curriculum to approximately twenty-four students. Students will also receive OSHA 10 and First Aid/Safety/CPR certification. Personnel have been trained, and delivery of the program should start in the spring of 2022. Ms. Kristen Forrester also discussed the Career Technical Education Region C/REC 3 meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup> that Dense Ojeda has organized. She also reviewed the project funding, projected plans for moving forward, and several reports that help districts see how the CTE affects this area. Mr. Aguirre and the Board thanked Ms. Forrester for all her work and great presentation.

#### **4. Online Bus Driver Training**

Mr. Aguirre provided the Board with a brief overview of the HPREC Online Bus Driver Training project. During the crisis with having enough bus drivers that are certified, it would be a great way to give existing drivers the training they need to maintain certification. This is available to regional schools at a rate of \$50 per fiscal year, per driver.

#### **5. Legislative Update**

Mr. Aguirre informed the Board that there are (3) education bills currently being discussed during the legislative session that they need to be aware of: (1) HB13 – which is amending sections of the teacher residency act; (2) HB44 – which is requiring public schools and public and private post-secondary educational institutions to adopt policies and procedures addressing affirmative consent and prevention of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, harassment, and stalking; and (3) HB45 – relating to school personnel, providing for program units for licensed school employees certified by the national board for professional learning standards. He also informed the Board that RECs will most likely receive a flat budget appropriation. It appeared initially that funding was being cut, but now we're hopeful it will at least stay the same. Mr. Aguirre also informed the Board that the suggested salary increase of 7% will be looked at closely. Legislators are looking at giving educators and staff a 3% increase on April 1<sup>st</sup>, with an additional 4% on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Johnna Bruhn mentioned that during the Superintendent meetings, there is pushback to try and get them to hold off until after July 1<sup>st</sup> for the entire 7% increase. Mr. Aguirre discussed the upcoming changes to the UCOA (Uniform Chart of Accounts). He has been selected by his peers to represent the RECA group at the meetings with Dr. Martens. The changes are an attempt to meet the challenges of having everyone in the state provide the same type reporting when the LFC requests information. These changes are anticipated to take effect in the next fiscal year.

#### **6. Procured Contracts**

Mr. Aguirre provided the Board with a list of the available contracts that have already been through the RfP process. These pre-bid contracts can be utilized by all school districts, state agencies, and local public bodies across the state. He also informed Superintendents that during a recent procurement discussion in the legislative session, there was urgency to make sure your CPO's are maintaining their certification.

#### **7. REC Building Update**

Mr. Aguirre informed the Board that we are planning to patch our roof (as needed) this coming spring due to normal wear and tear. We are also losing our tenants (Kastler Law Office) at the end of February. Mr. Kastler has decided to retire. This income has been a great source for HPREC over the last several years, but we are okay with having those offices vacated at this time, especially during this pandemic.

#### **8. HPREC Network**

Mr. Aguirre informed the Board that we are in the process of updating our existing servers. This is being done primarily for Cyber Security. He advised Superintendents to be alert, and take a look at their current technology situations to ensure they are prepared for the worst. There have

been several cyber security attacks across the state recently, and we always think it will not happen to us. He also suggested that our IT consultant is available to help with assessments, as needed.

## **VI. Financial Report**

### **1. REC Financial Quarterly**

Ms. Mary Lisa Gonzales provided the Board with a copy of the recent REC Financial Cash Report that was submitted to the NMPED. This provides them with a snapshot of the financial status of the REC at this time.

### **2. \*Expenditures**

Mr. Aguirre presented a list of expenditures for the period 11/13/2021 through 01/11/2022 to the Board for approval. Ms. Johnna Bruhn moved to approve the expenditures, as presented. Mr. Kamau Turner seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

### **3. \*BARS & Transfers**

Mr. Aguirre presented a list of BARS and Transfers to the Board for approval. Ms. Kristie Medina made the motion to approve the BARS and Transfers, as presented. Ms. Johnna Bruhn seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

## **VII. \*Executive Session**

### **a. Limited Personnel Matters 10-15-1, H-2**

### **b. Pursuant to 10-15-1, H-2 Limited Personnel Matters, Executive Director's Contract**

Ms. Kodi Sumpter informed the Board that she would like to move into Executive Session to discuss limited personnel matters and the Executive Director's contract and evaluation. Mr. Kamau Turner made the motion to convene into Executive Session to discuss limited personnel matters, including the Executive Director's contract and evaluation. Mr. Kristie Medina seconded the motion, and the Board was polled: Ms. Kodi Sumpter-yes; Ms. Johnna Bruhn-yes; Ms. Kristie Medina-yes; Mr. Kamau Turner-yes; and Ms. Julie Crum-yes.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 11:27 a.m.

Ms. Kristie Medina made the motion to re-convene into regular session. Mr. Kamau Turner seconded the motion, and the Board was polled: Ms. Kodi Sumpter-yes; Ms. Johnna Bruhn-yes; Ms. Kristie Medina-yes; Mr. Kamau Turner-yes; and Ms. Julie Crum-unavailable.

The Board re-convened into regular session at 11:53 a.m.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Ms. Kodi Sumpter announced that the Board will take action on Mr. Aguirre's contract and salary at the next regularly scheduled board council meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, after the Legislative Session.

## **VIII. Comments from Participants**

Mr. Kamau Turner informed the Board that his school is trying to navigate through the several covid cases in their district with staff. They are getting by, but it's always a challenge.

Ms. Johnna Bruhn provided the Board with an update on her building project. Everything looks good, and they are right on schedule.

Ms. Kristie Medina discussed her bus driver shortage and the challenges she is facing trying to get everyone to school. She also expressed frustration in obtaining covid test kits. Luckily, her district staff numbers for covid positive are low right now.

Ms. Kodi Sumpter noted that she is continuously trying to keep kids in school and get staff back. They are also working on a building project.

Mr. Aguirre added that he hopes the legislative session ends well for everyone, and reminded the Board that everyone needs to be on the same page with extended learning. He also thanked the Board for attending today's meeting.

### **IX. Adjournment**

Ms. Kristie Medina made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kamau Turner seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

**ITEMS LISTED WITH AN \* PROCEEDING THE ITEMS ARE TO BE ACTION ITEMS. HOWEVER, THE BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE ACTION ON ANY AGENDA ITEM AS IT DEEMS NECESSARY.**

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**Chairperson**

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**Attest**