

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
MARCH 17, 2025**

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 March 17, 2025. Galen Kronhofman, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Caroline Erickson, Deanne Favinger, Machelles Havenridge, Vickie Klein, Anita Krejdl, Galen Kronhofman, George Probasco, Denis Reese, Kim Scoville, and Gary Smidt.

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 March 17, 2025 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of March 3, 2025 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.

No visitors were present.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the January 20, 2025 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Deanne Favinger, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the certified contract for Jessica Lofquist, High Ability Learners and English Learners Instructor, for the 2025-26 school year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Vickie Klein, seconded by George Probasco, to approve the 2025-26 ESU 11 Calendar as presented. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Deanne Favinger, seconded by Denis Reese, to accept the bid for copiers from Eakes Office Solutions as presented. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson,

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yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to accept the 2023-24 Audit Report from Romans, Wiemer & Associates as presented. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Anita Krejdl, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to approve the certified contract for Halsie Hamilton, School Psychologist, for the 2025-26 school year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Kim Scoville, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to accept the resignation of Annie Chrisman, School Psychologist, at the end of the 2024-25 contract year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Deanne Favinger, seconded by George Probasco, to accept the resignation of Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, at the end of the 2024-25 contract year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to accept the resignation of Sarah McDiarmid, Speech Pathologist, at the end of the 2024-25 contract year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Deanne Favinger, seconded by Anita Krejdl, to move the April Board Meeting to Monday, April 14th. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelie Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

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Motion made by Deanne Favinger, seconded by Vickie Klein, to accept the furnace bid from Alpha Heating and Air as presented. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to approve the certified contract for Chelsey Jensen, Special Education Director, for the 2025-26 school year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Vickie Klein, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to accept the resignation of Taylor Runge, School Psychologist, at the end of the 2024-25 contract year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Denis Reese, seconded by Deanne Favinger, to accept the resignation of Nicole Hoyt, School Psychologist, at the end of the 2024-25 contract year. Vote as follows: Caroline Erickson, yes; Deanne Favinger, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Anita Krejdl, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that the Speech Pathologist workshop was held on March 17th with 16 people in attendance. Lona also reported the districts that were monitored this year are having their Monitoring Clarification Meeting with NDE. If a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) needs to be developed, they will address the areas of need found out of compliance and the timeline for training once NDE approves the CAP. The Maintenance of Effort Compliance Standard report is due on April 16, 2025. The ESU will support districts with this report as requested. Lona mentioned that the Indicator 13 training was held on March 3rd. Districts with identified non-compliance areas were required to attend the training, however, all districts were invited. Last, Lona is working on staffing assignments and hopes to complete this as soon as possible.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Director, reported on the updates regarding current E-Rate application filing. He has completed applications for all thirteen districts for their transport circuits for the upcoming year. He is also coordinating two other bids for Axtell and Minden, which closed on Thursday, February 20. Wade shared a flyer with the Board summarizing the savings from the Summer 2024 E-Rate projects, which he also shared with senators at the ESUCC legislative day on Monday, February 25. The flyer shows that over \$238,000 in savings were realized through this initiative

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that replaced 740 wireless access points and 105 network switches throughout the ESU 11 area. Wade also updated the Board with the status of the server migrations project that he and Alex have been working on. Out of the 114 virtual servers targeted for migration, they have completed 63% thus far. They anticipate wrapping up the project in June.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that on site workshops are winding down for the year. The Art teachers had their Art Enrichment Day in February where the Holdrege teachers facilitated a workshop on self-portraiture. Counselors had their third meeting of the year and discussed the career development programs for their districts. Principals also had a meeting and learned more about addressing absenteeism and restorative practices. In February, Kate traveled to Atkinson and spent a day and a half conducting the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) External Visit for West Holt Public Schools. This month, Kate has been providing extra support to Elwood and Franklin as they conduct their CIP External Visits. Wade and Kate will be offering a CIP Profile workday on Friday, March 21st. Additionally, Kate will be helping several districts prepare to administer the NSCAS test by conducting the test administration orientation. Last, Kate and Jody Bauer are in the process of scheduling meetings with administrative teams to discuss professional development needs for next year.

Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, gave a legislative update on LB 389 and LB 680 and how it can affect ESUs. He updated the board on the building and grounds projects planned for this spring such as stucco repair and a new door due to the storm last year. Mr. Poppert reported that Jayme Schroeder will be the chairperson for the Literacy Project in the upcoming years. Last, Mr. Poppert shared that he will start advertising Zoom notices in the paper for the December through March board meetings due to possible inclement weather. This will prevent the cancelation of board meetings if weather is a factor.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on April 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was declared adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vickie Klein, Board Secretary