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Executive Director
Maria L. Jaramillo

CREC Coordinating Council

June 23rd, 2020

1:30 pm

Voting Members Present

Mr. Jeremy Abshire (Vice Chair)
Mr. David Lackey
Dr. Glenn Haven
Mr. Jack Props (Chair)
Ms. Carmela Sandoval
Dr. Cindy Sims
Dr. Susan Passell
Mr. Ben Santistevan

Representing

UNMH, CPC
Quemado Independent Schools
Magdalena Municipal Schools
Vaughn Municipal Schools
SATC
Estancia Municipal Schools
Jemez Valley Public Schools
JJS

Non-Voting Members Present

Ms. Maria Jaramillo
Ms. Jessica Orona
Ms. Nichole Pebley

Representing

CREC, Executive Director
CREC, Business Manager
CREC, Office Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The council was called to order by Mr. Jack Props at 1:32 pm

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A determination of quorum was made by Mr. Jack Props at 1:32 pm.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

At 1:33 pm, Mr. Jack Props entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Cindy Sims made the motion and Mr. Jeremy Abshire gave the second. The Council unanimously approved the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At 1:34 pm, Mr. Jack Props entertained a motion to approve the previous Council Meeting Minutes from (5-27-20). Mr. David Lackey made the motion and a second was made by Mr. Ben Santistevan. The Council unanimously approved the minutes.

Current Business

A. FY 2020-21 CREC Salaries and Updated Schedules

Ms. Maria Jaramillo gave an update on LESC. The state equalization went from 2% to 1%, with House Bill 1 allowing for a 1% increase for staff. A cap at 6% for health insurance increases thru NIMSIA. Money from the CARES ACT- which the PED will be receiving, will be distributing \$97.7 million to the school districts. In addition, the PED distribution will have a discretionary amount of \$10.9 million that will be statewide priorities and will also be distributed to the school districts. Maria will be meeting again with a task force this Friday, 6/26 and will provide more information as she receives it.

The RECs appropriations have been reduced by 6%, with REC V appropriation of \$104,000 going toward the rent/lease purchase agreement for CREC. With possible cuts for the IGA for Pre-K, which is now under the Early Childhood Education & Care Department, there is an anticipated decrease of 2.7 million down to 2.1 million based on the \$1 million cut the Pre-K has taken. With all of this, the budget has balanced, even with all the increases.

CREC will be fiscally managing the new IGA for the CARES ACT-\$12 million for the Early Childhood Education & Care Department. The initial contract was at \$113,000 as the admin cost. After review, CREC proposed an increase of at least 1.5 % and they came back and gave CREC 3%. The contract will now be at \$348,893 as the admin cost. In addition, CREC has another \$26,000 in program support which totals \$374, 893. Anticipation for more work coming our way, as per conversation with the Deputy Secretary, Claire Dudley, Bureau Chief, Katrina Montano-White and Ms. Maria Jaramillo.

Ms. Jessica Orona reported, over a month ago, she presented 4% raises for employees with 2% increase in benefits. With the new Early Childhood Education & Care Dept. grant, the budget dropped from \$2.8 million to \$2.1 million. For 20 coaches, 1 coordinator and 1 trainer, this is over \$2.1 million, leaving out \$310,000 for supplies, LETRs trainings, support, pyramids, etc. Focus Preschool, which is another grant thru the Special Education Bureau, will pick up 6 FTEs for the preschool coaches, right now, 2 qualify. There are 3 more that qualify under the Special Education Department, leaving 1 vacant coach position to fill. If the position(s) are not filled, they will be removed from the budget. With all the salaries fully funded and with the \$310,000 in supplies, CREC has about \$52,000 left.

The initial Focus Preschool Budget was approved at \$521,685 using three of the coaches with the special education background-leaving \$6,600 left. This budget will run thru September 30th and will renew again as of October 1st.

Plans for the move to the new building: Ms. Maria Jaramillo reported that she will be meeting with Mr. David Chavez and Ms. Robin Straussner from CES to discuss the lease agreement on the building. Once the lease agreement is created, only the board of CREC and the board of CES will need to approve. CREC is anticipating a move to the new building to begin in December of 2020. As of now, it looks like CREC will be able to keep most of the furniture and technology that is in the current CES building. CREC's current landlord, Daskalos, have been given notification of us leaving in December 2020.

A storage unit has been rented to store kits for the Early Childhood Programs. The storage unit is between our current building and the anticipated new building to ensure that our employees/coaches can have easy access.

Mr. David Lackey had concerns on if money is not spent, could the money be rolled over into the next fiscal year? Can we sustain the 4% of the CORE (10 people) minus the related service providers of CREC into FY 2022? Per Ms. Jessica Orona and Ms. Maria Jaramillo, with the DVR grant phasing out, this means that we lose employees with that contract, however, we do have a new grant with Early Childhood Education, bringing in new employees. The majority of CRECs personnel is funded thru the Admin Cost. The remaining employees are tied to the remaining grants within CREC. Every year is

we do have a new grant with Early Childhood Education, bringing in new employees. The majority of CRECs personnel is funded thru the Admin Cost or indirect rate. The remaining employees are tied to the remaining grants within CREC. Every year is different depending on the grants. The new Pre-K grant is a multi-year contract, with the program being in existence for 4 years. ECECD has already been in contact with Ms. Maria Jaramillo about more opportunities.

When more opportunities arise, CREC utilizes the appropriate staff that is currently employed to support the grant without increasing the cost to CREC.

Mr. David Lackey - Hesitation on the 4% across the board increase due to the economy in New Mexico. Are the extra grants beneficial for the districts? With emergency funding already being used and with no FTE flexibility, how can the 4% increase be justified?

Ms. Maria Jaramillo explained that CREC does not say yes to every grant, however, the initiatives that CREC does take on which are approved, allow educational services to be delivered to the member districts at no cost.

After looking at scenarios for a 4% vs. 2% increase for all staff, Ms. Maria Jaramillo and Ms. Jessica Orona have no recommendation to the Council. Council needs to discuss and approve accordingly. Discussion ensued.

At 2:54 pm., Mr. Jack Props entertained for a motion. Dr. Cindy Sims made a motion for all CREC employees (including Director) to get a 2% increase except for the related service providers who had recently received a new salary schedule bump. Dr. Sims then amended the motion. If the governor vetoes HB1 and an increase greater than 2% is afforded, then CREC will follow suit. Mr. Ben Santistevan gave the second. The council unanimously approved.

V. Next Agenda Items

To discuss the Hybrid Plan and to take a survey of what platforms each district is taking on.

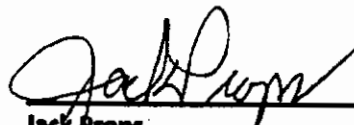
Adjournment

Mr. Jack Props entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:59 pm. Dr. Glenn Haven made the motion and Mr. David Lackey gave the second; motion passed.

APPROVED BY:


MARIA JARAMILLO

Maria Jaramillo
Executive Director


Jack Props
Council Chairman