

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2022**

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 February 21, 2022. President Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman. Mary Oman 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 February 21, 2022 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of February 7, 2022 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN during that same week. 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 Linda Leising, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to excuse the absence of Mary Oman. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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 January 17, 2022 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Craig Philips, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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 Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to accept the resignations of Janelle Jack, Tristin Christensen, and Ariel Neumeyer effective at the end of their 2021-22 contractual term. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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.

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Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the ESU 11 Safety/Emergency Manual as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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 Kim Scoville, seconded by Craig Philips, to accept the 2020-21 Audit Report from Romans, Wiemer & Associates as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board that on Friday, February 4, he coordinated E-Rate site walkthroughs for five area districts. Bids for the projects have come in and these districts are forecasted to save in excess of \$26,000 by leveraging E-Rate Category 2 funds to complete these projects. Wade also mentioned that on Wednesday, February 16, ESUs 10 & 11 had a combined Librarians meeting in Kearney. The day went very well and there were more than 30 librarians from the area in attendance.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that two area schools have held Continuous Improvement External Visits. Arapahoe's visit was on February 10, and went very well. Bertrand's visit is on Wednesday, February 23, and she expects to go very well also. Kate reported that ESUs 9, 10, and 11 have collaborated the last two months to provide learning opportunities for teachers and administrators in our areas. In January, the ESUs hosted the Career Tech Education Workshop and this month was the Data Conference. Since these workshops are designed for a very specific group, she said it is nice to collaborate with other areas so that these opportunities can be provided. The Staff Development departments from each of these ESUs work together to plan, promote, and present information during these events. The CTE Conference had a total of 80 participants with 15 participants being from the ESU 11 area. The Data Conference had a total of 100 participants with 17 participants from the ESU 11 area.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that all of the applications are in for Summer Honors and the students are diligently taking tests and submitting portfolios. She received 426 nominations for the 125 slots to be filled. Invention Convention will be held on March 24, at the Nebraska Prairie Museum. An art exhibit is in the front of the museum so the invention displays will be strategically placed further back in the museum. Janelle expressed her appreciation for the Nebraska Prairie Museum for continuing to host ESU 11 events. The final count for the Give2Grow Day was received, and with the Phelps County Community Foundation's match, the Summer Honors Program received \$4,868.14. Janelle appreciates all those who donated and sent thank you cards to each donor.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Special Education Director, reported that the ESU-Wide Special Education Workshop is on February 24, with 37 people currently registered. A

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topic that many districts are dealing with is determining residency for students with special needs so Lona has been helping districts in that process. Last, Lona reported that NDE is starting an initiative, *Journey to Inclusion*, which will work to support districts in developing a philosophy of inclusive education and how to support teachers in developing instructional skills to enhance learning for students with disabilities in the general education classroom.

Dr. Greg Barnes, Unit Administrator, provided an update on the office building and grounds projects. On February 8, Dr. Barnes and Janelle Jack attended ESU Day at the Capitol to share information with Senators about ESUs. He also gave a legislative update and spoke about the KSB Board Member Workshop held on February 9.

Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Chris Erickson, to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel at 5:59 p.m. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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.

Richard Phillips, Board President, restated the reason for Executive Session is to discuss personnel.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Craig Philips, to exit Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, 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.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on March 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Richard Phillips, Board President, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary