



**GOVERNING COUNCIL**

Regular Meeting of the SAMS Academy Governing Council on Friday, October 20, 2023  
via Zoom.us & In person at 6441 Ventana Road NW

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mike Romo, Laura Kohr, and Jody Meyer

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Bridget Barrett, Amanda Catanzaro, Sean Fry, Kelly Callahan and Lauren Chavez

**PUBLIC**

Ed Smith (Emeritus Member)

These minutes were approved on 11/17/2023

By a vote of 7 yes 0 no 1 absent 0 abstained

Larry Kennedy President  
Roland Dewing Secretary

**I. Call to Order**

Larry Kennedy called to order the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy for October 20, 2023 at 2:00 PM on Zoom.us and in person.

**A. Roll Call**

Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy.

**B. Adoption of the Agenda\***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the agenda. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to approve the agenda. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Review/Approval of Minutes from September 22, 2023 Special Meeting\***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2023 Special Meeting. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes. Roland Dewing seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**II. Public Comment**

Larry Kennedy asked Bridget Barrett and Amanda Catanzaro if there was any public comment. There were no public comments.

**III. Ongoing Business Matters**

**A. Aviation Program Update**

Dr. Lauren Chavez presented they have flown approximately 80 hours since the last meeting. Four students have completed all their night and solo flight requirements and all four have scheduled check rides in December. Another student just passed the FAA Knowledge Exam and has joined the flight team. "Trixie" has completed her Hot-Air Balloon check ride and is officially a Fixed Wing Pilot, Hot Air Balloon Pilot and Drone Pilot.

The plane is currently at the mechanics, as of this morning, for the 100 hour check. This is happening more frequently with the two CFI's and all the additional flying that is happening.

KOB aired a story about our school that aired over Balloon Fiesta week. The first internship at Eclipse Aviation has taken place and was a success. Dr. Chavez reviewed the monthly expenses and hangar rental discussion took place. Hangar rentals may go up again but we have not heard anything from BODE at this time.

**B. Facility Update**

Amanda Catanzaro presented the facilities update for October 2023, reviewing the completed projects since last month's meeting and projects that still need attention. Gym flooring is completed and outlet in Mr. Begit's room has been repaired by an electrician. Ongoing projects include completion of the score board, handyman to fix holes in walls, school signage after we receive a final official logo, toilet seat that is loose in middle school lounge, sink in middle school bathroom that needs to be fixed, courtyard door that is not locking and adding locks to the science room storage doors.

**C. Planning and Preparation for Charter Renewal**

The charter renewal site visit with CSD is Monday, October 23. The governing council visit is at 1:00, in person or remote options available. Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy will be representing the board.

**IV. Administrative Update**

**A. Student Achievement Update**

Bridget Barrett presented Academics by Enrollment information to show where students are currently standing.

Now that gym flooring is completed, the gym is in high demand. Middle School Basketball has just started and varsity will begin in November as well as cheerleading that has begun.

Current enrollment is 306, above projected numbers. Equity Council is meeting every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 2:00. Charter Renewal site visit is October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mission Minute shared about the Balloons and Burritos event that happened the Thursday before Balloon Fiesta. It was a great success! Thank you to Kierstynn Wehner and her family.

Alex Carothers asked about enrollment and if we have been doing exit surveys on the students that have left the school year so far.

**V. New Business Matters**

**A. Aircraft Lease \***

Discussion around the lease that was approved last month. The Pipistrel is registered as a glider, therefore, Doc must have her glider CFI to use that aircraft

for teaching purposes. Discussion around when to execute the lease. Executing the lease should wait until after Dr. Chavez has her glider certificate.

The board would like administration to bring this back to the governing council when the school is ready to execute the contract.

## **VI. Governing Council Development**

### **A. Discussion with Kelly Callahan**

Kelly Callahan discussed how this training model is growing throughout other charter schools. Discussion around what this training will look like in the future and possibilities.

### **B. Strategic Planning Discussion**

Next month we should discuss what the governing councils next focused priority should be following renewal. What are the priorities for the next year and moving forward? Where do we go from here?

Dr. Chavez shared some logo ideas with the governing council.

## **VII. Finance Report**

### **A. Business Office Operations Update**

Larry Kennedy presented that the finance committee met Thursday, October 19 since Sean was going to be out of town.

### **B. Voucher Approvals \***

Larry Kennedy presented the out of normal transactions that happened in the month of September. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the September 2023 Vouchers. Alex Carothers made a motion to approve. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **C. Bank Reconciliation \***

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the September 2023 Bank Reconciliation. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote. Amanda Catanzaro Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

### **D. Permanent Cash Transfer \***

Larry Kennedy presented that the finance committee discussed in detail the information regarding the Permanent Cash Transfer and discussion regarding the reason for this as detailed on the Permanent Cash Transfer Form.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the Permanent Cash Transfer. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. Announcements**

A. Next regular Governing Council meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2023.

**IX. Adjournment\***

Larry Kennedy called for a motion to adjourn. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to adjourn. Roland Dewing seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy called for a roll call vote to adjourn. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Mike Deveraux, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy adjourned on October 20, 2023 at 3:29 PM.