

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2014**

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, Nebraska on August 18, 2014 with the following members present: Karen Duncan, Gary Smidt, Kevin Breece, Richard Phillips, Lorenda Forbes, Kim Scoville, and Linda Leising. The following members were absent: David Fleischmann, Christy Pelton, and Susan Perry.

Notification was made of the open meetings law.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on August 18, 2014 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of August 4, 2014 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN on August 6, 2014. 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 Gary Smidt, seconded by Kevin Breece, to approve the absence of David Fleischmann, Christy Pelton, and Susan Perry. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on June 16, 2014 were approved as printed.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented the General Fund Financial Report for June and July 2014. Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Lorenda Forbes, that the General Fund Financial Reports be accepted as presented. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Lorenda Forbes, that the July 2014 General Fund Claims for Payment in the amount of \$434,752.82 and the August 2014 General Fund Claims for Payment in the amount of \$304,060.19 be approved for payment. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes;

Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes.
Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

The following visitors were present: Caren Porter, Director of Special Education Services; Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Services Coordinator; and Jody Bauer, Technology/Curriculum Consultant.

Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the designated banks for ESU 11 as listed in Attachment I as well as ESU 11 Administrator, Paul Tedesco and ESU 11 Treasurer, Elizabeth Piening as authorized signers for those accounts, excluding the ESU 11 General Fund Account. This motion also approved Karen Duncan, ESU Board President, and Lorenda Forbes, ESU Board Secretary, as authorized signees for the ESU 11 General Fund Account. Lastly, the motion approved Kevin Breece, ESU Board Member, as an alternate signee, along with Susan Perry, ESU Board Member, and Paul Tedesco, ESU 11 Administrator, for the ESU 11 General Fund Account. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Lorenda Forbes, seconded by Linda Leising, to set Monday, September 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. for the budget public hearings that must be held prior to adopting the 2014-2015 General Fund budget and to set the public hearing to set the tax request and levy for ESU #11 for Monday, September 15, 2014, following the budget hearing. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

The action to accept the resolution to raise restricted funds (property tax) portion of the general fund budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year by the allowable rate of one percent, in accordance with the provisions set forth in LB 299 was tabled until the September 15, 2014 Board Meeting due to having less than 75% of ESU 11 Board Members present.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented to the Board a preliminary review of the 2014-2015 budget. He also presented a comparison study of ESU Budgets from 2008 to the current year.

Motion made by Kevin Breece, seconded by Gary Smidt, to designate the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund as the depository for ESU #11 Bond Insurance Fund receipts for the 2014-15 fiscal year. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Lorenda Forbes, seconded by Kim Scoville, to designate Karen Haase of Harding & Schultz Law Firm as legal counsel for ESU #11 for the 2014-15

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fiscal year. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Richard Phillips, to approve the second reading of revised Board policies Article 3, Services and Operations, Section 5D, Construction Projects and Section 7B, Tobacco. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Kevin Breece, to approve the second reading of revised Board policies Article 3, Section 11, Pupil Transportation; Section 12, Student Discipline; and Section 13, Student Attendance. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Caren Porter, Director of Special Education, reported to the Board about the activities that were held in August such as the SRS New User Training and the Open House events at New View, Elwood, Holdrege, and Oxford preschools. Caren talked about attending Administrator Days in Kearney on July 30th through August 1st as well as her visits with the ESU 11 Superintendents. Two new rules, Rule 51 and Rule 52, that relate to Special Education were passed this year and became effective on July 15. The Special Education staff will learn more about these rules at a workshop on August 28th. On September 24th the Special Education Department will host the Beyond Social Skills workshop. Lastly, Caren named the seven new Special Education staff members and what areas they will be serving.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Services Coordinator, talked about three of the projects completed by ESU 11, ESU 9 and CNSSP (Central Nebraska Support Service Program). First, the Transition Discussion Tool document was developed to assist teachers, parents, and students with the transition planning process. Final changes were made to the document on Monday and sent to Rita Hammitt at NDE. Second, a transition workshop was held on May 28th for ESU 11 and ESU 9 Special Education staff. Each person attending was given a journal and “challenged” to reflect and/or create a transition philosophy along with that to visit their philosophy throughout the school year. The third project involved purchasing job task boxes and items to assist teachers in generating ideas that would increase students’ skills such as fine motor skills, categorizing skills, etc. Next, Lona reported that the federal government looks at three target areas for students who have graduated one year after high school. As a state, Nebraska did not meet all three-target areas nor did the ESU meet the three target areas. The NDE Transition Practitioners group will look at the state data during upcoming meetings to explore ways to meet the target areas. Lastly, Lona informed the Board that ESU 11 was awarded the ATP Grant for the Central Nebraska Youth First Conference. The conference date is scheduled for April 20, 2015, at the Nebraska Student Union on the UNK campus.

Jody Bauer, Technology/Curriculum Consultant, reported to the Board that on August 5th she hosted and assisted an Odyssey Ware training, which is a program that offers creative, intuitive, and comprehensive K-12 curriculum and educational tools for teachers. She was able to learn how to manage the site for teachers by entering new teachers and students and assigning them courses. Jody also hosted and assisted with the Reading Assistance training, which helps students become better readers. It offers the benefits of extra reading practice, immediate feedback, and support from teachers. Students receive individual reading coaches through the software to monitor and guide them as they read. She also set up a Webinar Demonstration in Elwood on the Reading Assistance program with Ray Bishop facilitating the demo. On August 12th, Jody facilitated a Smart Board training in Cambridge for teachers. The purpose of Smart Board Technology is to promote interaction in the classroom. Each student is actively and physically engaged. The training focused on how to use some of the basic tools and advanced features that were added this year. The lessons and resources help to collaborate, create, and produce empowering content for the students. Jody finished by informing the Board that she is working on managing accounts for schools and reaching out to teachers and administrators throughout the districts to help implement technology in their classrooms.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 and the 2014-2015 Budget/Property Tax Hearings will be held on September 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Karen Duncan called the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorenda Forbes, Board Secretary