

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 17
207 N. Main St. – Ainsworth, NE 69210
January 11, 2021

Present: Jean Pinney, Lisa Chohon, Roxie Lindquist, Jody Dexter, Sue Weston, Jan Knispel, Renee Adkisson, Duane Gudgel, Patty Finney, Geraldine Erickson and Jan Foster.

Geraldine Erickson called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. The Open Meetings Act posting was acknowledged. The meeting notice was published on the ESU 17 website and on the front doors of ESU 17, Ainsworth Community Schools, Cody-Kilgore Unified School, Keya Paha County Schools, Rock County Public Schools, Valentine Community Schools and published in the Ainsworth Star Journal, Rock County Leader, Springview Herald and Valentine Midland News.

1. Lisa Chohon made a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Jan Knispel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
2. Jody Dexter made a motion to retain the slate of officers from 2020 as follows: President, Lisa Chohon; Vice President, Roxie Lindquist and Secretary, Sue Weston. Jean Pinney seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
3. A motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting was made by Renee Adkisson and seconded by Jan Knispel. Roll call vote was unanimous.
4. The financial statements ending November 30, 2020 and December 31, 2020 with ending balances of \$1,753,915.26 and \$1,758,524.56 respectively were presented. Sue Weston made a motion with a second from Roxie Lindquist to approve the financial statements. Roll call vote was unanimous.
5. The listing of bills and claims totaling \$772,822.68 was reviewed. Jody Dexter made a motion and Jan Knispel seconded to approve payment of bills and claims. Roll call vote was unanimous.
6. Board members volunteering to serve on the negotiations committee are Roxie Lindquist, Jan Knispel, Sue Weston and Lisa Chohon. Board members serving on the facilities committee are Renee Adkisson, Jean Pinney, Jody Dexter and Duane Gudgel.
7. Four years ago ESU 17 member schools cited curriculum as a priority. Patty Finney stated the support ESU 17 staff is providing the school districts is linked around the Nebraska Department of Education curriculum and standards. Professional Learning Academies were developed to aide the schools through district collaboration. Patty is hosting 1 hour Zoom sessions after school hours as COVID 19 presented issues bringing educators to the ESU due to the lack of substitute teachers.
8. Prior to the last board meeting, the negotiations committee met and agreed to accept the ESU 17 staff's request of a 3.54% total package increase. The Board discussed the administrator contract and non-certificated staff salaries.
9. Geraldine shared ESU 17 is currently advertising for a part-time nurse. Sue Haskell has announced she will be retiring at the end of the 2020-21 school year. Geraldine was contacted

by a speech language pathologist who will be moving to the area this spring. Following an interview, the applicant was offered a position for the 2021-2022 school year. Upon completion of the 2020 census, Nebraska ESUs may encounter a re-districting process. The Nebraska legislature is back in session. Senator Groene was not re-elected as the education committee chairperson. Legislative bills are currently being introduced. Geraldine and Jan shared information regarding the web-based AptaFund software. The current Fund Accounting software being used will only be maintained with no future enhancements. The North Central Health District will deliver additional face masks tomorrow.

10. Board members signed the board code of ethics.
11. A motion to approve the ESU 17 calendar for 2021-2022 was made by Jody Dexter and seconded by Duane Gudgel. Roll call vote was unanimous.
12. Jean Pinney made a motion to approve payment of bills in February in the absence or delay of a meeting. Roxie Lindquist seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
13. A motion to approve the proposal and service agreement with AptaFund was made by Duane Gudgel and seconded by Jody Dexter. Roll call vote was unanimous.
14. Jan Knispel made a motion to approve the negotiated settlement with the local association increasing the base salary to \$33,750 and the non-index wage to \$25,515. This represents a 3.54% total package increase. Sue Weston seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
15. A motion to appoint Jeff McQuistan as the Non-Discrimination Compliance Coordinator and the Title IX Coordinator was made by Sue Weston and seconded by Jean Pinney. Roll call vote was unanimous.
16. Roxie Lindquist made a motion with a second from Renee Adkisson to accept the 2019-2020 audit report. Roll call vote was unanimous.
17. The next meeting will be held virtually on February 9, 2021.
18. Roxie Lindquist made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Secretary