

**BEAR LAKE SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MEDIA CENTER
January 14, 2026
7:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President, Eric Smith; Vice President, Shad Buckner; Secretary, Robert Gauthier; Treasurer, Connie Ledford; Trustees, Josh Groenwald, Josh Leffew, and Trustee Marissa Lineberry

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Jakob Veith called the organizational meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Bear Lake Media Center.

Mr. Veith honored the Board for Board Appreciation Month.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Moved by Ledford, supported by Groenwald, to close nominations for President of the Bear Lake Board of Education and elect Eric Smith as President for the 2026 calendar year; carried 7-0.

NOTE: (Newly elected Board President assumes chair/takes over conduction of meeting.)

Moved by Ledford, supported by Leffew, to close nominations for Vice President of the Bear Lake Board of Education and elect Shad Buckner as Vice President for the 2026 calendar year; carried 7-0.

Moved by Buckner, supported by Gauthier, to close nominations for Secretary of the Bear Lake Board of Education and elect Bob Gauthier as Secretary for the 2026 calendar year; carried 7-0.

Moved by Groenwald, supported by Buckner, to close nominations for Treasurer of the Bear Lake Board of Education and elect Connie Ledford as Treasurer for the 2026 calendar year; carried 7-0.

Moved by Leffew, supported by Gauthier, to set the date, time and place(s) of regular business meetings as set forth in the following schedule. All meetings will take place at Bear Lake Schools unless otherwise changed; carried 7-0.

Moved by Groenwald, supported by Buckner, to approve the 2026 Board Committee Assignments as presented; carried 7-0.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

CORRESPONDENCE

MASB Winter Institute

BOARD REPORTS

Sarah Harless presented the Principal’s Report.
Kaylie Brown presented the Athletic Director’s Report.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A. Cell Tower Contract
- B. Bond Update
- C. NMSLA

BUSINESS ITEMS FOR ACTION

Moved by Buckner, supported by Lineberry, that the Consent Calendar Items B and C approved as presented; carried 7-0.

Moved by Buckner, supported by Lineberry, that the Treasurer’s Report of monies on hand-

<i>General Fund</i>	<i>\$183,812.93</i>
<i>Food Service Fund</i>	<i>16,245.81</i>
<i>Debt Retirement Funds</i>	<i>0.00</i>
<i>Capital Projects</i>	<u><i>0.00</i></u>
<i>Total All Funds</i>	<i>\$200,058.74</i>

be accepted that bills totaling \$200,058.74 and check numbers 128087-128131 to be approved for payment; carried 7-0.

Moved by Buckner, supported by Lineberry, that the minutes of the regular business meeting held December 10, 2025, be approved as presented; carried 7-0.

Moved by Lineberry, supported by Smith, to approve the 99-year cell tower contract with American Tower, contingent upon American Tower’s agreement to the Thrun Law amendments, as presented; failed 3-4. (Ledford, Buckner, Gauthier, Groenwald)

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Gauthier, supported by Buckner, to move into closed session at 7:44 PM for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent Evaluation Update.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes Nays

Eric Smith x

Shad Buckner x

Bob Gauthier x

Connie Ledford x

Josh Groenwald x

Josh Leffew x

Marissa Lineberry x

carried 7-0.

Moved by Gauthier, supported by Buckner, to reconvene to open session at 8:00 PM;
carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Gauthier, supported by Buckner, to adjourn at 9:04 PM with no objections.

Board Secretary _____