



SOUTHERN PLAINS EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

201 East 3rd St. * Fairmont, MN 56031
Phone (507) 238-1472 * Fax (507) 238-2361

Sarah A. Mittelstadt, EdD
Executive Director

Dawn Becker
Business Manager

Southern Plains Education Cooperative Board Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2016
5:00 PM
SPEC Classroom, 201 East 3rd Street
MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. Board members present: Julie Laue, Fairmont Area Schools, Wendi Russenberger, Martin County West Schools, Mike Pfeil, Truman Schools, Sheila Ripley, Blue Earth Area Schools, Mike Schrader, United South Central Schools, Sarah Mittelstadt, Director.

II. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger, seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to approve/disapprove the January 25, 2016 Board Agenda.

III. Recognition of Visitors: Joy Rachuy, Allison Schmidt, Mike De Boer

IV. Guest Presenter: Mike DeBoer, School Psychologist

V. Election of Officers

Chair

- 1.) Member Wendi Russenberger nominated Mike Pfeil for Chair.
- 2.) Member Mike Schrader moved that the nominations cease and Mike Pfeil be elected Chair on a unanimous ballot.
- 3.) Member Wendi Russenberger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice Chair

- 1.) Member Julie Laue nominated Bryan Nowicki for Vice Chair.
- 2.) Member Wendi Russenberger moved that the nominations cease and Bryan Nowicki be elected Vice Chair on a unanimous ballot.
- 3.) Member Sheila Ripley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk

- 1.) Member Sheila Ripley nominated Julie Laue for Clerk.
- 2.) Member Wendi Russenberger moved that the nominations cease and Julie Laue be elected Clerk on a unanimous ballot.
- 3.) Member Mike Schrader seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Directors Report –Director Mittelstadt provided updates on staff mileage, the shortage of special education teachers, and initiatives across the cooperative.

VII. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

A motion was offered by Sheila Ripley seconded by Julie Laue and carried to approve/disapprove the revised minutes of the SPEC Board Meeting of Monday, November 23, 2015

VIII. Presentation of Bills/Finance

Check registers for 11/26/15, 12/10/2015, 12/24/2015, and 1/14/2016 and wire transfers presented for approval.

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to approve the above check registers.

VIII. Personnel

A. Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

1. Kristina Berhow, Paraprofessional at Fairmont High School, effective 12/7/2015
2. Caroline Unke, School Social Worker at ALC, effective end of FY16
3. Patty Meinert, Paraprofessional at Fairmont High School, effective 1/5/2016

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger, seconded by Mike Schrader and carried to approve/disapprove the above personnel changes.

B. Hiring

1. Bryan Struck, Paraprofessional at Fairmont Elementary, effective 11/29/2015; transferred to Winnebago Bridges on January 4, 2016
2. Angie Berg, Paraprofessional at Fairmont High School, effective 11/23/2015
3. Patti Norman, Paraprofessional at Head Start, effective 11/29/2015
4. Patty Meinert, Paraprofessional at Fairmont High School, effective 1/4/2016
5. Patti Mathews, Financial Secretary (Temp), effective 12/11/2015
6. Elizabeth Rojo, Paraprofessional at Fairmont Elementary, effective 1/4/2016
7. Everardo Ibarra, Paraprofessional at Bridges, effective 1/28/2016

A motion was offered by Sheila Ripley, seconded by Wendi Russenberger, and carried to approve the above hiring.

C. Personnel Work Agreement

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger seconded by Mike Schrader and carried to approve the work agreement for Jane Kotewa.

IX. New Business

A. Resolution to Reduce Programs/Staff 2015-2016

Resolution authorizing the Director to explore reductions in programs/personnel.

Member Julie Laue introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Whereas the financial condition of the cooperative dictates that the board must reduce expenditures and

Whereas this reduction in expenditures must include discontinuance and/or reduction of Positions and/or programs, and

Whereas a determination must be made as to which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits in effecting discontinuance of positions:

Be it therefore resolved by the Southern Plains Education Cooperative Board, District 915, as follows:

That the Board hereby directs the Director of S.P.E.C. to consider the discontinuance and/or reduction of programs and positions to effectuate economies in the cooperative district and consider appropriate staffing levels reflecting the anticipated enrollment, and make recommendations to the Board concerning the same.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by member Wendi Russenberger and being voted thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

And the following voted against the same:

Julie Laue, Mike Pfiel, Mike Schrader, Wendi Russenberger, Sheila Ripley

Whereupon said resolution was fully accepted.

B. Instructional Sharing Agreement with Blue Earth Area Schools for Jodi Johnson as a paraprofessional for Early Childhood Special Education.

A motion was offered by Sheila Ripley, seconded by Wendi Russenberger, and carried to approve/disapprove the Instructional Sharing Agreement with Blue Earth Area Schools.

C. End User Agreement with Hire Image, LLC

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Sheila Ripley, and carried to approve the agreement with Hire Image, LLC.

D. Anonymous Donation for \$190.

A motion was offered by Sheila Ripley seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to approve the anonymous donation of \$190.00 to the Winnebago Bridges program.

E. Purchase Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) for \$30,000

A motion was offered by Sheila Ripley, seconded by Mike Schrader, and carried to approve the purchase of the Practical Assessment Exploration System.

F. Martin County Youth Foundation Grant Application

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Wendi Russenberger, and carried to approve the Martin County Youth Foundation Grant Application for the Practical Assessment Exploration System.

X. Other
None

XI. Next Meeting: Monday, March 28, 2016 **IN WINNEBAGO**

XII. Adjournment

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to approve adjourning the meeting at 6:05 p.m.