

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 16, 2021**

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 16, 2021 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman. Chris Erickson 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 16, 2021 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of August 9, 2021 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN on August 11, 2021. 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 Chris Erickson. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, 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 June 21, 2021 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Galen Kronhofman to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, 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 Linda Leising, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to accept the resolution to raise restricted funds (property tax) portion of the general fund budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year by the allowable rate of one percent, in accordance with the provisions set forth in LB 299. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2021

PAGE 2

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

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Craig Philips, to hire Stewart Tree Service to trim the ESU #11 trees and remove the three weeping mulberry trees. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, 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 about Summer Honors and showed a short video of some of the highlights. She mentioned that many things didn't go as planned this year, but it was a wonderful two weeks and she was honored to work with both the instructors and students who participated. Janelle has attended two different SHP activities this summer with SHP alumni and was amazed at the lasting impact the program has on so many people. She plans to continue working on SHP 2022 and hopes for a more normal year. Janelle has also visited some of the school districts this year and is working on submitting the State Gifted Grants for each district.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that the second draft of the Nebraska Health Standards was released on June 29. As of August 1, forty-seven school boards had passed resolutions or sent letters to NDE expressing opposition to the first draft. A public survey was provided on the NDE website. Recently, Kate has learned how BrainPop, an online educational site, has created a section devoted to free resources supporting anti-racist education, which in the opinion of some, focuses on Critical Race Theory. ESU #11 has provided group purchasing for our schools who wish to purchase this product for the last 14 years. Currently, six districts purchase this license through us. Kate will provide information to the schools so they can make decisions to ensure that the content teachers choose to use with students align with that of their local school board. Kate also reported on the draft of the ELA standards. Some of the major changes include the organization of the standard topics in addition to more specificity in the indicators. These standards look to be approved by the State Board in early September and will be the focus of Kate's ELA PLCs in the fall. Last, many participants attended the back-to-school workshops during the first week of August. Workshops included: Entry Year (46), PowerSchool (25), Intro to Marzano (28), and Intro to APL (18).

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board that the school year is off to a good start with no major hiccups technologically. He mentioned that he and Alex have been working with the new Technology Coordinators at Arapahoe and Axtell to get them up and going for the start of the year. Wade noted that cybersecurity has been a hot topic of conversation in the state for the past few weeks; primarily due to a ransomware questionnaire that came out for ALICAP insured school districts. Wade reported that ESU #11 has created a document with common questions and answers to help schools complete the questionnaire. As a way to help model some of the best practices, ESU #11 is now requiring all staff to enable two-step verification to help secure and protect their accounts. Wade also mentioned that ESU #11 area LAN

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2021

PAGE 3

Managers will be in on October 12 for their first meeting, and Librarians will be in on October 27.

Greg Barnes, Unit Administrator, reported that he would like to have a special meeting of the board to review his proposed budget on Monday, August 30th. The budget needs to be filed by September 20th so the regular board meeting will need to be held on September 13th, one week earlier than originally scheduled. Dr. Barnes discussed the next possible projects regarding maintenance of the ESU #11 building and grounds. Dr. Barnes has also been working with CCC, area schools, PCDC, South Central Economic Development, and area businesses to help strategize ways to attract more students into CCC programs to fill job vacancies in the area and attract people to south central Nebraska. One example is the Auto Tech program offered through CCC. It is a 2-year program of 12 high school students that meet in the evenings at the Janssen facilities. The PCDC has been very helpful in providing opportunities like these to students, tuition free.

The next special meeting (budget work session) of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will occur on August 30, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 and the 2021-2022 Budget/Property Tax Hearings will be held on September 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips, Board President, called the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 11 believes it is in the best interest of ESU #11 to raise the restricted fund portion of the 2021-22 general fund budget by 1%, over the restricted fund portion of the 2020-21 general fund budget of ESU #11 as allowed by law;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the 2021-22 general fund budget of ESU #11 be authorized in an amount of 1%, over the 2020-21 general fund budget of ESU #11, and that this resolution be adopted by an affirmative vote of 75% of the board.

Roll Call Vote as follows this 16th day of August, 2021:

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSENT
Chris Ericson	_____	_____	<u> X </u>
Machelle Havenridge	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Galen Kronhofman	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Linda Leising	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Mary Oman	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Craig Philips	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Richard Phillips	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Kim Scoville	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Gary Smidt	<u> X </u>	_____	_____
Nate Stineman	<u> X </u>	_____	_____

Carried 9-0-1