

## **Educational Service Unit #5**

### **Board Minutes**

**April 8, 2024**

The Board of Educational Service Unit No. 5 met on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU 5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Present were board members Roger Smidt, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Betty Meyer, Tim McAllister; Administrator Brenda McNiff; Board Treasurer Jan Reimer; and Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking. Board members Duane Smith, Jeannine Murphy, and Carla Loemker were absent.

Prior to the meeting, Special Education Director Dr. Matt McNiff and 2024-25 Special Education Director Dr. Brenda Tracy spoke to the Board regarding the Special Education program.

President Roger Smidt called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. He acknowledged 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 March 28, 2024.

Roger Smidt moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Betty Meyer moved to approve the meeting minutes of the March 2024 meeting; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve the March Treasurer's report with payment of the warrants in the amount of \$557,186.59; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

### **Old Business**

Betty Meyer moved to approve Administrator Brenda McNiff's 2024-25 contract as posted on the ESU 5 website as required by statute under the Superintendent/ESU Administrator Pay Transparency Act; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

### **New Business**

Roger Smidt moved to approve the resignation of Jennifer Behrends, Early Childhood Coordinator, effective at the end of her 2023-24 contract; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve the resignation of Deb Milius, Paraprofessional for Alternative Ed, effective at the end of her 2023-24 contract; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve a 220 day contract for Shana Ensz, Early Childhood Coordinator, for the 2024-25 school year to begin in August 2024; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

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Roger Smidt moved to approve a 195 day contract for Elizabeth Mason, Speech Pathologist, for the 2024-25 school year to begin in August 2024; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved to approve a 195 day contract for Amanda Sauer, Spanish Teacher, for the 2024-25 school year, to begin in August 2024; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve a 195 day contract for Marikarmen Vazquez, World Language Assistant, for the 2024-25 school year to begin in August 2024; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Tim McAllister moved to approve a 197 day contract for Mandy Smidt, Educational Diagnostician, for the 2024-25 school year to begin August 1, 2024; seconded by Betty Meyer. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to approve a contract for July 1-July 31, 2024, for Matt McNiff, Special Education Director, to ensure a smooth transition to the new Special Education Director Dr. Tracy; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

Betty Meyer moved to approve a 238 day contract for Matt McNiff, Behavior Consultant, for the 2024-25 school year to begin August 1, 2024; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed 4-0 on roll call vote.

**Administrator Update**

Administrator McNiff discussed with the Board the final Legislative Bills regarding education before the Unicameral this session, and of administrative changes in the ESU 5 district schools. No board action required.

**Public Comment**

There was no one in attendance to offer public comment on any items.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, President Smidt adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be on May 13, 2024 beginning at 6:00 p.m.



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



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