

Minutes for May 19, 2026 *Approved Jun 22, 2026*

As recorded by board secretary, Corinne Teller Barraza

RIO GRANDE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 19, 2026

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Kathy McClendon, President
Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President
Oren Ran, Treasurer
Corinne Teller Barraza, Secretary
Amer Child, Member
Dana Flores, Member

Replaces Former LINK

GOOGLE MEET virtual meeting
RioGAFA Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 19 · 6:30 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/Denver

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/oig-exhx-hyg>

Or dial: (US) +1 443-402-6749 PIN: 547 969 647#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/oig-exhx-hyg?pin=9200651158777>

***Denotes potential action items for the Board**

NOTE: Agenda items can be added to the agenda for discussion, but they are not actionable. The Governance Board attempts to follow the order of items as listed, however, the order of specific items may vary from the printed agenda.

Public Comment:

- a. Members of the public who wish to speak at the Governing Board meeting, must sign-up prior to the meeting on the Public Comment sign-up sheet. The Governance Board President will set the time limit per presenter at the beginning of the meeting based on the number of persons signed up to address the Board. Persons from the same group and having similar viewpoints are asked to select a spokesperson to speak on their behalf. Multiple and repetitious presentations of the same view will be discouraged and may be ruled out of order.
- b. If the meeting is held virtually, public comment will be allowed during the meeting via Zoom. To speak during public comment, please email your request to speak with your name to up to twenty-four hours prior to the meeting to kathy.mcclendon@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com - Speakers will be unmuted in order to address the Governance Board. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes or based on the number of speakers. The public may also email comments to Kathy McClendon at kathy.mcclendon@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com - Emailed comments will be kept with the records of the meeting.

The following format is not indicative that each thing is up for discussion, but a framework in which to fit the Board's

AGENDA

- A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER** (turn ON recording) [Amer] **President**
- B. ROLL CALL of Board Members** **Secretary**
- a. Kathy McClendon, President
 - b. Dr Susan McConnell, Vice President
 - c. Corinne Teller Barraza, Secretary
 - d. Amer Child, Member
 - e. Dana Flores, Member
- C. *Review of and Action regarding May 19, 2026 AGENDA** **Governing Board**
- a. 1st- Susan McConnell
 - b. 2nd- Kathy McClendon
 - c. All in favor
- D. *Review of and Action regarding the MINUTES of April 21, 2026** **Governing Board**
- a. 1st- Amer Child
 - b. 2nd- Susan McConnell
 - c. All in favor
- E. FINANCIALS REPORT**
- Ran/Runyan/Marquez**
- a. *Review of and Action regarding April 2026 Financial Report
Governing Board/Marquez
 - 1st- Kathy McClendon
 - i. 2nd- Amer Child
 - ii. All in favor
 - b. *Review of and Action regarding “conditionally approve the budget pending final approval by the PED with possible budget changes” **Governing Board/Marquez**
 - i. 1st- Corinne Teller
 - ii. 2nd- Dana Flores
 - iii. All in favor, by roll call
 - iv. Discussion
 - 1. Kathy- Sign on Bonuses- one time? Sammi- yes, one time for hard to staff positions. \$20k is for multiple people.
 - 2. Sammi- gave clarifications on Services budget category. Funds expected to be unspent are allocated to various categories.
 - 3. Michele Platis presented 2026-27 calendar, part of budget submission.
 - a. 186 days, 1 more than last year.
 - b. First school day Aug 4, 2026 last day May 28, 2027
 - c. *Review of and Action regarding **the Indicators of Success Award finalization** **Governing Board/Marquez**

- i. 1st- [Kathy McClendon](#)
- ii. 2nd- Susan McConnell
- iii. Motion- To release funds, to be unspent- All in favor
- iv. Discussion
 - 1. Kathy- she got outside input regarding these funds (\$10k).
 - a. Funds can be tied to board activity this school year
 - b. Charter School Conference Attendance?
 - 2. Members gave ideas on how these funds could be spent or if funds should just remain unspent.

F. INSTRUCTIONAL and OPERATIONS

RioGAFA

Directors

- a. Michele Platis- Spring Performance is this Friday!

G. GOVERNANCE - GOVERNING BOARD ITEMS

- a. Facilities Update **Director/Facilities**
- b. Documents Notice- Kathy has these for all board members
 - i. Training Tracker
 - ii. Booklet for each Board Member that we got at the dinner

H. Comments from Board or Directors

- a. Sammi- she has 5 year projections ready, as requested last meeting. She will send a summary to board, to review before next meeting.
- b. Susan- complimented Sammi on budget, cash balance and shared excitement for the planning of upcoming school year.

I. NEXT Scheduled Meeting June 16, 2026

J. ADJOURNMENT (turn OFF the recording (Amer))

If you are an individual with a disability in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Jordan Franco at jordan.franco@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact Jordan Franco at the phone number or email address above if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Approved: Jun 22, 2026