

CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COOPERATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES

Board Minutes

The Carbon County Board of Cooperative Higher Education Services (BOCHES) held its regular monthly meeting on November 25, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in Rawlins, Wyoming.

Roll Call

Board members present: Mike Mann and Pam Thayer. Via Zoom: Neil Kourbelas, Matt Feldman, and Rick Greene.

Others present: Jennifer Moore, Karen Webster, Shelly Collier, Janet Garcia, Candie Zumbrennan, Cory Hudson, and Gerald Snodgrass. Via Zoom: Ryanne Mikesell and Natalie Danford.

Agenda

Mike Mann made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Pam Thayer and passed.

Public Comments, Presentations & Reports

- A. GED Student: Cameron Frazier was not able to make the meeting, but Cory said that he always came in with a good attitude and we are excited to see him succeed!
- B. Woods/Construction Program: Gerald Snodgrass talked about the pathways for this program and presented an overview of his new curriculum and grading rubric, as well as information on recent student projects.

Executive Session

None

Consent Agenda

- A. Pam Thayer made the motion to approve the minutes from October 24, 2024 meeting, Treasurer's Report, and Accounts Payable for November 2024. The motion was seconded by Mike Mann and passed.

Action Items

None

Discussion

- A. Starting the CCHEC Foundation: The foundation is part of our strategic plan and Jennifer is ready to begin this project. Having a foundation would allow the foundation to apply for grants and qualify for other monetary opportunities that a BOCHES cannot do. To get started the Board would need to approve its formation.

Directors Report

Jennifer reported to the Board that the mill levy passed once again with about 74% voting in favor of it. We are grateful for the community's continued support in both Rawlins and Baggs.

CCHEC is looking for an auto instructor. If we do not hire one in the next couple of weeks, we will not have auto classes in the Spring and Jennifer will continue to work diligently to find a solid instructor for next Fall. The auto instructor position has been a hard one to fill and we have had to hold off a semester in the past. There has been a little bit of interest this time around and one applicant so far.

Upcoming next week, we have the Festival of Trees, in partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs of Carbon County. People are starting to bring their trees, wreaths, and centerpieces to decorate the hallway. On Saturday, December 7th, we will have Santa and Mrs. Claus here, fun craft events for the kids, food trucks, and our auction of items concludes that day. We will also be assisting with the Willy Wonka Christmas event at the fairgrounds on December 14th.

Lastly, Jennifer hopes everyone has a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Staff Reports

Shelly reported that we have received 16% of our estimated Carbon County tax income compared to 15% in 2023. We have received 36% of our estimated Sweetwater tax income compared to 25% in 2023. Shelly also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, travel safe and enjoy time with your family.

Janet let the Board know that she scheduled the December paint night on December 5th to coincide with Festival of Trees to get more people in the door to see the trees. Megan McComas will be teaching a class on crafting your own fire cider December 17th, and Hanna Randolph will be teaching two crochet classes in December where students will learn how to make crochet ornaments and stockings. Keishah Williams will be teaching a "Twas the Night Before Christmas" canvas painting on December 19th. We've started advertising and taking registrations for the Spring 2025 Getting Ahead program that we do in partnership with Carbon County Prevention and Carbon County Child Development. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program, please send them our way.

Cory said that Western registration opened November 6th. Cory and the RHS Counselor met with students on November 4th and 5th to help with registration and schedules. We have 1 HiSET/GED student at the jail and 4 non-jail students working their way through the subtests. One student is working on the waiver process. If students are 16 or 17, they must complete and submit waiver paperwork and complete official pre-tests at a very high level to be approved to test. Our test center continues to stay steadily busy. We hosted CNA testing on November 6th.

Ryanne reported that they have 22 students signed up to take dual classes in the spring. A couple of students want to take 3 or 4 classes. They are collecting the letters to Santa and will send them out soon. They will be having an ornament painting class with the kids and on those ornaments will be a QR code that they can scan to track Santa's movements. Some upcoming classes include Self-Defense for middle school and high school age students and a cyber security class. Roberta will soon be taking her exam to become a Pearson Vue proctor.

Board Comments

Mike would like to see if we could do a tire changing class. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to travel safe.

Pam said that this meeting will be her last meeting. It was great to be on the BOCHES Board and Happy Thanksgiving.

Rick said that we should think about changing the date for the December meeting to help with getting a new treasurer for this board. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Matt thanked Pam for being on the board and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Next Board Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Mike Mann made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Pam Thayer and passed.

Matt Feldmann, Chairperson

Rick Greene, Clerk

Karen Webster, Executive Assistant