

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

March 10-11, 2022
Montana State Capitol, Room 152
Helena, MT

March 10, 2022
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Stockton took Roll call. The Chair welcomed newest Board member Renee Rasmussen and Lt. Governor Juras to the meeting. The Chair read the Statement of Public Participation, outlined the Public Comment process, and welcomed guests.

Board members present: Ms. Tammy Lacey, Chair; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rasmussen; Ms. Anne Keith; Ms. Susie Hedalen; Ms. Jane Hamman; Ms. Mary Heller. Ex Officio members: Lt. Governor Kristen Juras; Superintendent of Public Instruction Arntzen. Staff members present: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist. Guests: Mr. Paul Furthmyre, Superintendent MSDB; Ms. Amanda Curtis, MFPE; Ms. Barbara Brown, CSPAC Member; Dr. Trent Bayless, OPI; Ms. Caroline Olson, OPI; Mr. Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI; Ms. Crystal Andrews, OPI; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Ms. Sharyl Allen, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Jule Walker, MTSBA.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Ms. Susie Hedalen.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT AGENDA

The Chair noted that the Board will break for lunch before the Time Certain Item at 1:00, and that several reports normally listed on Thursday morning have been moved to Friday morning

Ms. Susie Hedalen moved to amend the agenda by adding an Action item regarding the Code of Ethics to Item 4. Ms. Jane Hamman seconded the motion.

The Chair asked for more information regarding the request.

Ms. Hedalen explained the reason for her request was due to the memo from the Lieutenant Governor that requested the Board act on the Code of Ethics at this meeting.

Ms. Quinlan noted that the Chair will provide an update on the Code of Ethics under her report.

Ms. Hedalen thanked Ms. Quinlan for her clarification but stated that it is important that the Board be able to act upon the request.

The Chair noted that Board precedence is to have an item as an information item at one meeting with action at the next, to provide members of the public the opportunity to provide public comment. Acting on an item that is listed as “information” would not afford the public the ability to provide comment on the item.

The Chair conducted a Roll Call Vote:

Roll call vote: Hamman – Yes; Hedalen – Yes; Keith – No; Quinlan – No; Rasmussen – Yes; Heller – Yes; Lacey – No.

Motion passed.

Superintendent Arntzen expressed her concerns and disagreement with the Licensure Panel listed for Item 29 on Friday. The Superintendent noted that she believes the panel “weights” the public comment process. Chair Lacey explained the reasons behind having the Licensure Panel is to provide more information to the public and most importantly to Board members.

Ms. Hamman noted that the panel is listed as an Information item and inquired if the panel was already set and if there could be another public hearing as requested by the Superintendent. The Chair noted that the request would be taken under advisement and called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Ms. Susie Hedalen moved to adopt the agenda as modified with Action added to Item #4. Ms. Renee Rasmussen seconded the motion.

No comment. Motion passed with Chair Lacey dissenting.

*****Items are listed in the order in which they are presented*****

INFORMATION ITEMS

❖ REPORTS – Tammy Lacey (Items 1-4)

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT Tammy Lacey

Chair Lacey welcomed the Board and noted there is an outline of her report in the agenda packet. The Chair discussed the sobering world events ongoing in Ukraine and noted the upcoming Spring Break for many Montana students. The Chair noted that March is Women’s History Month, thanked Ms. Stockton for her work with the Executive Committee creating the agenda and thanked Executive Director Flynn on her work for the Board. The Chair updated the Board on her activities since the last Board meeting including Executive Committee meetings, Licensure Committee meetings, MSDB Committee Meetings, Chapter 57 Public Hearing, and the CSPAC Meeting on February 9th. The Chair announced that CSPAC member Dr. Watson is leaving the Council and his position as the Superintendent of Missoula Public Schools to take a new position as the Executive Director of the School Administrators of Montana. Dr. Watson will be replacing Dr. Miller who is retiring at the end of this year.

The Chair reported that at the February 9, 2022 CSPAC meeting, the Council voted to adopt the Code of Ethics, and gave a brief history of the CSPAC Code of Ethics. In 1990 the first Code was created by the

that had the item been listed as Action on the agenda there would be public comment provided. The Chair noted that she is not comfortable acting on an item that was listed on the agenda as information because it does not provide for public participation. Ms. Quinlan asked the Lt. Governor what her thoughts were if the Board took action to decide that additional consideration needs to be made, but not act on the Code itself until a later meeting. The Lt. Governor noted that the action today would be to bring the Code of Ethics before the board, not on the merits of the code, and to determine if CSPAC is the proper place for the code to be approved because she believes that they do not have the authority to approve it. The Lt. Governor stated her concern that a delay on the decision would only be more confusing for the field. Ms. Quinlan stated that in her opinion the Code is a model "policy" like the model policies that the Montana School Board's Association puts out for school districts to use. The Lt. Governor agreed that the Code is a model policy and noted that the Board needs to decide today to determine whether CSPAC has the authority to approve and adopt model policy, and that she believes the Board has the information they need to make that decision. Ms. Heller noted that she feels there has been ample time to address the issue and that the Board has enough information to move forward and asked for clarification as to why the Board should not move forward today. The Chair noted that she does not feel that she has enough information to move forward. Ms. Orr stated that it has been established in the law that a decision on these action items today would be invalidated because there has not been public notice. Ms. Orr noted that it is important that CSPAC be available to address the topic and provide input to the Board and expressed again her concern that any action taken would be invalidated. Also noted was a statute addressing public comment on items not on the agenda, but the item was not noted as action on the agenda. Ms. Hamman explained her concerns about the Code, the process taken to adopt it, and that the Board is not dealing today with the contents of the Code, but to determine if the Code of Ethics adopted by CSPAC has no effect until CSPAC reconsiders it and brings it to the Board as a formal recommendation for approval. Her concerns lie with the confusion in the field surrounding the Code and that the Board needs to act today. Ms. Hedalen noted that it is important to establish today that the Code needs to come before the Board in a formal fashion like the MACIE resolution. Ms. Hedalen agreed that there is confusion in the field as to which version of the Code should be used, the 2016 version or the 2022 version. Ms. Heller noted she agrees with members Hedalen and Hamman, and with the Lt. Governor, and that it is important to stifle the confusion in the field right now.

Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved the Board take the following actions as requested by the Governor to be voted on as a single action item : 1) determine that CSPAC did not have authority to adopt and publish a Code of Ethics at its February 9th, 2022 meeting but is limited to recommending changes to the Educator Code of Ethics for submission to the Board for its approval/action/review 2) issue a statement that the revised language to the Code of Ethics purportedly adopted by CSPAC at its February 9, 2022 meeting has no effect unless and until the revisions are presented to and approved by the Board where there is open discussion with public input and the final version is determined, 3) request CSPAC present the proposed revisions to the Educator Code of Ethics to the Board at a future Board meeting at our determination. Jane Hamman seconded the motion.

Deputy Superintendent Sharyl Allen asked that if historical practice is that CSPAC is the body that writes, edits, revises, and adopts the code is there even a Code any longer since the Board hasn't approved one.

Ms. Amanda Curtis, President of MFPE, noted that she can see the writing on the wall with the vote and though she hates to be at odds, wanted to go on record that CSPAC is an advisory body to the Board, appointed by the Board, to bring forward matters related to public education. This is their Code of Ethics, and there is not confusion among teachers regarding the Code. Any alleged confusion in the public has been manufactured and not caused by any actions of CSPAC and the Board. Ms. Curtis noted that local boards of trustees can make the Code their own policy if they so

choose. Ms. Curtis urged the Board to leave the Code to the professionals in the field, and the decision to be left to local school boards as to how to use the code, and to exercise local control in their own districts.

Ms. Quinlan made a subsidiary motion to postpone the motion for a decision to the July 2022 Board meeting. Ms. Anne Keith seconded the motion.

Ms. Quinlan explained the reason for her motion, that she believes the comments are important and all discussion is valid, and that it is important to clarify what the Code means and how it is applied, but is concerned with violation of open meeting laws, and believes the public should be able to come and make comment.

Ms. Rasmussen asked a clarifying question of Ms. Quinlan, inquiring if Ms. Quinlan could amend her motion to add that the current code is suspended until the Board is able to decide.

Ms. Quinlan amended her motion to include that the Code of Ethics adopted by CSPAC at their February 9, 2022 meeting has no effect until the Board can have a conversation at the July 2022 meeting. Ms. Anne Keith seconded the motion.

Clarifying questions on the motion.

Ms. Quinlan restated her motion with the amendment included is intended to postpone the motion on the floor with the statement that the current Code of Ethics has no effect.

Ms. Heller asked clarifying questions of the motion on the floor, and Ms. Quinlan restated her motion for clarification which is to postpone the original motion on the floor to the July Board meeting, and to add that the current Code of Ethics has no effect until a decision can be made at the July 2022 meeting.

Ms. Heller then asked if the Board had authority to tell districts not to use current code. Ms. Hedalen noted that local districts can adopt and use whatever they want, so the Board cannot direct them what to use. Ms. Hedalen stated that it may be helpful to have a note on the Board website that the current code is not in effect and that the 2016 version is the current version in effect.

Ms. Hamman stated that she believes there is considerable confusion and expressed her concern that she does not think the motion is appropriate because a decision still needs to be made regarding the process and to what the Code is and how it can be used.

Chair Lacey clarified the original motion on the floor.

Ms. Hamman asked for a full reading of what the motion is.

Ms. Heller asked for the three points to be stated again.

Ms. Quinlan stated that the motion is to postpone action on the original motion on the floor until the July 2022 Board meeting and to issue a

statement that the Educator Code of Ethics adopted by CSPAC at its February 9th 2022 meeting has no effect until the revisions are brought before the Board in July for consideration. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

Lt. Governor Juras asked for clarification on the motion and asked if public comment was going to be allowed. The Lt. Governor noted there is still confusion regarding the motion.

Ms. Quinlan noted her intention was to make clear that what CSPAC adopted on February 9th has no effect until the Board resolves the question as to CSPAC's authority to adopt the Code of Ethics and whether it needs to come before the Board for action. The question as to whether the code is appropriate wasn't necessarily the discussion for the July meeting. But the code adopted February 9th is not in effect.

Ms. Rasmussen asked Ms. Quinlan to clarify that if she said that she wanted to postpone the motion made by Ms. Rasmussen, then she would expect all three points in that motion to be considered at the July meeting, including CSPAC presenting its recommendations, and the Board determining if that was the appropriate course of action, and at that time there would be discussion and public comment. Ms. Quinlan agreed that is her intent.

The Lt. Governor again noted that the motion is unclear as to when the Board would consider the revised Code of Ethics.

The Chair asked Ms. Quinlan if she would like to withdraw her motion to begin again. Ms. Quinlan agreed.

The motion on the floor was withdrawn.

Ms. Renee Rasmussen amended her motion that the Board take the following actions as requested by the governor: 1)At the July meeting determine whether or not CSPAC had the authority to adopt the Code of Ethics at its' February 9, 2022 meeting or is limited to recommending changes to the Educator Code of Ethics for submission to this board for approval 2) request CSPAC to present its proposed revisions to the Educator Code of Ethics to the Board as a recommendation at the July meeting for action 3) immediately issue a statement that the revised language to the Code of Ethics purportedly adopted by CSPAC at their February 9th, 2022 meeting has no effect until presented to the Board and action is taken. Ms. Madalyn Quinlan seconded the motion.

Ms. Hedalen stated her appreciation of everyone's efforts, but her concern is that she believes that advisory councils can only make recommendations to the Board. The Governor and others requested additional action to take place at this meeting, and it is important to discuss the specific code revisions that she believes have added additional controversy in the current educational climate.

Ms. Heller echoed Ms. Hedalen's concerns and asked that the motion be read again for clarification.

The motion was read again.

No further comment. Roll call vote: Opposed – members Lacey, Hedalen, Heller, Hamman, Rasmussen. For: Quinlan, Keith

Motion failed.

Original motion on the floor was re-read

Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved the Board take the following actions as requested by the Governor to be voted on as a single action item : 1) determine that CSPAC did not have authority to adopt and publish a Code of Ethics at its February 9th, 2022 meeting but is limited to recommending changes to the Educator Code of Ethics for submission to the Board for its approval/action/review 2) issue a statement that the revised language to the code of ethics purportedly adopted by CSPAC at its February 9, 2022 meeting has no affect unless and until the revisions are presented to and approved by the Board where there is open discussion with public input and the final version is determined, 3) request CSPAC present the revisions to the Educator Code of Ethics to the Board at a future Board meeting at our determination. Jane Hamman seconded the motion.

Ms. Keith noted her concern that by making this motion the Board is violating the law, and that she does not have enough information to determine that CSPAC did not have the authority to adopt a Code of Ethics.

Chair Lacey echoed Ms. Keith's concerns.

Motion passed with members Keith, Quinlan, Lacey dissenting.

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Heller (Items 5-6)

**Item 5 MSDB REPORT – (INFORMATION)
Paul Furthmyre**

Mr. Furthmyre welcomed Ms. Rasmussen to the Board, and congratulated Ms. Hamman on her award from Senator Daines. Mr. Furthmyre updated the Board on his participation in the Executive Leadership Academy and gave an update on the grant written to update the classrooms at the MSDB with more television screens and equipment. The grant was approved by the Governor and is now awaiting approval by the Treasury Department. The electricity project to make MSDB the first state agency with new lighting that can change color to help the low-vision students is ongoing. Mr. Furthmyre reported there are 47 students on campus right now with two students currently doing ten-day observations. Mr. Furthmyre reviewed the action items before the Board before requesting action.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MSDB Out -of -State Travel Requests as presented in the packet. Motion seconded by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MSDB Personnel Actions as presented in the packet. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MSDB Policy 1910: COVID-19 Emergency Measures: Personnel Use of Leave. Motion seconded by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 6 ACTION ON MSDB SUPERINTENDENT 2022-2023 CONTRACT – (ACTION) –
Tammy Lacey**

Chair Lacey opened the item and asked Ms. Flynn to review the process to date and pointed out changes in the contract. Ms. Flynn noted that once the contract is approved today, Mr. Furthmyre will receive retroactive pay to begin at the date of his hire in January. Ms. Flynn also noted minor changes to the pay, and a stipend to assist in his completion of his doctoral degree. Ms. Flynn noted that State Human Resources has reviewed the contract.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MSDB Superintendent Contract to Mr. Paul Furthmyre for 2022-2023. Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

Chair Lacey congratulated Mr. Furthmyre and thanked the Board for their work on the process.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Heller asked for Mr. Furthmyre to let everyone know when the MSDB graduation date is. The date is May 27th, 2022 at 2:00 pm.

❖ MACIE LIAISON – Susie Hedalen (Item 7)

**Item 7 MACIE REPORT – (INFORMATION)
Jennifer Smith, MACIE Chair**

Ms. Smith updated the Board on new hires at OPI in the Indian Education for All division and noted that Montana continues to struggle with the achievement gap for Native American students, especially due to challenges brought on by COVID-19. MACIE is looking at different ways to offer Native American students options for high school graduation and completion. MACIE will be meeting in person in April for the first time in two years and Ms. Smith reviewed items that will be on the agenda. Ms. Smith reviewed work on the Native American Language Statement, upcoming conferences surrounding Indian Education for All, and that MACIE will be bringing the Regalia Statement to the Board in May. Additionally, MACIE will also be bringing new members to the Board for approval. Ms. Smith answered Board member questions. Ms. Hamman asked if Board members could participate in the Indian Education for All Conference in May and Ms. Smith noted that it is open to anyone to participate and they welcome Board member's participation. Ms. Hedalen thanked Chair Smith for being diligent in making the April meeting an in-person meeting, and thanked Ms. Allen at OPI to offer funding to hold the meeting in person.

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Tammy Lacey – (Items 8-11)

**Item 8 SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS ANNUAL REPORT – (INFORMATION)
Caroline Olson**

Ms. Caroline Olson, Assistant Director of School Nutrition Programs at OPI, presented the School Nutrition Program Annual Report to the Board. Ms. Olson discussed the USDA Flexibility Waiver and reported that it provided schools a great deal of creativity in how they provided meals to their students. Ms. Olson highlighted other grants awarded which allowed schools to upgrade kitchen equipment and other areas of their school nutrition program. The OPI provided weekly training sessions throughout the year for schools as an aid to school districts. The Summer Foods program, After School Program, Milk Program, and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program were also highlighted. Chair Lacey thanked Ms. Olson for the thorough report.

**Item 9 ACTION ON NOTICE OF ADOPTION, ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 64, BUS
STANDARDS – (ACTION)
Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Mr. Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel for the Office of Public Instruction, presented the Notice of Adoption for the School Bus Standards. Mr. Stutz clarified that the notice says 2022 and the document says 2021 because 2021 is when the drafting of the revisions began, but that date will be updated after adoption. Mr. Stutz noted that the extended stop arm requirement says “should”, and that it is recommended but not required. Ms. Hedalen asked clarifying questions and noted that rural school districts have concerns with this requirement due to extended usage of buses on gravel roads.

Ms. Susie Hedalen moved to approve the Notice of Adoption of ARM Title 10, Chapter 64, Bus standards, and authorized filing of the notice with the Secretary of State’s Office for publication in the Montana Administrative Register. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 10 ACTION ON NOTICE OF ADOPTION, ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 66,
PERTAINING TO MONTANA YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY – (ACTION) –
McCall Flynn**

Ms. Flynn reviewed that this item was before the Board in January for the Notice of Proposed Amendment and noted there was no public comment.

Ms. Susie Hedalen moved to approve the Notice of Adoption to ARM Title 10, Chapter 66, pertaining to Montana Youth Challenge. Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 11 FEDERAL PROGRAMS UPDATE – (INFORMATION)
Dr. Julie Murgel**

Dr. Julie Murgel, Chief Operating Officer at the OPI, provided an update on the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability System, and the American Rescue Plan/Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP/ESSER) Funding. Dr. Murgel reviewed federal waivers the OPI applied for to assist schools in Comprehensive status and announced that a director for the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program has been hired. Dr. Murgel answered Board member questions.

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 12-22)

*****TIME CERTAIN AT 1:00PM*****

**Item 12 INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2020-10, SANTALA – (ACTION)
Tara Harris, Counsel**

Ms. Tara Harris, Counsel representing OPI in this case, presented this case to the Board, and reviewed her involvement in the case. Ms. Harris stated that neither Mr. Santala’s union representative, Ms. Maggie Copeland, nor Mr. Santala, received a copy of the Superintendent’s January 2022 letter, and with agreement from OPI, is asking for a continuance.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to continue the Initial Review of BPE Case 2020-10, Santala, to the May 2022 Board meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Renee Rasmussen.

Questions from Board members regarding the request.

No further discussion. Motion passed with members Heller and Lacey dissenting.

Question from member Hedalen as to whether there are any requirements that parents are notified of teachers facing charges. Mr. Stutz noted that the school districts may choose to do so, but the licensure process does not allow for parental notification.

**Item 13 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-02, MORAND – (ACTION)
Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Ms. Crystal Andrews presented the Unusual Case Request to the Board and reviewed the reasons for the request to extend a Class 5 Provisional License for one year.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Unusual Case Request for a one-year extension of a Class 5 Provisional License in BPE Case 2022-02, Morand. Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 14 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-03, MAVRINAC – (ACTION)
Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Ms. Crystal Andrews presented the Unusual Case Request to the Board and reviewed the reasons for the request to extend a Class 5 Provisional License for one semester. Ms. Mavrinac attempted to find another university that offered the class in spring 2022 semester but was not successful.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the unusual case request for a one-year extension of a Class 5 Provisional License in BPE Case 2022-03, Mavrinac. Motion seconded by Ms. Susie Hedalen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 15 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-04, ESTRADA – (ACTION)
Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Ms. Andrews presented the Unusual Case Request for the Board's review. Mr. Estrada was available via Zoom and discussed the class that he will be teaching should this license be granted.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Unusual Case Request for a Class 4A License in BPE Case #2022-04, Estrada. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 16 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-05, SHRIDER – (ACTION)
Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Ms. Andrews reviewed the Unusual Case Request for the Board. Ms. Shrider was available via Zoom and explained her background in School Counseling for the Board. Ms. Andrews answered Board member questions.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Unusual Case Request to add a School Counseling endorsement to an existing Class 1 Professional License in BPE Case #2022-05, Shrider. Motion seconded by Ms. Renee Rasmussen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 17 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-06, GIFFIN – (ACTION)
Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

Ms. Andrews reviewed the Unusual Case Request for the Board.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Unusual Case Request for a Class 1 Professional License endorsed in Music in BPE Case #2022-06, Giffin. Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 18 UNUSUAL CASE REQUEST, BPE CASE #2022-07, NEUFELD LILLY – (ACTION)

Crystal Andrews, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel

Ms. Andrews reviewed the Unusual Case Request for the Board. Ms. Andrews answered clarifying questions for Board members.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve the Class 2 Standard License in BPE Case #2022-07, Neufeld Lilly. Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 20 PRAXIS FOR MATH PRESENTATION – (INFORMATION)

Crystal Andrews

Ms. Andrews reviewed the process for the review of a new cut score for the Math component of the PRAXIS exam. In alignment with other states, Montana is proposing adopting a passing score of 159, and has received approval from the Montana Council of Deans of Education for a score of 159. Ms. Andrews, Ms. Kristi Steinberg, University of Montana, and Nick Bellack, ETS, were part of the review committee. Ms. Andrews answered Board member questions.

Item 19 UPDATE ON NEW LICENSING SYSTEM – (INFORMATION)

Crystal Andrews, Zam Alidina

Ms. Andrews and Mr. Alidina presented an update on the new licensing system migration at OPI. Mr. Alidina reviewed the progress and what is upcoming in the next two months. Ms. Andrews reviewed communication that is going out to the field and to Education Preparation Programs, as well as how the license renewals are going with a paper process. The Licensure unit will be gaining an Administrative Specialist to assist with the migration of the system.

Item 21 UPDATE ON REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 58, EDUCATOR PREPARATION – (INFORMATION)

Zach Hawkins, Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel

Mr. Stutz reviewed for the Board the proposal to revise the timeline for the revisions to Chapter 58 due to feedback from the field on the process. Mr. Hawkins reviewed for the Board that the original plan was to bring the full revisions to Chapter 58, but due to recommendations from the Task Force, and other feedback, the Superintendent is recommending slowing down the process. Mr. Hawkins answered Board member questions regarding the proposed timeline. Mr. Stutz reviewed the two proposed timelines in the packet and pointed the differences in the two and reasoning behind each one. Mr. Stutz answered Board member questions.

Item 22 ACTION ON REVISED TIMELIME FOR REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 58, EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS – (ACTION)

Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to accept the proposed Chapter 58 recommended timeline from the Superintendent. Ms. Jane Hamman seconded the motion.

Ms. Lacey thanked the Superintendent and OPI for the proposal to amend the timeline.

Dr. Stevie Schmitz, Rocky Mountain College, gave public comment thanking the Board for the time, attention, and care in making decisions regarding teacher licensure. Being flexible, collaborative, and looking at the research are the right things to do.

Board member Heller made comment that she found the Licensure Panel and the OPI Staff answering questions to be extremely helpful, but would like to see the public comments that are coming in. Chair Lacey explained that the Board will see the comments and will make decisions at the April 28th meeting.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:26PM.

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Agenda items are handled in the order listed on the approved agenda. Items may be rearranged unless listed "time certain". Action may be taken by the Board on any item listed on the agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items but time limits on public comment may be set at the Chair's discretion.

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