

Region 9 Education Cooperative Coordinating Council Meeting

4/16/2025

Regular Meeting Minutes

Chair Lee called the Budget Work Session to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum present of Mr. Lee, Ms. Gillespie, Ms. Ross, Mr. Lindsay, and Ms. Ferguson. Absent: Mr. Patterson and Mr. Clough. He then led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Dooley introduced Ms. Lindsey, Region 9's Business Manager, who presented the budget activities for FY 26 and provided the Council with a draft of the budget to date. Chair Lee had a question about the funding for School-Based Health and where the additional funds of \$291,000.00 come from. Ms. Lindsey indicated these are Region 9 operational funds. There were no further questions.

Chair Lee requested a motion to adjourn the budget work session. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, which was seconded by Ms. Ferguson, and with all members in attendance in favor, the work session was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Chair Lee called the regular meeting of the Region 9 Coordinating Council to order at 9:11 a.m. with a quorum present of Mr. Lee, Ms. Gillespie, Ms. Ross, Mr. Lindsay, and Ms. Ferguson. Absent: Mr. Patterson and Mr. Clough.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the order and content of the agenda. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Gillespie. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the March 19, 2025, minutes. Ms. Ferguson made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Gillespie. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the previous month's Vouchers for March 2025. Ms. Ferguson made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests (BARS). Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Home Visiting Employees to travel to Puerto Rico. Mr. Dooley presented a request from Michelle Burge, Developmental Services Director, regarding international travel for Puerto Rico training. He inquired with Michelle if there were any other available trainings on the mainland and noted that this was the only training scheduled for the year. He also mentioned that the expenses were financially covered by their grant. Ms. Ferguson asked if the training was required, and Bryan responded that it was not mandatory, but that is where they obtain their curriculum. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Gillespie. With a

majority of members voting in favor, the motion passed. Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Chair Lee-yes, Mrs. Ferguson-yes, Ms. Ross-no.

Chair Lee requested discussion and approval of any transfer of the Wind Equipment and the potential use of funds received. After some discussion, Ms. Ferguson made a motion to donate the equipment to ENMU-Ruidoso, which was seconded by Ms. Ross. With a majority voting not to donate, the motion failed. Ms. Ferguson - yes, Ms. Ross - yes, Mr. Lindsay - no, Ms. Gillespie - no, Mr. Lee - no.

Ms. Ross then made a motion to table the transfer of Wind Equipment for the next meeting. Ms. Ferguson seconded the motion. With all members present voting in favor of tabling the motion, the motion passed.

Chair Lee then asked for a motion to table the approval of the disposition of the Wind Energy truck and trailer indefinitely because Region 9 has some ongoing use for both items. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Dooley introduced Ms. McEwen, the Region 9 Director of School-Based Health Center (SBHC). Ms. McEwen delivered a presentation on the services provided by SBHC as well as the funding for SBHC. As of April 8, 2025, there have been 285 referrals and 343 users by December 31, 2025, with a total of 930 visits recorded by that date. Of these visits, 33% were for primary care and 67% were for behavioral health services. Additionally, she mentioned that SBHC services are available at the following schools: Carrizozo, Capitan, Cloudcroft, Corona, and Hondo one day per week, while Ruidoso Schools receive SBHC services every day, and Tularosa twice a week. Ms. McEwen discussed some of the prevention and intervention work being done by SBHC. She highlighted 448 Signs of Suicide and 5 Brief Challenges for Substance Use Interventions. She also addressed other important topics, including stress management, coping skills, de-escalation techniques, and burnout prevention. Additionally, she mentioned that the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) is available to visit schools and do professional development with teachers in the use of various de-escalation techniques. Details were also provided about the location of the referrals: 58% came from Ruidoso, 16.2% from Tularosa, 5.6% from Capitan, 3.9% from Carrizozo, 9.2% from Cloudcroft, 3.2% from Corona, and 3.9% from Hondo. Emotional concerns were noted as the highest percentage of referrals. The funding sources include \$273,345 from the New Mexico Department of Health, approximately \$80,000 from Medicaid, \$10,000 from Lincoln County, and a balance of \$291,000 from Region 9.

Ms. McEwen also discussed with the Council the research a team of staff from Region 9 has done in an effort to reduce costs associated with CPI training. She reviewed the CPI options they have looked into as a potential replacement for CPI. The Region 9 team would be interested in MANDT as a significantly less expensive offer with very similar attributes to CPI. She also shared that just prior to the meeting, they had attended a meeting with CPI, who indicated they would like an opportunity to continue the relationship they have had with Region 9. They are going to get back to the Region 9 team with new pricing and options. At this time, Region 9 will wait to make a decision and see the offer CPI comes back with.

Mr. Dooley also discussed the recent change being implemented by the Office of Special Education (OSE). They are changing the method of distributing funding known as State Directed Activity funds. These funds have traditionally flowed directly to the RECs in NM. The OSE this year has posted a Request for Application (RFA) and is allowing the RECs to submit proposals. Mr. Dooley shared that some of the REC Directors, each with a couple of Council members, along with Stan Rounds had met

with Secretary Padilla to express the concerns of this effort. Mr. Patterson and Ms. Gillespie were in attendance at that meeting. Ms. Gillespie was concerned that the OSE doesn't have an appreciation for the extent of the services coming into our small rural school, and it could have a negative impact. Mr. Dooley informed the Council that Region 9 is working to complete the application for these funds. They may be working with other REC's from the state, depending on who applies.

Chair Lee inquired about any items for the next meeting. The method of transferring the Wind Equipment was discussed and will be added to next month's agenda.

Chair Lee requested a motion to adjourn at 10:41 a.m. Ms. Gillespie made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. With all members present voting in favor, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

May 28, 2025

Vance Lee (May 28, 2025 12:28 MDT)