

Educational Service Unit #5

Board Minutes

August 9, 2021

The Board of Educational Service Unit 5 met on Monday, August 9, 2021 at the offices of ESU 5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Roll call was taken. Present were board members Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Roger Smidt, Duane Smith, Darlene Pierce, Vic Jacobson, Jeannine Murphy, ESU 5 Administrator Brenda McNiff, Board Treasurer Jan Reimer, Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking, and visitor Betty Meyer.

Chair Hinz-Ensz called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. She acknowledged that this was an open meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and notice of such was published in the Beatrice Daily Sun and Hebron Journal Register the week of July 28, 2021.

Administrator McNiff amended the agenda to include an Executive Session following the Administrator Update. Roger Smidt moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Darlene Pierce. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Duane Smith moved to approve the June 2021 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Roger Smidt. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Duane Smith moved to approve the July 2021 treasurer's report and ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$716,595.55; seconded by Vic Jacobson. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote. (A meeting was not held in July but payment of bills was authorized by a mail ballot.)

Roger Smidt moved to approve the August 2021 treasurer's report and authorize payment of bills in the amount of \$432,689.93; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Old Business

Administrator McNiff informed the board the ESUCC Board unanimously approved the transition of the PowerSchool fiscal agent from ESU 5 to ESUCC on July 28th. The transition will take effect on August 13, 2021.

New Business

Roger Smidt moved to approve the resignation of Sara Cooper, Science Teacher and HAL Coordinator, effective at the completion of her 2020-21 contract; seconded by Darlene Pierce. Motion passed 6-0 on voice vote. Sara has agreed to do some consulting work in developing Science curriculum for ESU 5.

Vic Jacobson moved to approve a 242 day contract for Wade Vernon, IT Specialist, for the period of August 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 in the amount of \$60,500; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve travel expenses for Matt McNiff to attend the Missouri CASE Conference September 26-28, 2021 as a presenter; seconded by Duane Smith. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Jeannine Murphy moved to approve expenses for Jen McNally, Jan Reimer, and Matt and Brenda McNiff to attend the AESA Conference December 1-4, 2021 in Houston, TX; seconded by Darlene Pierce. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote. Jen McNally will attend as a presenter on Mental Health and Wellness.

Duane Smith moved to approve expenses for Brenda McNiff to attend the AESA "Call to Action" Conference with the ESUCC Executive Board September 15-17, 2021 in Washington, D.C.; seconded by Vic Jacobson. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Duane Smith moved to accept, with regret, the letter of resignation of Vic Jacobson from the ESU 5 Board effective August 9, 2021; seconded by Roger Smidt. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote. Vic's term expires on December 31, 2022.

Public Comment

Betty Meyer of Hebron, retired media specialist from Thayer Central, was in attendance to express her interest in filling the open position on the ESU 5 Board created by the resignation of Vic Jacobson. The ESU 5 Board will vote to appoint someone to the open position at a future meeting.

Administrator Update

Administrator McNiff informed the Board that she and Treasurer Jan Reimer have begun work on the 2021-2022 proposed budget to be presented at the September Board meeting.

Administrator McNiff distributed information regarding Critical Race Theory.

Administrator McNiff informed the Board that ESU 5 PE/Health teachers met to examine the proposed State Health Standards. The group created a template for ESU 5 school district Boards and Superintendents to refer to as they determine their own district standards.

Administrator McNiff recognized and thanked Vic Jacobson for his years of service and dedication as a Board member to ESU 5.

Executive Session

Roger Smidt moved the Board go into Executive Session at 6:52 p.m.; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved the board come out of Executive Session at 7:08; seconded by Vic Jacobson. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, September 13, 2021 with a Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m., followed by the regular meeting of ESU 5 Board at the offices of ESU 5, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Adjourn

With no further business, Jeannine Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Darlene Pierce. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:10 p.m.



Victoria Frerking, Board Recording Secretary
Educational Service Unit 5
Gage, Jefferson, Thayer Counties
Nebraska



Brenda McNiff, Administrator
Educational Service Unit 5
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