

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 15, 2020**

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held its regular monthly meeting at the Office Building in Holdrege, Nebraska on June 15, 2020 via Zoom with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Machelles Havenridge, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman. Galen Kronhofman 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 June 15, 2020 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of June 1, 2020 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN. 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 Mary Oman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to excuse the absence of Galen Kronhofman. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Dr. Barnes reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the May 11, 2020 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Craig Philips, seconded by Gary Smidt, to forgo the July 2020 ESU #11 Board Meeting. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Mary Oman, to authorize payment of the July 2020 Claims. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim

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Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Kim Scoville, seconded by Linda Leising, to accept the estimate of Alpha Heating, Air & Plumbing to replace the ESU #11 Office Building water main. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Craig Philips, to approve the hire of Brittney Osterbuhr as a part-time school nurse for the 2020-21 school year. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that in her 8<sup>th</sup> year with the ESU this is the first summer without the Summer Honors Program due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She deeply misses the students and instructors. Janelle was excited to report that the Nebraska Department of Education has hired a High Ability Learning Coordinator to help provide leadership, content area expertise, and technical assistance for all gifted departments across the state. Last, the Gifted Department has been working on check-out activity packets for the fall.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that in May she and Jody Bauer conducted a statewide webinar called “Merging Brain-Based Learning Strategies with Technology Integration”. This webinar was sponsored by NETA and approximately 40 people registered for the webinar. Next, the June graduate classes were able to be held in person at the ESU #11 Office. Directed Health Measures (DHM) were followed and the ESU also established protocols for entering and exiting the building and disinfecting. The STEAM class had 8 participants and was taught by Stephanie Dannehl, Bertrand Librarian and Technology Integration Specialist. The Social Emotional Learning class has 18 participants and was taught by Karmen Scharf-Sears, KPS Guidance Counselor. These graduate classes generated \$5,100 in income this summer. Kate reported that schools are currently working to determine how to open in the fall. Many are currently purchasing masks, hand sanitizer, thermometers, and creating protocols for taking the temperatures of students, disinfecting, and what to do if a student or staff member becomes ill with COVID-19. NDE has provided some guidance for these procedures, but will let the individual school districts determine the specific details. NDE has also created a series of 10 webinars that provide guidance regarding how to address interrupted learning in the fall. Kate has watched these webinars and will provide guidance to school districts during the August workshops. Last, Kate and Jody have scheduled the traditional “back to school” workshops in August. They are hopeful that they will be able to continue to have these workshops in a face-to-face setting, but are waiting to hear what the new DHMs will be for July. Under the current DHM, no more than 20 people are allowed in a workshop. Traditionally, the Entry Year workshop is significantly larger than 20 attendees. Kate and Jody have some back up plans in mind if the workshop attendance number is not increased.

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Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board the completion of recent network upgrades in Eustis-Farnam and Loomis using E-Rate Category 2 funding. Wade also mentioned the network equipment install for the new Wilcox addition should be moving forward in the next few weeks. Three ESU 11 school districts are changing circuit providers this summer and all are on schedule for conversion. Wade reported that he and Alex Wyatt will be visiting Hildreth later this week to evaluate a point-to-point wireless install to extend their network out to the football field. A new server and switch were also ordered for Minden, which will be configured and installed upon arrival.

Dr. Barnes, Unit Administrator, reported that he is looking for a new CSI Lab Coordinator for the fall. Monica Boyken, former CSI Lab Coordinator will be available this summer to update labs, set the school schedule, and train the new coordinator. Dr. Barnes reminded the Board members who are up for election to file by the July 15, 2020 deadline. He appreciates the service of our Board members and hopes to see each file again for the 2021-2024 term. Dr. Barnes has been busy working with school districts on reports to complete 2019-20 and begin 2020-21. A lot of unknowns remain regarding safety in our schools, and he suspects a risk level system will be coming forth where each county or health department area will be identified as a low to high risk area. Different recommendations for masks, social distancing, etcetera for those areas will be based upon the identified risk. ESU #11 has worked with UNL through ESUCC to get free hand sanitizer and distribution stations for our school districts. The first pallet of hand sanitizer was delivered on June 15, and a couple more pallets will arrive later this summer. Schools will be responsible for ordering sanitizer to last the remainder of the school year. The ESU has ordered masks for employees working out in schools as well as other supplies needed to keep our building sanitized. Last, Dr. Barnes reported that board meetings via Zoom will no longer be approved unless the Governor extends the exemptions. The next board meeting can be held in Conference Room A in order to practice social distancing.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on August 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips, Board President, declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary