

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

January 27, 2025

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allan Hancock Joint Community College District	Dennis Curran	Alternate
Buellton Union School District	Melissa Maxwell	Alternate
Carpinteria Unified School District	James Pettit	Director
Hope School District	Mike Thomson	Director
Lompoc Unified School District	Doug Sorum	Director
Orcutt Unified School District	Ron Simpson	Alternate
Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO)	Nicole Evenson	Vice President
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District	Cesar Lugo	Director
Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District	Elysia Lewis	President
Solvang School District	Carla Benevedo	Director
Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)	Rachel Wigle	Alternate
Vista Del Mar Union School District	Bree Valla	Director

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ballard School District
Blochman Union School District
Cold Spring School District
College School District
Cuyama Joint Unified School District
Goleta Union School District
Guadalupe Union School District
Los Olivos School District
Montecito Union School District
Santa Maria-Bonita School District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Alliant Insurance Services	Angela Hatley
Johnson Schachter & Lewis	Kellie Murphy
Risk Program Administrators	Amber Anderson
SBCEO	Keith Cox
Workers' Compensation Administrators	Bruce White

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Elysia Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM & INTRODUCTIONS

Amber Anderson, Program Administrator, confirmed quorum. President Lewis led a round of introductions for the new member, Ron Simpson (Orcutt) who was attending his first meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS POSTED

Motion made by Dennis Curran (Allan Hancock), seconded by James Pettit (Carpinteria), to approve the agenda as posted.

Motion passed unanimously by all members present voting “aye”:

Allan Hancock Joint Community College District	SBCEO
Buellton Union School District	Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
Carpinteria Unified School District	Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District
Hope School District	Solvang School District
Lompoc Unified School District	SELPA
Orcutt Union School District	Vista Del Mar Union School District

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion made by Doug Sorum (Lompoc), seconded by Ron Simpson (Orcutt), to approve: A) Minutes of the September 23, 2024 Board Meeting, B) Warrants for September - December 2024, and to receive and file items: C) Approved Safety & Health Management Minutes from July 18, and October 10, 2024, D) Final Actuarial Report as of June 30, 2024, E) Education & Training Opportunities, F) Renewal Data Collection Update for 2025-26, and G) Annual Agenda Items Overview.

Motion passed unanimously by all members present voting “aye”:

Allan Hancock Joint Community College District	SBCEO
Buellton Union School District	Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
Carpinteria Unified School District	Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District
Hope School District	Solvang School District
Lompoc Unified School District	SELPA
Orcutt Union School District	Vista Del Mar Union School District

6. OPEN SESSION**A. Excess Workers’ Compensation Program Audit Results**

Angela Hatley (Broker, Alliant Insurance) briefed the Board as to the findings of the recent Excess Workers’ Compensation Program audit by Safety National, SIPE’s excess carrier, for the 2023-24 policy year. Ms. Hatley explained that while estimated payroll reported on the renewal submission application was \$558,471,697, the audited payroll totaled \$631,748,676. The discrepancy resulted in an additional premium due of \$39,569.

Payment was made pre-emptively by SBCEO on behalf of SIPE, and the Board was asked to accept the results of the audit and ratify the release of funds in response to the audit findings.

Motion made by Dennis Curran (Allan Hancock), seconded by Doug Sorum (Lompoc), to accept the findings of the Excess Workers’ Compensation program audit for 2023-24 and ratify payment of the additional funds billed by Safety National.

Motion passed unanimously by all members present voting “aye”:

Allan Hancock Joint Community College District
 Buellton Union School District
 Carpinteria Unified School District
 Hope School District
 Lompoc Unified School District
 Orcutt Union School District

SBCEO
 Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
 Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District
 Solvang School District
 SELPA

Vista Del Mar Union School District was not present for this vote.

B. Final Excess Workers' Compensation Policy for 2024-25

Amber Anderson (Program Administrator) advised that excess workers' compensation (EWC) coverage with Safety National Casualty Corporation was renewed as of July 1, 2024, and the final policy was received in December 2024. The policy was provided as part of the agenda to ensure receipt by all members. Additionally, the Board was reminded that through this partnership districts also are provided Safety National's Crisis Prevention Protection benefit free to charge.

This item was presented as information only.

C. Establishment of Rates Committee

President Lewis described the goals and responsibilities of the SIPE Rates Committee, formed annually in order to:

- Review SIPE's net position
- Consider the most recent actuarial report findings
- Discuss claims trends and other relevant information
- Provide a recommendation for a funding rate for the coming program year

Six (6) members agreed to participate for 2025: Dennis Curran (Allan Hancock), Mike Thomson (Hope), Nicole Evenson (SBCEO), Elysia Lewis (Santa Ynez), and Rachel Wigle (SELPA). The Committee will meet prior to the March 24, 2025 Board meeting in order to have a recommendation to deliver at that time for the 2025-26 program year.

Motion made by Doug Sorum (Lompoc), seconded by Ron Simpson (Orcutt), to approve the nominees for the 2025 Rates Committee as proposed.

Motion passed unanimously by all members present voting "aye":

Allan Hancock Joint Community College District
 Buellton Union School District
 Carpinteria Unified School District
 Hope School District
 Lompoc Unified School District
 Orcutt Union School District

SBCEO
 Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
 Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District
 Solvang School District
 SELPA

Vista Del Mar Union School District was not present for this vote.

D. Strategic Planning Session Topics and Timing

Ms. Anderson reviewed the scope and purpose of the annual strategic planning session, typically coupled with the March Board meeting. She advised that Michelle Carter, RPA's National

Communication and Initiatives Leader, would return as facilitator for the second consecutive year, in order to provide continuity and assist with furthering the goals of the organization.

Board members were encouraged to attend and participate, as this is the only in-person meeting that SIPE hosts each year.

This item was presented as information only.

E. Loss Control Update

Keith Cox (Loss Control Manager) presented an update on training and services provided to Members since the last Board meeting, including:

- Assisted district with potential carbon dioxide issue
- Provided new AED for GYM and added to Online Oversight Program
- Assisted to add a new AED to the Online Oversight Program
- Developed a delivery truck safety checklist
- Back Safe Training
- Forklift Training.
- Ergonomic training and supplies.
- CPR classes/evaluations
- Narcan training
- Provided “shoes for crews” for district
- Added IIPP/Safety forms to the SIPE website under IIPP/Safety

This item was presented as information only.

F. Claims Administration Update

Bruce White (Claims Manager) presented a claims administration overview as of January 2025, reviewing:

- Current claims activity
- Open/Closed Claims
- Open Claims by Claim Type
- Reserves & IBNRs @ 70% Confidence Level
- Number of Claims - FY 2024/25 Change

This item was presented as information only.

7. CLOSING COMMENTS

President Lewis reminded attendees of the in-person board meeting and strategic planning session to be held March 24, 2025 at the Santa Ynez High School District board room and encouraged all those able to attend to do so.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.
