

## **COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY #4**

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at CESA #4, 923 East Garland Street, West Salem, Wisconsin.

Catherine Griffin called the meeting to order at 8:12 p.m.

Board Members Present: Kevin Bauman, Jim Bagniewski, Larry Cyrus, Cindy George, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Lindsay O'Hair, Gerald Roethel, and Ryan Stubrud,

Members Absent: Micaela Conlon-Bue and Sara Cook

Also present: Paul Fischer, Wayde Pollock and Michelle Kotek

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Ryan Stubrud moved to approve the meeting agenda with the removal of Item #17 Approve Personnel Contract. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO BOARD MEMBERS**

Paul Fischer administered the oath of office to the following board members elected to the Board of Control: Catherine Griffin (West Salem), Ryan Stubrud (Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan) and Cindy George (Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau).

### **NOMINATION OF TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON**

Julie Meyers moved to nominate Catherine Griffin as temporary Chair to conduct the election of board officers. Cindy George seconded the nomination. Lindsay O-Hair moved to close the nominations and nominate Catherine Griffin as temporary Chairperson. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

Kevin Bauman moved to nominate Catherine Griffin as Chairperson of the Board of Control. Jim Bagniewski seconded the motion. Ryan Stubrud moved to close nominations. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously for Catherine Griffin as Chairperson.

### **NOMINATION/ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

Catherine Griffin moved to nominate Kevin Bauman as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Control. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Julie Meyers moved that nominations be closed. Jim Bagniewski seconded. Motion carried unanimously for Kevin Bauman as Vice-Chairperson.

### **NOMINATION/ELECTION OF TREASURER**

Catherine Griffin moved to nominate Julie Meyers as Treasurer of the Board of Control. Lindsay O'Hair seconded the motion. Kevin Bauman moved to close nominations. Jim Bagniewski seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously for Julie Meyers as Treasurer.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Lindsay O'Hair moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2025 meeting. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR 2025 – 2026 FISCAL YEAR**

Ryan Stubrud moved to approve Union State Bank of West Salem as the Official Depository for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Jim Bagniewski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **AUTHORIZE AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR AS CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS UNDER 116.035 OF WI STATE STATUTES**

Jim Bagniewski moved that the CESA #4 Agency Administrator be authorized as the Custodian of CESA #4 records under 116.035 of the Wisconsin State Statutes. Lindsay O-Hair seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR MAY**

Jim Bagniewski moved to approve the vouchers and financial statement for May as presented. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **APPOINTMENT OF THE WASB DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE**

Kevin Bauman moved to appoint Jim Bagniewski as the WASB Delegate for 2025 – 2026 (no alternate delegate named). Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried. (WASB State Convention is January 21-23, 2026.)

### **SELECT/APPROVE OF MEETING DATES AND TIMES FOR 2025 - 2026 BOARD OF CONTROL MEETINGS**

Ryan Stubrud moved to approve the meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. with no meeting held in July/2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in December). Jim Bagniewski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **DISCUSS AND APPROVE PROPERTY, CASUALTY, AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

Jim Bagniewski moved to approve the Ansay and Associates proposal for 2025-2026 for the total of \$43,569.00. Kevin Bauman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

#### **CESA 4 Activities and Regional News**

1. With the 2024-2025 school year wrapping up in our districts, our planning and work for the 2025-2026 school year is underway. CESA 4 will be hosting a summer retreat for staff on July 21-22 in La Crosse. The retreat gives us an opportunity to meet outside the agency, and continue our planning for the upcoming school year. The retreat will have a focus on team building, goal setting, and planning for the 2025-2026 school year. We will continue to carry out the work that was identified through our strategic planning process last spring. We met many of our goals over the past year, but there is still work to be done. Taking a deep dive into the strategic plan, as well as addressing some of the unfinished work from this past year will be our priority.
2. CESA 4 Directors will once again participate in CESA U in Wausau this September. CESA U gives us the opportunity to collaborate and share ideas with the other eleven CESA's throughout the state. We will be sharing best practices and discussing our strengths, as well as the opportunities that exist to make our agencies more impactful than they already are. We will be exploring areas such as our Catalog of Services, as well as learning about dashboards that some of the other CESA's throughout the state utilize. CESA U will also give us the opportunity to expand our conversations and work that was started at our summer retreat.
3. We recently received notification that two proposals were accepted for the National Association for Educational Service Agencies conference this December. Abby Fernan and Christy Tainter's work around the implementation of AI into Social, Emotional, Learning platforms will be shared with attendees as well as Laura Veglahn's work in planning CESA U. The CESA U model that was created in Wisconsin is getting attention nationally and many states have been inquiring about this extremely effective professional development learning model.

### **State and National News**

1. The rollercoaster ride of the state budget continues. If you recall during the “Day at the Capitol” visits, there was little optimism that the state budget would be in place by the end of the summer. The fear was that the budget was being slowly rolled out as we awaited a decision from the Supreme Court regarding Governor Ever’s veto that boosts school funding for 400 years. Once the decision was upheld, they believed that both sides of the aisle were willing to get back to work and get the state budget in place in early summer. The current reality is that the Governor is optimistic that it will be in place in a timely manner, but there is much work to be done. The one item that we thought had unilateral support was the Special Education reimbursement. There is now talk that legislators are considering increasing the high-cost special education aid rather than the categorical aid of 60% reimbursement that has been discussed all spring. The high-cost aid would be helpful to districts, but not nearly as helpful as the categorical aid. If the legislature only increased high-cost aid, that investment would fall far short of addressing the statewide need for sustainable, equitable special education funding.

Julie Meyers moved to approve the Administrator’s Report. Cindy George seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **BOARD OF CONTROL INPUT/CRACKER BARREL**

- LIFTtoFFS
- Standards Based Grading
- Early Childhood
- Childcare

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Oaths of Office to Micaela Conlon Bue and Sara Cook
- WASB alternate delegate

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at Castle Hill Supper Club, Merrilan.

Ryan Stubrud moved that the meeting adjourn. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Kotek