

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 15, 2022**

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 15, 2022 with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Mabelle Havenridge, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, and Nate Stineman. Galen Kronhofman and Gary Smidt were 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 15, 2022 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of August 1, 2022 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 Kim Scoville, seconded by Mabelle Havenridge, to excuse the absence of Galen Kronhofman and Gary Smidt. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the July 18, 2022 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Mary Oman to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Craig Philips, seconded by Chris Erickson, to accept the resolution to raise restricted funds (property tax) portion of the general fund budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year by the allowable rate of one percent, in accordance with the provisions set forth in LB 299. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Kim Scoville, seconded by Mabelle Havenridge, to approve the hire of Mari Lyn Poppert as the CSI Labs Coordinator. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes;

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Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that the ESU 11 SPED Staff started serving districts on August 10. She enjoyed having them in the building on August 9, to connect with returning staff and get to know new staff. ESU 11 is hosting an ESU-Wide Special Education Training on August 30, titled *Back to the Basics in Special Education*. Jordan Johnson from KSB Law will partner with ESU 11 Special Education Leadership Team to provide the training. The training will share takeaways to increase educational teams making compliance-driven decisions and developing compliant paperwork. On August 24, ESU 11 will host NDE and Superintendents for an ESSA workday. Nine districts will be attending. Lona has been helping districts complete their Maintenance of Effort Tracking Tool to determine how much to claim for reimbursement for their IDEA grant. She has also provided in-service training at districts during teacher workdays. Last, Lona mentioned that one of our districts is a pilot school in *Get Set Nebraska*, a retention grant project for new teachers in special education.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that the school year is off to a busy start. The Staff Development department attended Administrator days in Kearney, provided three days of workshops for new teachers, and presented in a total of ten schools during the week of August 8. They presented on the following topics: team building, data analysis, MTSS, Schoology, digital citizenship, Mystery Science, IXL (personalized learning site), and Epic (digital reading platform). Stephanie Dannehl, HAL Instructor, met with administrators and teachers that she will be working with and began building relationships. On August 16, Stephanie will meet with the HAL Coordinators from each district and begin building her schedule for providing student enrichment activities.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, provided an update to the Board regarding current technology projects. The thirteen servers purchased with GEER funds have arrived and are starting to be configured. The outdoor access points have also arrived; Wade and Alex have been coordinating with Hamilton Telecommunications on the installations. Three districts have already been completed, and the remaining are scheduled on a daily basis for the next couple of weeks. All invoices have been submitted to the state for reimbursement, which should arrive before the end of the budget year. The start of the school year has seen the usual increase in support tickets, but overall everything has gotten off to a good start.

John Poppert, Unit Administrator, plans to have a special meeting of the board to review his proposed budget on Monday, August 29. This year the budget needs to be filed by September 30, so the September regular board meeting will remain as scheduled. Mr. Poppert discussed vision and expectations with the board members and received the following feedback:

- Continue asking for feedback from schools so needs are known
- Explore different ways to be more fiscally efficient
- Continue communication with schools so they know how the ESU is operating efficiently

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- Continue to support schools in assisting with NDE/ESSER reports
- Continue KSB Law presentations to local boards and Superintendents
- Continue fostering positive relationships with schools
- Highlight benefits for contracting SPED employees from the ESU
- Hire additional staff development personnel if needed
- Continue to promote ESUs to local boards and communities so we can better serve schools
- Consider having ESU Board members talk to local districts so they know how the ESU supports their school

The next special meeting (budget work session) of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will occur on August 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 and the 2022-2023 Budget/Property Tax Hearings will be held on September 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips, Board President, called the meeting adjourned at 8:00 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 2022-23 general fund budget by 1%, over the restricted fund portion of the 2021-22 general fund budget of ESU #11 as allowed by law;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the 2022-23 general fund budget of ESU #11 be authorized in an amount of 1%, over the 2021-22 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 15th day of August, 2022:

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