

Educational Services Unit No. 5

Board Minutes

November 10, 2025

The Board of Educational Service Unit No.5 met on Monday, November 10, 2025 at the offices of ESU No. 5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Roll call was taken. Present were board members Roger Smidt, Duane Smith, Jeannine Murphy, Tim McAllister, Betty Meyer, Carla Loemker, Administrator Brenda McNiff, Board Treasurer Jan Reimer, and Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking. Board member Vicki Hinz-Ensz was absent.

Prior to the meeting, Amy Coufal, ESU 5 Data Steward, was introduced and gave a short presentation on her work at ESU 5 and in the districts.

Chair Smidt called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and 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 October 31, 2025.

Chair Smidt moved to approve an amended agenda with the addition of approval of a resignation; seconded by Duane Smith. Motion passed on 6-0 roll call vote.

Carla Loemker moved to approve the October 13, 2025 meeting minutes; seconded by Betty Meyer. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Tim McAllister moved to approve the October 2025 Treasurer's report and ratify payments in the amount of \$661,545.76; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Old Business:

Betty Meyer moved to approve the final reading of the job description for Regional Literacy Coach for ESU 5; seconded by Carla Loemker. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

New Business:

Tim McAllister moved to adopt the ESU 5 policy update to *Article 1 - Unit Organization* as presented and recommended by Perry Law Firm to bring the policy in line with recently enacted Nebraska Legislature and NDE policy updates; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Roger Smidt moved to adopt the ESU 5 policy update to *Article 3 – Services and Operations* as presented and recommended by Perry Law Firm to bring the policy in line with recently enacted Nebraska Legislature and NDE policy updates; seconded by Carla Loemker. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Betty Meyer moved to adopt the ESU 5 policy update to *Article 4 – Personnel* as presented and recommended by Perry Law Firm to bring the policy in line with recently enacted Nebraska Legislature and NDE policy updates; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Carla Loemker moved to accept with regret the resignation of Jan Reimer, ESU 5 Business Manager/Board Treasurer, effective August 31, 2026; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote. The board thanked Jan for her 34+ years of service and wished her well in retirement.

Administrative Updates:

Administrator McNiff invited the board to attend the visit of Senators Dorn and Brandt at the ESU 5 on December 11 at 10:00 a.m. ESU 5 Superintendents are also invited.

Administrator McNiff has received notification of a 7.25% increase in 2026 premiums for Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance.

Administrator McNiff will begin planning for Jan Reimer's retirement in order to allow ample time for training.

Public Comment:

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

Adjournment:

With no further business, Chair Roger Smidt adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The next board meeting will be December 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU No. 5.



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