Region IV, Chief Elected Officials

Mesilla Town Hall
2231 Avenida de Mesilla
Mesilla, NM 88046

To join the meeting by phone, dial (346) 248-7799, then enter Meeting ID: 828 2495 0775
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Friday, November 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (MDT)

DRAFT OF MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

a) Chief Poncé called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

a) Chief Poncé led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call and Abstentions

a) Chief Poncé requested a roll call. There were no abstentions. Chief Poncé approved virtual participation for members attending remotely.

Voting Members Present:
Commissioner Buster Floyd Green*
Commissioner Art Malott
Commissioner Jim Paxon*
Commissioner Chris Poncé
Commissioner Manny Sanchez

Voting Members Absent:
Commissioner Joe Gonzales
Commissioner Ray Trejo

Staff:
Jay Armijo, SCCOG Executive Director*
Skylar Arnold, Fiscal Administrator*
Fayth Grijalva, Administrative Specialist
Glory Juarez, WIOA Administrator*
Angela Longovia, Communications Manager
Diana Luchini, Fiscal Clerk*

Non-Voting Members Absent:
Mayor Ravi Bhasker
Mayor Jacob Biggler
Mayor Eric Enriquez
Mayor Rolf Hechler
Mayor Russell Hernandez
Mayor Richard Holcomb
Mayor Gabriel I. Holguin
Mayor Hilda Keller
Mayor Arnold Lopez
Mayor Reynaldo Maynes
Mayor Martin Neave
Mayor John L. Ojinaga
Mayor Javier Perea
Mayor Michelle "Micki" Shillito
Mayor Phillip Skinner
Mayor Deb Stubblefield
Mayor Dennis Torres
Mayor Simon Wheaton-Smith

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Non-Voting Members Present:	Guests:
Mayor Michael Thompson*	Margarito Aragon*
	Blaire Flores
	Leroy Garcia*
	Marissa Molano*
	Chanin O'Rourke*
	Juanisha Padilla*
	Ramon Pazos*
	Josh Stoller*
	Teo Ugalde
	Becky Vega*

*Virtual attendance

IV. Welcome

a) Chief Poncé welcomed everyone.

V. Public Comment

a) No public comment

VI. Approval of Agenda

Chief Poncé stated the verbiage for Resolution 26 – 21 needs to be changed from Southwestern Area Workforce Development Board to South Central Council of Governments.

a) Chief Poncé **moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by** Commissioner Sanchez. **The motion passed.** The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Green – Yes	Commissioner Poncé – Yes
Commissioner Malott – Yes	Commissioner Sanchez – Yes
Commissioner Paxon – Yes	

VII. Consent Agenda Items

a) Approval of the September 17, 2026, Joint Meeting minutes

Commissioner Sanchez **moved to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by** Commissioner Malott. **Motion passed.** The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Green – Yes	Commissioner Poncé – Yes
Commissioner Malott – Yes	Commissioner Sanchez – Yes
Commissioner Paxon – Yes	

VIII. Action Items

a) Resolution 26 – 21 concurs with the South Central Council of Governments to approve the transfer of banking services, establishment of accounts, designation of authorized signers, and access to electronic banking and ACH services.

Ms. Arnold explained that the move from Bank of the Southwest to First Savings Bank was necessary because the credit union that acquired Bank of the Southwest does not provide collateral for deposits exceeding the FDIC-insured limit. She stated that switching banks would ensure all funds are secured and properly collateralized for audit purposes.

Commissioner Malott **moved to approve Resolution 26 – 21, seconded by** Commissioner Sanchez. **Motion passed.** The roll call vote was as follows:

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Commissioner Green – Yes
Commissioner Malott – Yes
Commissioner Paxon – Yes
Commissioner Poncé – Yes
Commissioner Sanchez – Yes

b) Resolution 26 – 22 approves an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Southwestern Area Workforce Development Board and Serve NM for a $7,500 grant to support a youth event and authorizes the SAWDB Board Chair to sign.

Ms. Juarez explained that the state organization is providing each region with a $7,500 grant to host a youth career fair and outreach event. She requested approval of the intergovernmental agreement, noting that contract signatures were still pending. The event is planned for next year in Columbus, New Mexico, and funds may be used for participant stipends, staffing, and refreshments. The event must be held in a rural area, with the possibility of additional events in other counties if funding allows.

Commissioner Sanchez **moved to approve Resolution 26 – 22, seconded by** Commissioner Malott. **Motion passed.** The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Green – Yes
Commissioner Malott – Yes
Commissioner Paxon – Yes
Commissioner Poncé – Yes
Commissioner Sanchez – Yes

IX. Reports and Information Items

a) Administrative and Financial Reports

i. WIOA Administrator

Ms. Juarez stated that she, Ms. Simms, and Ms. Shook are attending a Sector Strategy event and would provide her report by email.

ii. Technical Assistance & Training
Ms. Simms' report is in the packet for review.

iii. Financials
Ms. Arnold presented the balance sheet, obligations by county, and expenditures by fund and county through September 30, 2026.

b) Service Provider Reports

i. Youth Services: Alamo Navajo School Board
Ms. Padilla reported for PY26 Q1. Program highlights included Enrollment Goals, Budget Expenditure Report, Performance Goals, and Training Opportunities.

ii. Youth Services: New Mexico State University/Doña Ana Community College
Mr. Ugalde reported that the program team is in place, new community partnerships are underway, and approximately 30 referrals and 80 new participants have been received. He expressed confidence in meeting and exceeding the program's goals. Their presentation with more details is included in the meeting packet.

iii. Adult/Dislocated Worker Services: Equus Workforce Solutions
Ms. Molano presented information about the Adult and Dislocated Worker program from July 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026. Her report included enrollments, supportive services, success stories, and more.

c) Update from DWS
No updates.

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X. Other

a) Member Input

i. Chief Poncé thanked staff and expressed his appreciation for their efforts.

XI. Next Meeting

a) Friday, February 5, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.

XII. Adjournment

a) Chief Poncé adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

ATTESTED

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Date

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