

## **MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held a Public Budget Hearing at the Unit Office on September 16, 2013 with the following members present when the hearing convened: Karen Duncan, Marilyn Winkler, Gary Smidt, Richard Phillips, Ann Rodhouse and Linda Leising. Absent: Susan Perry, Lorenda Forbes, David Fleischmann and Kathy Whitten.

Board President Karen Duncan announced that this is an open public meeting.

Public Notice that the Board of ESU #11 would hold a Public Budget Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on September 16, 2013 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of September 2, 2013. The Public Notice included a statement of the purpose of the Public Hearing and a summary of the proposed budgetary requirements for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Board President Karen Duncan stated that the Public Budget Hearing was being held for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relative to the proposed General Fund and to consider amendments relative thereto.

After stating the purpose of the hearing, Board President Duncan asked if anyone wanted to speak to the Board regarding the proposed budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

No patrons presented testimony or suggested amendments to the Budget as proposed by the Board of ESU #11.

President Duncan adjourned the Budget meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Whitten, Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE SYSTEM  
WIDE TAX REQUEST AND PROPERTY TAX RATE**

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held a Public Hearing Regarding Setting the System Wide Tax Request and Tax Rate at the Unit Office on September 16, 2013 with the following members present when the meeting convened: Karen Duncan, Marilyn Winkler, Gary Smidt, Richard Phillips, Ann Rodhouse and Linda Leising. Absent: Susan Perry, Lorenda Forbes, David Fleischmann and Kathy Whitten.

Public Notice that the Board of ESU #11 would hold a Public Hearing regarding setting the System Wide Tax Request and Tax Rate on September 16, 2013 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of September 2, 2013. The Public Notice included a statement of the purpose of the Public Hearing regarding setting the System Wide Tax Request and Tax Rate for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Board President Duncan stated that the Public Hearing Regarding Setting the System Wide Tax Request and Tax Rate were being held to receive testimony pertaining to the purpose for which the Public Hearing was being held.

After stating the purpose of the hearing, Board President Duncan asked if anyone wanted to speak to the Board regarding the tax request and tax rate.

No patrons presented testimony regarding setting the system wide tax request and tax rate as proposed by the Board of ESU #11.

President Duncan adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Whitten, Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2013**

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held its regular meeting at the Office Building in Holdrege, NE on September 16, 2013 with the following members present: Karen Duncan, Marilyn Winkler, Gary Smidt, Richard Phillips, Ann Rodhouse and Linda Leising. Absent: Susan Perry, Lorenda Forbes, David Fleischmann and Kathy Whitten.

Notification was made of the open meeting law.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on September 16, 2013 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of September 2, 2013 and was broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN on September 4, 2013. The Public Notice also stated that a current agenda of items to be brought before the Board was available for public inspection in the office of ESU #11 and that reasonable accommodations for individuals with special needs who want to attend the meeting would be provided on request if sufficient advance notice is given.

Motion made by Marilyn Winkler, seconded by Ann Rodhouse, to excuse the absences of Susan Perry, Lorenda Forbes, David Fleischmann and Kathy Whitten. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on August 19, 2013 were approved as printed.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented the General Fund Financial Report for August 2013. Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Linda Leising, that the August General Fund Financial Report be accepted as presented. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Motion made by Ann Rodhouse, seconded by Richard Phillips, that the September 2013 claims for payment be approved for payment in the amount of \$326,081.31. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

The following visitors were present: Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Coordinator, Kate Hatch, Director of Staff Development and Jane Moody, Director of Special Education.

Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Gary Smidt, to adopt the General Fund Budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

WHEREAS, public notice was given by the Board of Educational Service Unit #11, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, at least five days in advance of a special public hearing called for the purpose of determining the system-wide tax request of ESU #11 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, such special public hearing was held before the Board on September 16, 2013 as stated in the notice published in a newspaper of general circulation as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board provided an opportunity to receive comment, information, and evidence from persons in attendance at such special hearing;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the final property tax request of the Board of ESU #11 should be, and hereby is set at \$911,215.41 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The final property tax levies of the Board of ESU #11 should be and hereby are set at 0.015970 for the General Fund.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Marilyn Winkler, to approve the tax request resolution. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented and discussed the minutes from the September 5, 2013 ESUCC meeting.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented and discussed the minutes from the August 28, 2013 ESU #11 Superintendents Advisory Meeting.

Discussion was had on the Building Depreciation Fund.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Marilyn Winkler, to accept first reading of the revised ESU 11 Board Policies Article 2 Board Meetings. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Ann Rodhouse, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Karen Duncan, yes. Motion carried, 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Gary Smidt, to accept with deepest regrets the resignation of Cassie Macke, Administrative Assistant, effective October 1, 2013. Roll call vote as follows: Marilyn Winkler, yes; Gary Smidt, yes;

Kate Hatch, Director of Staff Development, reported to the Board that the staff development department has been extremely busy preparing for the fall conference. This year's conference will be held on October 7th. We have approximately 60 breakout sessions for conference participants to choose from. The opening keynote will begin at 8:45 a.m. and the closing keynote will conclude at 3:00 p.m. This year we are trying something different. Nationally recognized Nebraska teacher and coach Kevin Kush from Boys Town will perform the Opening Keynote. The Closing Keynote will be conducted by nationally known speaker and educator Craig Zablocki. Craig will also facilitate a breakout session. The focus of these keynotes will center on teamwork the importance of not only teaching students, but also learning from them. We are anticipating approximately 600 educators/administrators to attend.

In the next coming weeks you will also be hearing reports regarding which school districts across the state did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress. Federal accountability will continue with AYP until reauthorization of the Elementary Secondary Education Act (formerly No Child Left Behind).

New AYP mathematics goals were set in August of 2011 based on the NeSA-M results. The new mathematics goals are as follows:

<b>New AYP Mathematics Goals</b>			
	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Middle School</b>	<b>High School</b>
2010-2011	51 %	50 %	41 %
2011-2012	67 %	67 %	61 %
2012-2013	84 %	83 %	80 %
2013-2014	100%	100%	100%

AYP reading goals were set in August of 2010 based on the NeSA-R results. The reading goals were established as follows:

<b>New AYP Reading Goals</b>			
	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Middle School</b>	<b>High School</b>
2010-2011	67%	70%	68%
2011-2012	78%	80%	79%
2012-2013	89%	90%	89%
2013-2014	100%	100%	100%

Since the goals are increasing to 100% proficiency, it is becoming extremely difficult for schools to attain this goal. As a result, we will have quite a few districts in our area that do not meet the AYP goals. Many districts have been addressing these needs within their School Improvement plans and Kate will continue to provide support as needed.

Jane Moody, Director of Special Education, reported to the Board that New View is off to a good start with new teacher, Kylee Rhamy. There are six students enrolled from five school districts. There have been a few building updates with a new stove in the kitchen and new paint in the classrooms.

UP 4 Kids preschools at all three locations, Holdrege, Elwood and Oxford, are very busy. In Holdrege there are 29 students enrolled from five school districts, 17 students in Elwood from two school districts and 18 in Oxford from one school district.

On September 28th the ESU 11 Special Education Leadership Team attended an all day training in Lincoln facilitated by the Special Education Department from the Nebraska Department of Education. Compliance and monitoring were the topics discussed.

We are currently working on Special Education Birth to Age 5 Final Financial Reports for twelve of the school districts in the ESU 11 area. This report is due October 1st. In October we will begin the Special Education School Age Final Financial Reports that are due October 31st. Special Education Secretary, Sandy Kraus, assists with these reports.

Five school districts Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities (ILCD) teams were present at ESU 11 on September 11th to complete a self-assessment for their district. This is an on line submission of the strengths and areas of need that each team determines based on their data that they analyzed on that day. This is part of their School Improvement Cycle for Special Education.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Coordinator, reported to the Board that ESU 11 and ESU 9 were awarded a Transition Innovative Grant of \$20,000. ESU 11 was also awarded an Assistive Technology Grant of \$10,000 for the Central Nebraska Youth First Conference, which is scheduled for April 23, 2014, at UNK. NDE is hosting a Transition Summit on October 8 and 9 in Grand Island. Jody Hitesman from ESU 9 and Lona will be presenting on Student-Centered Planning and Self-Advocacy. The first Transition Workshop was held last week. The 10th graders attended.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, reported to the Board on the application process for the Administrative Assistant position. He also informed the Board on the upcoming annual audit and negotiations will begin soon with the teachers. Paul also updated the Board on the Holdrege Up4Kids Preschool roof repair process.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on October 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Whitten  
Board Secretary