

Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes



Oct. 10, 2023

BOARD MEETING

Ms. Margaret Borgen, board vice president, called the meeting of the Heartland AEA Board of Directors to order at 4:01 p.m.

Board Members Present: Ms. Margaret Borgen, Ms. Liz Brennan, Mr. John Kinley, Ms. Tiara Mays-Sims and Ms. Margie Schwenk. Mr. Alex Piedras joined the meeting at 4:04 p.m. following roll call. *Absent:* Ms. Sheri Benson, Mr. Pete Evans and Dr. Steve Rose.

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Kevin Fangman, Ms. Jenny Ugolini, Dr. Kristi Upah and Dr. Cindy Yelick.

Approval of Agenda

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Schwenk to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from Sept. 11, 2023

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Brennan to approve the minutes from Sept. 11, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum and Correspondence

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

Work Session

Ms. Kate Walton, IAAEA Lobbyist with Eide & Walton, provided a legislative update for the Board. She discussed the current make-up of the Iowa House and Senate and explained the bill process. Board members were encouraged to continue having conversations with policy makers about AEAs and providing services to the most vulnerable students.

The Board recessed for dinner from 5:00 - 5:32 p.m.

Discussion Items

Chief Administrator's Update of Recent Activities

Dr. Cindy Yelick, Heartland AEA Chief Administrator, provided updates on current agency events.

- **All-Staff Meeting** - The Agency's All-Staff Meeting was held at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center. Staff were surveyed after the meeting, and 96% were satisfied or very satisfied with the keynote speaker, Hasan Davis. The afternoon consisted of breakout sessions presented by staff members. It was a good day for staff and planning has begun for 2024.
- **October Heartland Administrators' Association (HAA) meeting** - The Agency hosted Iowa Department of Education Director McKenzie Snow on Oct. 3. She outlined three priorities for the Department: 1) early literacy, 2) career technical and post-secondary success and 3) the teacher pipeline to deal with the teacher shortage. Superintendents asked a lot of questions and shared concerns about the teacher shortage.
- Dr. Yelick reported that superintendents are reporting a good start to the school year. It feels more normal this year than the past few years following the COVID pandemic.

Action Items

Level I Investigators

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Mr. Piedras to approve the Level I investigators as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Policy 819 - Reapproval

Ms. Ugolini noted that Board Policy 819 was incorrectly posted as 816 on the September board agenda. She asked the Board to re-approve the policy to correct the posting error. A MOTION was made by Ms. Brennan and seconded by Ms. Schwenk to approve Board Policy 819. Motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Piedras left the meeting around 5:45 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Kinley reviewed the financial statements. He highlighted the fund balance which is a tad lower than last year due to the remodeling project at the Johnston REC. He noted the Agency is just starting to see federal and state revenues, and expenditures are around 5.2% which is expected. Overall, there are no financial abnormalities, and the Agency is trending correctly. A MOTION was made by Ms. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Kinley to approve the consent agenda including payment of warrant numbers 419734 through 419880 and electronic warrant numbers 45168 through 45541. The motion passed unanimously.

- Personnel Report (there was no addendum)
- Purchase Orders:
 - *EBSCO Industries, Inc.* \$29,100.00
 - *Kaseya* - \$122,652.48
 - *WalkMe, Inc.* - \$24,000.00
- Des Moines Public Schools and Heartland AEA Contract Renewal

Closed Session

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Brennan to enter into closed session as provided in Section 21.5(1)(i) of the Iowa Code to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. The chief administrator had filed a request for a closed session. Motion carried. A roll call vote was taken.

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|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Ms. Sheri Benson | Absent | Ms. Tiara Mays-Sims | Aye |
| Ms. Margaret Borgen | Aye | Mr. Alex Piedras | Absent |
| Ms. Elizabeth Brennan | Aye | Dr. Steve Rose | Absent |
| Mr. Pete Evans | Absent | Ms. Margie Schwenk | Aye |
| Mr. John Kinley | Aye | | |

The Board of Directors entered into closed session at 5:50 p.m. The Board of Directors returned to open session at 6:40 p.m.

Chief Administrator Comments

- Dr. Yelick expressed appreciation for the Board's support.

Board Comments

- Ms. Brennan attended the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA) Conference in Washington, D.C. It was a good trip.
- Board members were reminded to attend the Iowa Association of School Boards' Annual Convention Nov. 15-17 in Des Moines.

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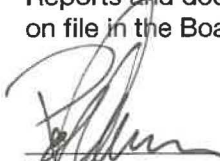



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Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kinley and seconded by Ms. Brennan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 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.

 11-14-23
Mr. Pete Evans
Board President


Ms. Jenny Ugolini
Board Secretary