

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 17, 2015**

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 17, 2015 with the following members present: Karen Duncan, Kevin Breece, Gary Smidt, David Fleischmann, Susan Perry, Linda Leising, Craig Philips, Kim Scoville, and Richard Phillips. Lorenda Forbes was absent.

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 17, 2015 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of August 3, 2015 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN on August 5, 2015. 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 David Fleischmann, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the absence of Lorenda Forbes. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on June 15, 2015 were approved as printed.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented the General Fund Financial Report for June and July 2015. Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Kevin Breece, that the General Fund Financial Reports be accepted as presented. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Linda Leising, that the July 2015 General Fund Claims for Payment in the amount of \$306,162.55 and the August 2015 General Fund Claims for Payment in the amount of \$164,935.16 be approved for payment. The Board was informed that the August General Fund Claims were

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 17, 2015

PAGE 2

considerably lower due to changes in payroll disbursement. The Board will receive the full General Fund snapshot once payroll is complete. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

The following visitors were present: Caren Porter, Director of Special Education Services; Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Services Coordinator; Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, and Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by David Fleischmann, to waive the second reading and approve the new and revised Board Policies. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by David Fleischmann, seconded by Richard Phillips, to approve the designated banks for ESU 11 as listed in Attachment II 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; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Craig Philips, to set Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. for the budget public hearings that must be held prior to adopting the 2015-2016 General Fund budget and to set the public hearing to set the tax request and levy for ESU #11 for Monday, September 17, 2015, following the budget hearing. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by David Fleischmann, seconded by Linda Leising, to accept the resolution to raise restricted funds (property tax) portion of the general fund budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year by the allowable rate of one percent, in accordance with the provisions set forth in LB 299. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 17, 2015

PAGE 3

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented to the Board a preliminary review of the 2015-2016 budget. He also presented a comparison study of ESU Budgets from 2008 to the current year.

Motion made by David Fleischmann, seconded by Kevin Breece, to designate the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund as the depository for ESU #11 Bond Insurance Fund receipts for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Kim Scoville, to designate Karen Haase of KSB Law Firm as legal counsel for ESU #11 for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the contract of Holdrege and Oxford UP 4 Kids Paraeducator, Natashia Weak. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Richard Phillips, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Caren Porter, Director of Special Education, reported to the Board the current enrollment for Holdrege and Elwood are much lower than anticipated. Currently, Elwood preschool has one teacher and no aide and Holdrege preschool has one teacher, one assistant teacher, and one aide. Caren anticipates that both Elwood and Holdrege will increase in enrollment by later this fall. Over the summer Axtell administration stated that they will have their own preschool for the 2016-17 school year. The ESU Holdrege site does not meet requirements in Rule 11 for outdoor activity so the unit has encouraged each district to have their own. Caren has spoken to the districts about the three options available: ESU can staff and supervise the program in the district, ESU can staff and the district supervises the program, or the district can staff and supervise the program. Next, Caren discussed SPED billing. In the past the Early Childhood/Preschool and Birth to 3 costs were combined as all the districts were included. Due to some districts providing their own preschool, the budget needed to be adjusted accordingly. Paul and Caren reviewed the data and decided to have the Speech Language Pathologist assigned to each district provide services for children in their district. Two ESU Preschool teachers will also provide services for eight of the thirteen districts. Caren will be conducting a time study for all staff providing Birth to 3 services so she has an accurate picture of what the needs are. That area is one that can fluctuate from month to month and year to year so it will be a snapshot in time.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Services Coordinator, reported to the Board that the Social Thinking Training will be held on September 9, 2015. Nancy Clements, a national speaker and who spoke at the Nebraska Autism Conference last year, will be

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 17, 2015

PAGE 4

speaking. The training is being funded through a Transition Innovative Grant written by ESU 11 and ESU 9, and will be held at Mt. Calvary due to the anticipation of 125 participants. Lona has also attended two follow-up meetings for the Building Capacity Conference in North Carolina. The group is continuing to work on developing a Nebraska plan and another meeting is scheduled for early fall. Next, Lona talked about her attendance at the IEP Facilitator Training in July. She said it was a very beneficial training and will be working to bring the information back to school districts. Lastly, Lona is working on the final dates for Transition workshops for 2015-2016 and they will be sent to teachers by August 21st.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, talked about Summer Honors and the successes as well as what could be changed for next year. The students this year were of very high quality, and the program received positive comments on the evaluation the students complete at the end of the year. Some possible changes were discussed, such as adding an agricultural class or something else that would be of interest in the agriculture area. Some concerns about a few of the classes were expressed but will be handled on a more personal basis with the director. Next, Janelle reported that several classes have signed up for the Rural School activity and many of the HAL Grant applications are completed for the schools. Janelle then reported that the districts would be billed per semester rather than being billed per year as in the past.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board that summer projects have been completed ahead of schedule. He also added that all E-Rate applications that ESU 11 has assisted with have been funded for this year. He mentioned that the first LAN Managers meeting of the year is scheduled for September 23. Wade also noted that a new large format printer has been ordered for the Media Center. Wade has also set up ESU 11 with an Amazon for Business account, that way purchases can be completed with Purchase Orders as well as configuration of approval workflows. Wade has been very pleased with the new Technology hire, Alex Wyatt. Alex was great help getting all the summer projects completed and is now providing services on his own.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, updated the Board on the budget process for 2015-2016; implementation of payroll for Classified staff and the Leadership Team members. He also demonstrated an ESUCC proposal for billing to individual ESUs that he will present to ESUCC in September.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 and the 2015-2016 Budget/Property Tax Hearings will be held on September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Karen Duncan called the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorenda Forbes, Board Secretary