

Region 9 Education Cooperative

Minutes 5-21-2025

Budget Work Session for FY 2026

And

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Chair Lee called the budget worksession to order at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Mr. Lee, Ms. Gillespie, Mr. Lindsay, attending via Zoom: Mr. Patterson, Mr. Clough, Ms. Ross, and Ms. Ferguson.

Mr. Dooley introduced Ms. Lindsay, who shared the budget timeline and that we are right on track. She also shared the updated draft of the budget with minimal changes since last month. In her concluding remarks. There were no questions and Chair Lee requested a motion to adjourn the budget workshop at 9:05 a.m. Ms. Ferguson made the motion, and a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. A roll call vote ensued; Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes. With all members voting in favor, the budget work session was adjourned.

Draft minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting Agenda

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 9:05. Mr. Lee, Ms. Gillespie, Mr. Lindsay, attending via Zoom: Mr. Patterson, Mr. Clough, Ms. Ross, and Ms. Ferguson.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the order and content of the agenda. Mr. Patterson made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough, Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes for April 2025. Ms. Gillespie made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. A roll call vote ensued. Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the vouchers for April 2025. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. A roll call vote ensued: Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Ms. Gillespie, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests (BARS). Ms. Gillespie made the motion a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. A roll call vote ensued: Ms. Gillespie-yes, Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Lee requested a motion to approve the Region 9 FY26 budget as discussed in the work session prior to the regular meeting. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Lee requested a motion to approve the method of disposition and use of funds, if any, from Wind Equipment. Mr. Clough made a motion to donate the Wind Equipment to ENMU-Ruidoso, a second was provided by Ms. Ferguson. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. Will all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Region 9 salary schedules which include the legislative 4% increase for all except Home Visiting who has received program notices for not being in alignment with the rest of the State. This program is funded specifically by ECECD so we have adjusted the salary schedule to become compliant with program requirements. The minimum salary for will be \$25 per hour for those with a minimum of an associate's degree and \$23 per hour for individuals without a degree. Mr. Lindsay made the motion to approve the salary schedules, Ms. Gillespie provided a second. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Lee requested a motion to approve the Region 9 work calendar. Mr. Dooley indicated that Head Start and Early Head Start have separate calendars that are aligned with the Ruidoso School Calendar. Ms. Gillespie made the motion, and second was provided by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued; Ms. Gillespie - yes, Mr. Patterson - yes, Mr. Lindsay - yes, Ms. Ross - yes, Mr. Clough - yes, Ms. Ferguson - yes, Mr. Lee - yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Region ICIP Project Plan for the fiscal years 2025-2026. Mr. Dooley highlighted the importance of this process to support building renovations for Region 9. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Clough. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Lindsay – Yes, Mr. Clough – Yes, Ms. Gillespie – Yes, Ms. Ross – Yes, Ms. Ferguson – Yes, Mr. Patterson – Yes, and Mr. Lee – Yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed..

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the R9 Policy Manual for FY26. Mr. Dooley explained the process for updating the Policy Manual and reviewing the related documents. He indicated that once the committee reviews the policy, it is sent to Walsh Gallegos for further review. There was additional discussion regarding military leave and the appropriate language to use. Council would like Walsh Gallegos to review the policy for military leave. Ms. Gillespie then made a motion to approve the policy under the requirement of clarifying the Military leave section 509, a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. A roll call vote ensued; Ms. Gillespie - yes, Mr. Lindsay - yes, Mr. Clough - yes, Ms. Ross - yes, Ms. Ferguson - yes, Mr. Patterson - yes, and Mr. Lee - yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve Head Start/EHS Selection Criteria 2025-2026. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Clough. Mr. Lindsay-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Head Start/PreK & EHS Policy & Procedure Manual with highlighted changes. Mr. Lindsay made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Clough. A roll call vote ensued; Mr. Lindsay-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion Items

Mr. Dooley summarized several items in the Directors' Status Report. A contract with Archis Architects is about to be signed for the design/engineering work that will be done at the 315 Sudderth Dr. location. The owners of Mt. Annie's have agreed to extend the lease for our Early Head Start program through June of 2026. The lease for the Hope Center will end in June 30, 2025. Head Start will move to City Bank and will have four classrooms downstairs. Home Visiting, Developmental Services, and the PIECE Coalition have successfully relocated from upstairs at Mt. Annie's to the upstairs at El Paso Road.

Ms. Freed and Ms. McEwen have negotiated a subscription deal with CPI for 2 years. Using this year's SLA funds to pay for year one. Ms. Freed updated on the All District Professional Development for July 30. She is working on sponsorships for the event.

Ms. Brenda Garcia provided an update on Medicaid. She announced the purchase of new software called RELAY. RELAY is designed to be more user-friendly for everyone. Each school will have a separate individual login. The system will allow access to data for IEPs, PowerSchool, and Snap, offering greater cost transparency. Region 9 is working on details to provide all users with training on the new RELAY software.

Mr. Wren then presented on the services offered by the technology staff to the districts, which include infrastructure support, device support, software support, cybersecurity, user support, and testing support.

Items for the next meeting:

1. Policy Manual

Chair Lee requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. Ms. Gillespie made the motion, a second was provided by Mr. Lindsay. A roll call vote ensued; Ms. Gillespie-yes, Mr. Lindsay-yes, Ms. Ross-yes, Mr. Clough-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes.