

NORTH CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT

Minutes of the April 22, 2020, ESD Board Regular Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular business meeting was conducted via Zoom and was called to order at 12:01 pm by President Larry MacGuffie. Board members present were Susan Albert, Ed Daling, Marcia Henkle, Mary Kunkle and Michael Musick. NCESD staff present included Superintendent Michelle Price; Assistant Superintendent Linda McKay; Director of Technology Pete Phillips; Executive Director of HR/Workers Comp Suzanne Reister; Executive Director Trisha Schock and Executive Assistant Heather Small.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

** It was moved by Mary Kunkle and seconded by Mike Musick to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approved the minutes of the March 25, 2020 board meeting.

B. Approval of Financial Reports

Approved the financial reports as presented.

B. Approval of Vouchers and Payroll

The following warrant numbers as audited and certified by the auditing officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified, as required by RCW 42.24.090, are approved for payment. In addition, payroll amount is \$972,086.57 for April payroll.

March Month-End Warrant Number 801133189 through 801133289 totaling \$290,013.92

March Co-op Month-End Warrant Number 801133290 through 801133293 totaling \$180,077.62

Void Warrant Numbers 801132766 totaling \$-2,890.00

February Comp Tax Sales Tax Wire Transfer 201900048 through 201900049 totaling \$331.87

April Mid-Month Warrant Number 801133294 to 801133367 totaling \$111,242.06

March Comp Tax Wire Transfer Number 201900056 totaling \$2,180.51

Void and Reissue Warrant Numbers 801130363 to 801133301 totaling \$913.95

April Payroll amount was \$972,086.57

Warrant numbers and amount of expenses will be provided at the board meeting.

D. Personnel

New Hires

- None

Resignations

- None

E. Travel Requests

- None

F. Surplus

- None

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AESD Budget and Elections (Marcia)

Marcia shared that both she and Michelle zoomed in for the meeting on April 15th.

Chris Rykdal was in attendance and gave so much praise to the AESD network for getting the job done and stated that it could not have been accomplished without the ESD Superintendents across the state.

Michelle screen shared slides on the AESD budget.

ESD/OSPI rates will be same as last year 2020-2021. Reduced funding with WSIPC and Program Evaluation. Increase in WASA contract.

Revenue will be down for the 2020-21 year and expenditures have been adjusted to reflect the reduction. Anticipated contracts that were not generated for new year.

New officers are John Zurfluh for President and Marcia Henkle for Vice President.

There will be an online ballot that opens on April 20th and closes on May 1st. One ballot will be emailed by AESD soon and it will include both the budget and officers.

John talked about minimal cost impact for cancelling the AESD annual conference in Tacoma.

Dana discussed the standing conference template for future AESD conferences. Marcia will be on the planning committee for that.

There continues to be lots of support and encouragement from the group on how everyone has worked together during these times to make huge decisions that impact so many children.

B. COVID-19 Updates

Michelle shared that the ESDs have been acting as a liaison between OSPI, the Governor's office and the district Superintendents. None of us now how to do this work and we are all in adaptive leadership roles. A reminder to give OSPI grace as they are figuring out this the same time we are and there was no protocol in place for how to handle things during a pandemic.

We have implemented child care for first responders across our region in districts, if it was needed.

Our districts have been delivering food for students and their families. Soap Lake has been delivering approximately 6,000 meals in their community. There have been some shortages of fruit and vegetables and OSPI has provided a list of resources to those districts to help meet that need.

Districts went through an application process, similar to the summer food program to help get the funding to provide these meals.

Trisha added that we have a few districts who have been evaluating what their losses might be at this point, which has caused some concerns. These districts will be asking for additional reimbursement/funding through a relief package through the government.

Pete shared about our contracted work with Jeff Utecht. Jeff is from Washington State and was the keynote at our first STEM Summit. Jeff will be the keynote for our STEM Summit again this August.

We have implemented a leadership track and a teacher track for shifting the schools to a distance learning model and helping them to prepare and get up to speed so they can deliver content for the rest of the school year. Jeff has said if you haven't been doing this for the last couple of years, you are behind.

There were over 1,000 teachers in their first two kick-offs.

Linda added that we launched this work almost 4 weeks ago in our region, and it is being launched statewide today. Within 3 hours Pete had solidified what the learning format would look like and emailed it out to our districts. There are 44 teams participating, with 111 teams in the AESD region. Kudos to Pete for the short turnaround to launch this.

Linda also shared that Andy Boyd is doing a math activity with Tonasket using Screencastify and Zoom to help their team prepare.

Michelle expressed that she is proud that Pete got this kicked off quickly - it's good for kids, and it is needed by our region and staff. She added that it took both courage and leadership to put this together without knowing all the details.

Linda shared that Lance Young from Orondo has shared what they are doing as a district. They have rolled out one-to-one devices to all students and have all but 2 kids engaged in learning. They were also able to get a local grower to put a boost in his apple orchard for families to get connectivity. They are providing equity and access for all their students, which shows it can be done. As Lance said, there is not thinking outside of the box, because there is no box.

Michelle continued that our team has not only provided immediate support but also future work for our teams through this transition.

The Superintendents as a group continue to work on the guidance that is coming out from OSP and are continuing to meet twice a week. Chris Rykdal just came out with new grading guidelines today. There are some challenges but most of our districts were already in alignment with this.

Districts are reporting good engagement numbers. Statewide the average of engagement is about 30%.

Federal stimulus dollars - they are sending dollars to our state K-12 Education will be receiving \$2 million in stimulus dollars. This may help with funding of food service, summer school programs etc.

Michelle has been asked to be on the Chelan-Douglas advisory team with the health district to help with planning.

We will have a new contract with Palisades School District for Superintendent services with the departure of Ismael Vivanco, who will be relocating to Mount Vernon. The plan is to assign someone in house to do that work. Cabinet will be meeting tomorrow to discuss further.

We are currently working with Jennifer in Communications on getting information out to our local media outlets regarding the work we are doing with Jeff Utecht to the community.

C. Fiscal Report

Trisha shared the current financial reports via screen share.

We are on target with our revenues. Expenditures are also looking great. There was a slight increase in travel, possibly due to travel reimbursements being submitted. She does not anticipate any changes.

Unemployment and Workers Comp balances look good.

Services are still being provided to our districts and funds are coming in. We continue to secure new contracts with our districts.

Suzanne shared that the Workers Comp Executive meeting was this past Monday. Unemployment meeting with 3 options. We are sufficiently funded. They have also put in some protections where they are paying for 50% of unemployment costs for anyone who is unemployed because of COVID-19. They have increased the eligibility period to 13 weeks.

Over 400 claims have been filed since mid-March. Dina is closely monitoring those.

The committee did decide to err on side on the side of caution and raise rates so they have time to plan for next year.

Workers Comp has a couple of different things going on. The fund balance is very strong and sufficiently funded. The committee decided to maintain rates. Again, great meetings with a very engaged group.

D. Approval of Resolution #2020-03 - Reduction in Force

Michelle shared that although we are in a good position now as an ESD, we know that there will be funding cuts coming and we want to prepare as districts are tightening their belts, and the state is reducing core funding.

We currently have a healthy reserve balance and are reducing our spending to essential purchases only during this time.

** It was moved by Ed Daling and seconded by Susan Albert to approve the Reduction in Force resolution. Motion carried.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26th at noon.

The board adjourned at 12:57 pm.

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary