Board Minutes

The Board of Educational Service Unit #5 met on Monday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU #5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Roll call was taken. Present were board members Vic Jacobson, Roger Smidt, Deb Meyer, Darlene Pierce, Lorna McMurray, Jeannine Murphy, Administrator Brenda McNiff, Board Treasurer Jan Reimer, and Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking. Duane Smith was absent. Prior to the meeting being called to order, Dr. Nick Ziegler, ESU 5 Instructional Technology Specialist, gave a TLT Special Projects BlendEd Best Practices Presentation.

Vice Chair Vic Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. He 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 September 26, 2018.

Roger Smidt moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Lorna McMurray. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Lorna McMurray moved to approve the minutes of the 2018 September Budget Hearing and September regular meeting; seconded by Roger Smidt. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report for October 2018 and authorize payment of the bills in the amount of $410,233.03; seconded by Deb Meyer. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Old Business:

Administrator McNiff informed the board that Director of Technology Ryan McDowell has received the fourth place $50,000 WINS award for his White Space Homework Hotspot Project. Ryan will now begin work to get hot spots placed throughout the ESU5 school districts. The board offered congratulations and thanks to Ryan for submitting and presenting this proposal.

New Business

Administrator McNiff informed the board that Regina Oliver, School Psychologist, has applied for a National Council for Behavioral Health Grant for $100,000 that is aimed at increasing youth engagement in quality, appropriate mental health supports for young people kindergarten through age 24. The grants will be awarded December 10, 2018. No board action required.

Administrative Update

Administrator McNiff informed the board that improvements to the landscaping have begun in an effort to eliminate the water seepage into the building.

With Daylight Savings Time ending November 4, the next meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

No one was in attendance to provide public comment on any items.

With no further business, Vic Jacobson adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m. The next board meeting will be November 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU #5.

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

Brenda McNiff, Administrator
Educational Service Unit #5
Gage, Jefferson, Thayer Counties