

MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
November 21, 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 located at 412 West 14th Avenue in Holdrege, Nebraska on November 21, 2022 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, and Gary Smidt. Chris Erickson and Nate Stineman were absent.

Notification was made of the open meetings law. The open meeting laws were on display throughout the Board Meeting.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU 11 would be held on November 21, 2022 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of November 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 Kim Scoville, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to excuse the absences of Chris Erickson and Nate Stineman. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Board President, Richard Phillips, recognized one visitor present at the meeting: Katrina Tomsen.

Richard Phillips, asked the board members if they had any questions on the regular board meeting minutes from October 17, 2022. No questions were brought forward. Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, reviewed the General Fund Financial Report from October 2022 and the General Fund Claims for Payment. Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Craig Philips, 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; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Mary Oman, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the purchase of Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce Bucks for all staff. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 21, 2022

PAGE 2

Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Galen Kronhofman, to accept the bid from ALICAP for \$30,062 per year for ESU 11 insurance. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Craig Philips, to accept the resignation of Chris Erickson from ESU 11 Board, District 3. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Lona Nelson, Director of Special Education, reported that the ESU is advertising for a full-time school psychologist to support districts for the 2023-24 school year. Lona noted that the Summary Monitoring meetings for the three districts that went through the NE Counts Monitoring Process have been scheduled. One meeting has taken place and the other two meetings will be completed before or during the first week of December. Lona reported that districts are beginning to review data related to their Targeted Improvement Plan. NDE is hosting informational meetings and Office Hours to support districts with their Targeted Improvement Plan. Last, Lona reported that each district is to complete a Parent Survey Communication Plan by December 16th. NDE was notified last year by the Office of Special Education that the respondent pool for Indicator 8 (Parent Survey for Special Education services) was not large enough when only asking a certain number of districts to survey parents, so NDE is now asking all districts to send out the parent survey.

Wade Gibson, Media Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board that the server installs funded through the GEER ConnectEd program are all fully installed and operational. Wade also discussed the upcoming firewall refreshes in the ESU 11 area. Many firewalls are approaching five years old and will have maintenance expiring on July 1. Wade reported on the Nebraska Cybersecurity Network initiative and gave a brief overview of the project to the Board.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that the AQuESTT Classification and the Designation Federal Accountability data results will be released to schools on November 21, and to the public on November 23. The Commissioner held a webinar that discussed the initial results of the National Assessment of Education Progress test (NAEP). This test provides a “common yardstick” to measure what students across the nation know and can do. Federal law requires that states and districts receiving Title I funding participate in the State NAEP reading and mathematics assessments in grade 4 and 8 every two years. Performance on NAEP is never reported for individual students, schools, or districts. Nebraska NAEP results were good this year compared to other states. Math: no state scored higher in 4th grade math; only one state scored higher in 8th grade math. Reading: only 3 states scored higher in 4th grade reading; only 7 states scored higher in 8th grade reading. Next, Kate reported that the Summer Honors Program participated in Give 2 Grow on November 17. Sixty donations were made for a grand

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 21, 2022

PAGE 3

total of \$10,395. The Summer Honors Alumni was instrumental in this success. Fundraising efforts will continue this winter and spring.

Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, informed the board that the Educators Health Alliance (EHA) premiums would increase roughly 6.87% for the 2023-2024 year. He discussed the results of the five board districts that were up for election, and gave an update on the timeline of NDE hiring a new commissioner. Mr. Poppert reported that ESUCC is proposing to add a position for cyber and ransomware for all ESUs. A lot of questions still need to be answered and discussions will continue at the January ESUCC meeting.

Board President, Richard Phillips, declared the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on December 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary