

## REGIONAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE VII

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April Williams, Executive Director  
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### MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the REC VII Board of Directors was held at the REC 7 Board Room on January 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Brian Snider, President  
Gene Strickland, Vice President  
Greg Slover, Secretary  
Dwain Haynes, Member  
April Williams, Executive Director/REC VII  
Pat Jaco, Director of Finance/REC VII

Guests:       Andi Engle-Hobbs Municipal Schools  
                  Dymorie Maker-PreK

The meeting was called to order @ 10:04 a.m. by Mr. Snider.

### AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Strickland for approval of Consideration of Agenda (01/11/2024); motion unanimously carried.

### MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Strickland to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting (12/14/2023); motion unanimously carried.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Strickland for approval of Entitlement, Preschool, Title II, Medicaid, REC Operational, Pre-K, and State Directed Activities (December 2023)

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**DWAIN HAYNES**  
Superintendent  
Eunice Public Schools

**GENE STRICKLAND**  
Superintendent  
Hobbs Municipal Schools

**BRIAN SNIDER**  
Superintendent  
Jal Public Schools

**GREG SLOVER**  
Superintendent  
Tatum Municipal Schools

INFORMATION:

Executive Director Discussion:

1. Medicaid Information for December 2023.
2. RFRs/Budget-We received the bulk of the money in which we were waiting right before the holiday break.
3. Dymorie Maker-PreK Update and Information-I have asked Dymorie Maker to provide a PreK update. As you know Dymorie is vital in the relationships with our districts in providing coaching assistance with PreK overall.
4. Legislative Session/Dr. Cage Visit-The topic of discussion was Secretary Romero proposing the PED budget; however, the main area of interest was regarding the 180-day rule, and there was not one who was in favor of it. The RECs were recognized in a positive way with 8 of us there as representatives despite the weather.

Meeting with Dr. Cage went well, I asked specifically what her vision was as far as the RECs. On her behalf I still think she is unfamiliar with what we do as they do not have educational cooperatives in Louisiana. We as directors have provided an overview of the services which RECs provide. I extended an invitation for her to come here for a board meeting as well and meet with the SPED Directors in the district. She is unaware of this area and had many questions, regarding the location and how long does it take to get here, etc. I do not think it will happen; however, I did ask. She is starting some advisory committees in which she has reached out to SPED Directors in the districts. The RECs were not included as being a part of that committee; however, she indicated that we would be a part of another advisory committee which was not specified.

In your packet there is information I received from Damon Terry where Dr. Cage is wanting to set up a Superintendents Work Group. There is a link for participation.

Stan Rounds attended our directors meeting on Tuesday in which I was unable to attend due to providing training. According to the minutes from the meeting Stan is proposing money for school districts across the state in which the RECs would be utilized for local control. He stressed a good investment in our RECs and to get at the notion of local control and letting districts decide what is best for the students they serve. He believes Senator Soules and Representative Romero would carry the bill.

Special Education Report-presented at LESC meeting on Friday, December 15, 2023 at 10:30 am-this report was received just before the break. It provides a break down of revenues and expenditures per LEA in 2023. I have highlighted the LEA County LEAs.

5. Discussion of Lovington joining REC7-Membership Was not discussed at this meeting; however, it will be added to the agenda for the February meeting when the superintendent is able to attend.

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Upcoming Trainings/Events

- A. Lea County Transition Meeting January 17, 2024, Hobbs Central Office
- B. LFC Meets in Santa Fe January 16, 2024
- C. Legal Counsel Call January 22, 2024 8:00 am
- D. Secretary Call-January 18, 2024 9:00 am
- E. REC7 Closed for Martin Luther King Day January 15, 2024
- F. Next Meeting Scheduled for February 08, 2024

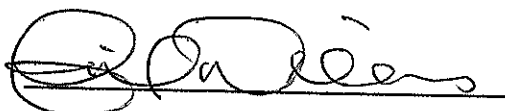
Additional Informational Items:

I was accepted into the Administrative Leadership Development Program and classes begin January 20, 2024 in Lovington. They will be held there one weekend monthly as well as some weekend virtual obligations. I will know more after the first class.

Interest in Parent Square-I was notified by a representative of Parent Square. Is there any interest in hearing a presentation regarding the program? I have had exposure to the program in another district, and it was of benefit to me with parent reminders for IEP meetings, etc. In addition, the parents seemed to respond more readily as it is much like texting except within a school server and is easily accessible on your cell phone.

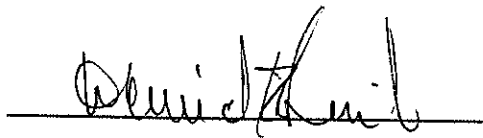
There is a flyer in your folder regarding the New Mexico Education Technology Call Center.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting of 01/11/2024 was adjourned at 11:10 a.m., motioned by Mr. Slover; motion unanimously carried.



**April Williams**

**REC VII Executive Director**



**Brian Snider**

**REC VII Board President**