

MINUTES
Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium
 Board Meeting
 Thursday, February 11, 2021

Present:

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| *Jerry Jones | SCOE |
| Eugene Graham | Center Unified School District |
| *Barbara Schiffner | Twin Rivers Unified School District |
| David Stone | Folsom Cordova Unified School District |
| *Steve Mate | Elk Grove Unified School District |
| Ruben Reyes | Robla School District |
| Joe Parente | Process Theater Inc |
| *Peter Skibitzki | San Juan Unified School District |
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| Liz Rhodes | SECC |
| Doug Niva | SECC |
| Jessica Rhodes | SECC |

Not Present:

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| Tara Gallegos | Sacramento City Unified School District |
| *Gabe Ross | Los Rios Community College District |
| | Natomas Unified School District |
| Michael Borggaard | Elverta Joint Unified School District |
| Lois Yount | Galt Joint Unified School District |

(* Indicates SECC Executive Board Member)

Call to Order & Order Agenda:

Jerry Jones called the meeting to order at 2:03pm.

Jones announced a few Board changes that occurred over the last few weeks including Jason Gregg leaving Natomas. Jones invited Barbara Schiffner to announce her upcoming move to Assistant Superintendent at Natomas.

Reports:**A. 2019-2020 Year End Financial Report**

Liz Rhodes stated that the report attached to the original email is the official report that went to the Commission. This is more detailed than the report that went out at the previous board meeting. The Commission did have a few concerns around the amount of cash that was reported available. SECC staff had a call with Commission staff and explained the Zayo and BESTNet funds that will be gone this year make the amount look higher than it actually is. The Commission has requested a breakdown of funds that have been spent on BESTNet since the beginning. Rhodes is working on pulling together the information.

Steve Mate asked about the BESTNet construction cost. Rhodes explained that these funds were expected to be spent previously and should be spent by the end of this year. Construction is still being completed.

B. October Minutes

There were no changes or additions to the minutes.

Steve Mate moved to approve the minutes and Barbara Schiffner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. December Financial Report

Rhodes shared that the numbers under production equipment and SEVA are off due to cash carryover that was not included in the budget. Rhodes is working with Doug Niva and will have updated budget numbers and accounting at the next meeting. Other areas to note are an increase in postage as well as a decrease in mileage and travel. Overall, the totals look good.

Eugene Graham moved to accept the financial report, and David Stone seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Motion to Update Wells Fargo Accounts

Steve Mate moved to remove Carl D Fahle and Terry J Krisispis Key Executives with Control of the Entity for accounts associated to the business, SECC. And to add Jerry Jones (Chairperson) and Barbara Schiffner (Vice-Chair), as Key Executives with control of entity. Eugene Graham seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BESTNet/Cable Commission Update:

Backbone Upgrade

Jones is still waiting for equipment to arrive. PO's were submitted in December, but key equipment is still missing. Most of the other equipment has been put in place, but the delay has postponed the plan to complete the install. SCOE staff is still working on completing as much pre-work as possible so once the equipment is in staff will schedule a time with the districts to complete the install. Jones does not want to schedule the install until equipment is received because SCOE does not want to miss timelines.

MOU Renewal

Rhodes informed the Board that at this point in time the group is waiting for the final draft of the paperwork from Comcast. SECC requested a few last-minute changes to the wording that are being made, there are also incorrect dates included. Harriet Steiner and the Cable Commission are currently reviewing the draft language. The Commission is pushing to move forward as they want the document for the March meeting, but the deadline has already passed. The Commission staff offered to rewrite language and Comcast would just need to sign, but that did not go over well with the Comcast team as Comcast wants to be responsible for the language.

Plan B

Rhodes told Lee-Ann that SECC is out of time. If Comcast cannot come up with the final documents SECC will be looking at Plan B. Plan B could be using the \$250k, that would be used to prepay the backbone, to do an overbuild of backbone using ERate.

Jones thanked Rhodes for all of her work on behalf of the districts to get this project completed. There has been a significant amount of work behind the scenes to get the

MOU completed. There is no major disagreement with Comcast at the moment, it is just about clarifying and correcting terminology. Jones feels that if Comcast will not give the districts a final document the consortium will need to look at another option which could be the overbuild using the funds that were allotted for the prepay on the backbone.

Mate added that if there is a significant possibility that the Comcast option will not go through it would be wise to move forward sooner rather than later while there are funds available. Especially since CARES funds are available. Schiffner added that the process will take longer than everyone thinks. David Stone agreed with Schiffner stating that the Zayo project that was supposed to be completed in January has now been pushed to June.

Jones agreed with everyone and stated that Comcast may not understand that the districts really are out of time and need to move forward sooner rather than later. Stone asked what would happen if the MOU is not signed by 2023. Jones said that Comcast would try to convert districts to something else but would not just shut off the connection. Rhodes stated that there is language about the renewal in the current agreement so it would not just be turned off, the language that is currently being added is pre-emptive to ensure all details are included.

Rhodes announced that the deadline for the MOU from Comcast is March, or Harriet will write the language.

Formalize COVID 19 Policy from December

Jessica Rhodes reminded the Board of the policies that were sent via email in December. There have been a few updates that were sent to the staff via email based on local guidelines, but these were all short-term modifications. Mate asked about the language around staff taking a COVID test before returning to work. Jessica Rhodes agreed that the language needed to be removed as the CDC mandates that staff quarantine for ten days before returning to work with or without a negative test. Mate also asked about the language regarding communicating with staff. Jessica Rhodes confirmed that the language included matched what is required.

Jones moved to accept the policies; Peter Skibitzki seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report:

- A. Rhodes removed the programming update due to time limitations.
- B. SEVA Labs – Update:
 - a. SEVACON/SEVA Home Labs

Doug Niva shared that the last SEVACON event was a huge success. Bob Petersen of Pixar was the presenter and students were engaged through the whole presentation. The presentation was recorded and will be released soon. Niva is currently working with California Parks Ports Project on an event that will include three live park visits. SECC staff is exploring other options and want to continue the events to keep students motivated and engaged.
 - b. 2021 SEVA Judging

Niva reminded the Board that judging will start on February 22nd and will last for two weeks. All sessions will be held over Zoom.

c. Award Night

Niva said that there were 375 entries as of the start of the meeting. At the SEVA Teacher Meeting on Monday teachers asked for assistance with lack of in person time with students. There have been major challenges with YouTube's captioning service while students are working from home. Based on this discussion SECC staff decided that captioning will be weighted this year and videos without captioning will not be removed from the contest.

Rhodes added that award night will be virtual this year and will be very similar to last year. There is a new category for 2020 that will recognize videos that acknowledge these unique times. There has been enthusiastic participation from teachers and students during the planning process so far. Rhodes reminded the Board that Award Night will be on April 18th and SECC will reach out to capture some video of Board Members for the evening.

C. Year End/Graduations:

Rhodes reported that this topic was touched on during the last PIO meeting as staff is looking to start the planning process earlier this year to ensure SECC is available to assist if needed. Rhodes will reach out individually to get more information about each district and their specific plans.

Committees:

A. DMCC – Next meeting: March 17, 2021

B. Capital Region Technology Cohorts – Next meeting: March 12, 2021

C. PIO – Next meeting: April 1, 2021

D. SEVA Teachers – Next meeting: June 14, 2021

E. Family Engagement – Next meeting: March 11, 2021

Round Table Sharing:

Peter Skibitzki (San Juan)– San Juan's Board approved 223 employees that will be taking early retirement. Skibitzki requested a report of the teachers involved in the SEVA program so that those individuals can be replaced/updated. San Juan also received a grant for technical support for EL parents in underserved communities. The district may be reaching out to SECC to look for support/ideas on how to take advantage of resources for the project.

