

Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes



Feb. 8, 2022

BOARD MEETING

Mr. Pete Evans, president, called the meeting of the Heartland AEA Board of Directors to order at 4:03 p.m.

Board Members Present: Ms. Sheri Benson, Ms. Liz Brennan, Mr. Pete Evans, Mr. John Kinley, Mr. Alex Piedras, Dr. Steve Rose and Ms. Margie Schwenk.

Ms. Margaret Borgen joined at 4:07 p.m., and Ms. Tiara Mays joined at 4:12 p.m.

Administrative Staff Present: Ms. Nia Chiaramonte, Ms. Sheila King, Dr. Jon Sheldahl, Mr. Kurt Subra, Ms. Jenny Ugolini and Dr. Kristi Upah.

Approval of Agenda

A MOTION was made by Dr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Piedras to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Work Session

Equity Update

Dr. Jon Sheldahl, Heartland AEA Chief Administrator; Ms. Sara Mercer, Heartland AEA Director of IDEA Services; and Ms. Susie Bentley, Heartland AEA Regional Director; provided an update on the Agency's diversity, equity and social justice work. The Agency has been engaged in efforts to better understand educational equity since 2019. Five work teams consisting of volunteer staff membership have been established to develop action steps and goal areas. Board members asked how the work will meld with social and emotional learning.

The Board recessed from 5:12 until 5:48 p.m.

Board Meeting

Approval of Minutes from Jan. 11 and 25, 2022

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Schwenk to approve the minutes from Jan. 11 and 25, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum and Correspondence

There was no one from the public present to speak during the forum.

Public Hearing on Budget

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Benson to open the public hearing on the FY 2021-22 amended budget and the FY 2022-23 proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing opened at 5:50 p.m. There was no one from the public present to speak during the hearing. A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Brennan to close the public hearing at 5:51 p.m.

Discussion Items

Amended 2021-22 Budget and Proposed 2022-23 Budget

Mr. Kurt Subra, Heartland AEA Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the proposed FY 2022-23 budget and FY 2021-22 amended budget. He discussed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding, which is one-time funding that must be spent by June 30, 2023. The Agency is pursuing two primary one-time costs: Achieve software training for staff and conference room/office and furnishing renovations. He shared that the Agency anticipates 16 new full-time Certified staff hires for next year, and two new full-time employees within the Classified staff.

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2022-23 Agency Calendar and Juneteenth Holiday

Dr. Sheldahl discussed the new federal Juneteenth holiday. He discussed if it should be added as an additional paid holiday to the Agency's calendar. Since June is heavily used for staff professional learning, the Agency is determining if it would impact teacher learning.

Chief Administrator's Report and Recent Activities

- IASB Day on the Hill was held Feb. 1. Several board members attended and were able to speak to state representatives and senators to advocate for public education.
- Dr. Sheldahl discussed three current bills:
 - **House File 2182** - Would require a reduction in the number of AEAs from 9 to 4 by July 1, 2023. He was optimistic the bill would not pass.
 - **Senate Study Bill 3080** - This is the student voucher bill that would help fund a student's move from public to private education.
 - **Senate Study Bill 3079** - This bill would require districts to share class syllabuses with the public.

Action Items

Amended 2021-22 Budget and Proposed 2022-23 Budget

A MOTION was made by Ms. Benson and seconded by Mr. Piedras to approve the FY 2021-22 amended budget and proposed FY 2022-23 budget. The motion passed unanimously.

2022-23 Calendar and Juneteenth Holiday

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Dr. Rose to table the action item on the 2022-23 calendar and the Juneteenth holiday. The motion passed unanimously.

Rescindment of Board Policy 417

A MOTION was made by Dr. Rose and seconded by Ms. Mays to rescind board policy 417, which was the employee vaccination/testing mandate. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Mays reviewed the financial statements and indicated there were no anomalies. A MOTION was made by Dr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Kinley to approve the consent agenda including payment of warrant numbers 415251 through 415425 and electronic warrant numbers 36628 through 36997. The motion passed unanimously.

- Personnel Report and Addendum
- Purchase Orders:
 - *All Makes - \$68,719.48*
- BRI Master Service Agreement (formerly 121 Benefits)
 - *Master Service Agreement*
 - *FSA Addendum*
 - *HRA Addendum*
 - *COBRA Administration Addendum*
 - *Business Associate Agreement*

Chief Administrator Comments

- There were no additional comments from the chief administrator.

Board Comments

- Dr. Rose shared his recent experience trying to locate library materials on a school district's website. They were not easily accessible.

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Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Dr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Kinley to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Reports and documents and the full text of motions, resolutions or policies considered by the Board at this meeting are on file in the Board Secretary's office, (515) 473-6644, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Evans", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Pete Evans
Board President

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Jenny Ugolini", written over a horizontal line.

Ms. Jenny Ugolini
Board Secretary

EXEMPT SESSION

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Borgen to enter into an exempt session to discuss the 2022-23 negotiation session. Roll call was taken.

Ms. Sheri Benson	Aye
Ms. Margaret Borgen	Aye
Ms. Liz Brennan	Aye
Mr. Pete Evans	Aye
Mr. John Kinley	Aye
Ms. Tiara Mays	Aye
Mr. Alex Pieadras	Aye
Dr. Steve Rose	Aye
Ms. Margie Schwenk	Aye

The Board of Directors entered into exempt session at 6:48 p.m. The Board left the exempt session at 7:04 p.m.