

Southern Plains Education Cooperative Board Meeting
Monday, January 23, 2017
5:00 PM
201 E 3rd St.
Fairmont, MN 56031
MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. Board members present were: Julie Laue, Fairmont Area Schools, Wendi Russenberger, Martin County West Schools, Bryan Nowicki, Granada Huntley East Chain Schools, Mike Pfeil, Truman Schools, Jesse Haugh, Blue Earth Area Schools, Mike Schraeder, United South Central Schools, Sarah Mittelstadt, Director SPEC

II. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mike Schraeder, and carried to approve the January 23, 2017 Board Agenda.

III. Recognition of Visitors: Evan Gough and Teresa Davison

IV. Guest Presenter: Teresa Davison spoke about the Foundations of Effective Teaching program she has done with teachers this year.

V. Election of Officers

Chair

Member Bryan Nowicki nominated Mike Pfeil for Chair.

Member Julie Laue moved that the nominations cease and Mike Pfeil be elected Chair on a unanimous ballot.

Member Wendi Russenberger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice Chair

Member Julie Laue nominated Bryan Nowicki for Vice Chair.

Member Jesse Haugh moved that the nominations cease and Bryan Nowicki be elected Vice Chair on a unanimous ballot.

Member Wendi Russenberger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk

Member Bryan Nowicki nominated Julie Laue for Clerk.

Member Bryan Nowicki moved that the nominations cease and Julie Laue be elected Clerk on a unanimous ballot.

Member Mike Schraeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Director's Report:

Sarah shared the final copy of the audit. She also shared a report she conducted on special education spending in the member districts. The districts are very conservative in their spending; this is largely due to the districts being efficient and sharing of services. However, this is also because the cooperative has been carrying over federal dollars to ensure there is not a Maintenance of Effort issue and due to not spending money on facilities for setting IV programs; these could result in some increases. The board decided it would be a good idea to have an all board training on February 22 in Winnebago. We are currently looking for a coordinator. Sarah also shared about the level IV teacher staff development grant.

VII. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Bryan Nowicki, and carried to approve the minutes of the SPEC Board Meeting of Monday, November 28, 2016.

VIII. Presentation of Bills/Finance

Check registers for 12/8/2016, 12/21/2016, 1/12/2017 and wire transfers presented for approval.

A motion was offered by Mike Schraeder, seconded by Jesse Haugh, and carried to approve the above check registers.

IX. Personnel

A. Hiring

1. Kate Hawkins, Long term sub, effective December 1, 2016

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

B. Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

1. Bryan Struck, Paraprofessional at Bridges, effective 12/13/2016

A motion was offered by Bryan Nowicki, seconded by Mike Schraeder, and carried to approve the above personnel changes.

C. Lane Change

1. Rhonda Petrowiak, from BA+20 Step 17 to BA+30 Step 17

A motion was offered by Wendi Russenberger, seconded by Bryan Nowicki and carried to approve the above Lane Change.

D. Employee Work Agreements

1. Laura Teveldal, reducing from full time to part time

A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mike Schraeder, and carried to approve the above Work Agreement.

X. New Business

A. Resolution to Reduce Programs/Staff 2016-2017

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 Jesse Haugh and being voted thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

And the following voted against the same:

Jesse Haugh, Mike Schrader, Bryan Nowicki, Mike Pfeil, Julie Laue, Wendi Russenberger

Whereupon said resolution was fully accepted.

B. Revised 2016-17 Budget

A motion was offered by Bryan Nowicki, seconded by Jesse Haugh, and carried to approve/disapprove the Revised 2016-17 budget.

XI. Other

None

XII. Next Meeting: Monday, March 27, 2017

XIII. Adjournment

A motion was offered by Bryan Nowicki, seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to approve adjourning the meeting at 5:50 p.m.
