

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

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at CESA 4, 923 East Garland Street, West Salem, Wisconsin.

Dave Amundson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dave Amundson, Larry Cyrus, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Gerald Roethel, and Sarah Staff.

Katie Berkedal (via Zoom)

Excused: Lindsay O'Hair, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Kevin Bauman, Jim Wright

Also present: Paul Fischer, Wayde Pollock, Matthew Bomkamp, and Michelle Kotek

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Sarah Staff moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **AUDIT REPORT – MATTHEW BOMKAMP**

Matthew Bomkamp, CPA with Johnson Block Company, Inc. presented the Audit Report for CESA 4 for year ending June 30, 2023. Julie Meyers moved to approve the Audit Report as presented. Katie Berkedal seconded the report. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 4, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

Sarah Staff moved to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023 meeting. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Julie Meyers moved to approve the vouchers and financial statement for January as presented. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Approval to Void Old Accounts Receivable Invoices***

Wayde discussed the listing of invoices totaling \$1,775.00 – dating back to October 2015 that he would like approval to write off. Julie Meyers moved to approve writing the listing of old

accounts receivable invoices that Wayde Pollock brought to the Board. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### ***Board Discussion on WASB Discussion***

Board members exchanged feedback on their experiences at the WASB Convention in Milwaukee.

### ***Review Services included in 2023-24 Program and Services Catalog***

Paul Fischer reviewed the Equitable Multi-Level Systems and Supports, School Counselor Services, Virtual Special Education Secretary and Student Services Support and Development programs that will be part of the Catalog of offerings to school districts and rolled out to superintendents on February 7.

### ***Approval of Resignation***

Catherine Griffin moved to approve the resignation of Rebecca Mattie, part-time occupational therapist effective June 30, 2023. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD – PAUL FISCHER**

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

- As previously discussed, with Dave's term expiring and him not seeking re-election, we needed a replacement for him on the Wisconsin DPI's Boundary Appeal Board. Catherine Griffin and Larry Cyrus both expressed interest in filling Dave's seat. In discussing this further with both of them, Larry was agreeable to allowing Catherine take the seat as he already serves on the WASB Policy Appeal Board. The Boundary Appeal Board, which will be represented by Catherine starting in May, is a two-year term and the nominee must be serving as a current school district board member. Thank you, Catherine, for your willingness to represent CESA 4 on the Boundary Appeals Board.
- In this packet you will find a list of school districts that are going to referendum this April. As you will see, there are several school districts asking their district residents to exceed the revenue limits on a non-recurring basis. With the fear of the fiscal cliff and the uncertainty of the state budget, many districts are taking this step so that they can maintain current operations and maintenance expenses for their districts, as well as attempting to attract and retain staff. One district is seeking to pass a referendum to issue debt for building updates, maintenance, and addition programming space for education instruction and co-curricular activities.
- Sally Weber have been working diligently to put the finishing touches on the CESA 4 catalog pages. With the state and federal funding coming in, there has been an emphasis placed on school mental health services. These services are hard to find due to the fact

that there is a shortage of staff statewide in these areas. Due to the increased demand we have restructured some of our e-MLSS services and are attempting to make them more customizable for districts. Essentially, we want to make the biggest impact with the staffing capacity we currently have. With that in mind, we have posted for an additional School Psychologist position as well as a Multilingual Learner Director. We are hearing from more and more districts that they cannot find staff to fill these positions. Our goal is to bring additional staff onboard so that we can assist numerous districts who are unable to fill these positions.

- ALPSS Update #2: Kaye Henrickson and Jen Rasmussen did indeed submit paperwork at the end of January to add Special Education as an add on license. They have already received feedback from the DPI and it is sounding very promising that the new licensure will be accepted and ready for enrollees this fall. We have received numerous inquiries recently regarding next year's application. It is looking promising that we will be able to add 8-12 more students in the fall.
- Our sound system in the Heritage and Leavitt rooms has started to fail. It is to the point where it is impacting our presentations and workshops. We recently asked Audio Video Pros to come out as they were the most recent company to work with the sound and control system. They provided us with a quote that will address the issues identified. That quote came in at just over \$41,000. We will have 3RT review the quote to see if that is in line with the work that is needing to be performed.

## State News

- I received preliminary notification recently that the Department of Public Instruction is moving forward with a plan to reestablish the Wisconsin RtI Center. All RtI Center employees were given preliminary notices of non-renewal in January with the intent of a restructuring taken place. As of this writing, I have learned that the budget for the RtI Center has been reduced from a \$5 million budget to a \$3.2 million budget. It has not been formally announced at this time, but it is my understanding that CESA 5 will remain the fiscal agent. Those that were previously employed by the Wisconsin RtI Center will be required to reapply for positions in which they previously held.
- The meeting with Dr. Underly and John Johnson took place on Tuesday, January 17th, prior to the start of the State Education Convention. Dr. Underly took the time to discuss the proposed budget that is now in the Governor's hands. They are optimistic that it will make it to Governor Evers desk for signing, even though it may be met with some resistance. It does appear that there is consensus on both sides of the aisle that mental health is a major concern and there is support for additional funding there. The point of contention will remain centered around the school voucher program. Dr. Underly did indicate that a large portion of her time in office has been spent developing the proposed biennium state budget. Along with that, she recognizes that other important items and discussions have not taken place that need to be. We asked to once again be a part of a

seat around the table when it comes to future planning around education. We shared that districts are feeling disconnected from DPI, and that as a CESA, we are willing to help close that gap by partnering with them and working together rather than competing with one another.

Catherine Griffin moved to approve the report. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION UNDER WI STATUTE 19.85 1 [c] TO DISCUSS CONTRACT**

Julie Meyers moved to go into closed session. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Katie Berkedal - aye; Larry Cyrus - aye; Catherine Griffin - aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Jerry Roethel – aye; Sarah Staff – aye; and Dave Amundson - aye. Lindsay O’Hair – absent; Mary Jo Rozmenoski – absent; Kevin Bauman – absent; and Jim Wright – absent. Convened into closed session at 7:22 p.m.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Sarah Staff moved to return to open session. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Katie Berkedal - aye; Larry Cyrus - aye; Catherine Griffin - aye; Julie Meyers - aye; Jerry Roethel – aye; Sarah Staff – aye; and Dave Amundson - aye. Lindsay O’Hair – absent; Mary Jo Rozmenoski – absent; Kevin Bauman – absent; and Jim Wright – absent. Returned to open session at 7:36 p.m.

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

None

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Sarah Staff moved the meeting adjourn. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 8 , 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Castle Hill Supper Club, Merrilan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Kotek