

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

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 September 18, 2023 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Mary Oman, Denis Reese, Kim Scoville, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman. Vickie Klein, Richard Phillips and George Probasco were absent.

Vice President Kronhofman called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and notification was made of the open meeting law.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Mary Oman, to excuse the absences of Vickie Klein, Richard Phillips, and George Probasco. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on September 18, 2023 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU #11 during the week of September 4, 2023 and was broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN on September 6, 2023. 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.

Board Vice President, Galen Kronhofman, opened the floor for public comment. No visitors were present for comment.

Board Vice President, Galen Kronhofman, asked the board members if they had any questions on the regular board meeting minutes from August 21, 2023 or the special board meeting minutes from August 28, 2023. No questions were brought forward. Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, reviewed the General Fund Financial Report from August 2023 and the General Fund Claims for Payment. Motion made by Mary Oman, seconded by Denis Reese, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Denis Reese, to accept the resolution to raise restricted funds (property tax) portion of the general fund budget for the 2023-2024 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; Mary Oman,

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yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the 2023-2024 ESU #11 Budget as advertised. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Mary Oman, seconded by Denis Reese, to approve the 2023-2024 property tax request resolution as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to approve the resignation of Resource Teacher, Josa Wilkinson, effective immediately. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the 1000s and 2000s board policies and asked if the board members had any questions on each policy. Board members discussed briefly but no changes were brought forward. Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the reviews of board policies 1000s and 2000s. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Denis Reese, to approve the certified contract for Resource Teacher, Matthew McFarland, for the 2023-24 school year based on the receipt of a provisional certificate. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that curriculum map work has begun. Seven districts have requested that this work be done across all content areas and grade levels. Two additional districts have requested this work in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies in grades K-12. Kate and Jody Bauer have scheduled 18 days during the course of the year for this work to occur, which will be done in grade level/content area spans so teachers have the opportunity to collaborate if they are using the same instructional materials. School administrators are requiring teachers to have this work completed before they check out at the end of the school year. Kate also continues to assist districts with their continuous improvement process. She is currently helping Elwood, Franklin, Holdrege, Southern Valley, and Wilcox-Hildreth prepare for their external visitations. The biggest task being finalizing all of the data and completing the district profile. Kate and Wade Gibson are scheduled to have a Profile workday on September 22nd. Kate will be conducting data retreats and revising mission statements in Axtell and Loomis, and is facilitating book studies in Arapahoe and Bertrand. Last, Kate mentioned that Future Problem Solving and Quiz Bowls have begun this month.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that Special Education Final Financial (SPEDFRS) information from districts has been requested to start the review process and completion of the reports. ESU 11 currently supports 12 districts with SPEDFRS. On October 18, Lona will be attending the Results Driven Accountability Part C Stakeholders meeting in Lincoln. She mentioned that the Indicator 12 report is due on September 30. Indicator 12 is Early Childhood Transition, the percentage of children found Part B eligible for with IEP implemented by the third birthday. Indicator 13 Self-Assessment is due on October 16, which is related to Post-Secondary Transition. Lona reported that districts are reviewing ADVISER and SRS for accurate Child Count submissions for the October 1 Child Count. Next, Lona reported that District Determination Letters were sent to districts from NDE. One district within ESU 11's region is classified with Needs Intervention. She will be attending training with this district. Last, Lona will be participating in Wallace Public School's external visit in November, and she will also be presenting at UNK on September 19.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported an update to the State & Local Cybersecurity Grant application that is pending approval. Wade has spun up fifteen virtual servers in preparation for the scan tool that will be used in year one of the grant. Wade mentioned that E-Rate applications for the prior year have finally wrapped up, and now the focus has shifted toward the upcoming statewide mega RFP for school circuits. He reported that the Alma preschool circuit is now active as of the prior week. He also gave the Board an update on the progress with the Axtell North circuit installation, which has hit a few speed bumps. Wade noted the upcoming LAN Managers meeting on October 11, as well as the Librarian & Media Specialists Meeting being hosted in Wilcox-Hildreth on October 18.

Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, reported that the ESU 11 audit is scheduled for November 10. He shared that the State School Board Conference is coming up in November and invited the board member to attend. Mr. Poppert briefly spoke about the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund and will review information from Nebraska Class at the next board meeting.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on October 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Vice President, Galen Kronhofman, declared the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary

**2023/2024 TAX REQUEST RESOLUTION
FOR
Educational Service Unit #11, Phelps County**

WHEREAS, public was given at least five days in advance of a Special Public Hearing called for the purpose of discussing and approving or modifying the ESU 11's Tax Requests for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the General Fund of Educational Service Unit #11 (hereinafter "ESU 11"); and,

WHEREAS, such Special Public Hearing was held before the Board of Education (hereinafter "the Board") of ESU 11 at the time, date, and place announced in the notice published in a newspaper of general circulation, a copy of which notice and proof of publication of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, all as required by law; and,

WHEREAS, the Board provided an opportunity to receive comment, information and evidence from persons in attendance at such Special Hearing; and,

WHEREAS, the total assessed value of the property differs from last year's total assessed value by 9.73%; the tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be \$.013670 per \$100 of assessed value; ESU 11 proposes to adopt a property tax requests that will cause its tax rate to be \$.014921 per \$100 of assessed value.

WHEREAS, based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of ESU 11 will be more than last year's by 18%.

WHEREAS, the Board, after having reviewed the District's Tax Requests for each said fund, and after public consideration of the matter, has determined that the Final Tax Requests as listed below are necessary in order to carry out the functions of the District, as determined by the Board for the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that (1) the Tax Request for the ESU 11 General Fund should be, and hereby is set at \$1,362,026.41.

It is so moved by Mary Oman and seconded by Denis Reese this 18th day of September, 2023.

Roll Call vote as follows:

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSENT
Machelle Havenridge	<u>X</u>	___	___
Vickie Klein	___	___	<u>X</u>
Galen Kronhofman	<u>X</u>	___	___
Mary Oman	<u>X</u>	___	___
Denis Reese	<u>X</u>	___	___
Richard Phillips	___	___	<u>X</u>
George Probasco	___	___	<u>X</u>
Kim Scoville	<u>X</u>	___	___
Gary Smidt	<u>X</u>	___	___
Nate Stineman	<u>X</u>	___	___

The undersigned herewith certifies, as Secretary of the Board of Education of ESU 11 that the above Resolution was duly adopted by a majority of said Board at a duly constituted public meeting of said Board.

Mary K. Oman
Secretary