

Educational Service Unit #5

Board Minutes

February 9, 2026

The Board of Educational Service Unit No. 5 met on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU 5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Present were board members Roger Smidt, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Duane Smith, Jeannine Murphy, Tim McAllister, Carla Loemker; Administrator Brenda McNiff; Board Treasurer Jan Reimer; Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking. Betty Meyer was absent.

President Roger Smidt called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 January 30, 2026.

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

Carla Loemker moved to approve the January 2026 minutes as presented; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Tim McAllister moved to approve the February treasurer's report and authorize payments in the amount of \$636,535.88; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Old Business

New Business

Roger Smidt moved to approve out-of-state travel for Matt McNiff, Behavior Coordinator, to attend the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders March 5-7, 2026 in Kansas City; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved to approve a 200 day contract for Heidi Moore, Behavior Coordinator, for the 2026-27 school year to begin August 3, 2026; seconded by Carla Loemker. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Roger Smidt moved to approve Administrator McNiff's proposed package increase for 2026-27 staff; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Roger Smidt made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session at 5:28 p.m. for discussion of the Administrator's contract for 2026-27; seconded by Carla Loemker. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Roger Smidt made a motion that the Board move out of Executive Session at 5:37 p.m.; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed on roll call vote 6-0.

Administrator Update

Administrator McNiff gave a brief update on bills introduced for the 2026 Nebraska Legislative session regarding education.

Public Comment

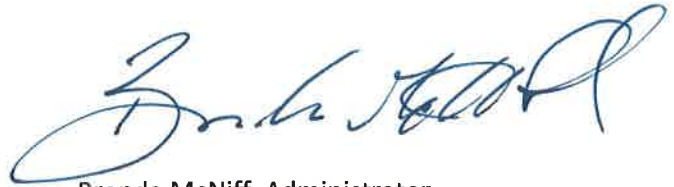
No one was in attendance to provide public comment on any items.

Adjournment

With no further business, Roger Smidt moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m. by consensus of the board. The next board meeting will be Monday, March 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU5.



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