

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

The Board of Control met on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at Westview Inn Restaurant, West Salem, Wisconsin.

Dave Amundson called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dave Amundson, Larry Cyrus, Catherine Griffin, Julie Meyers, Lindsay O'Hair, Gerald Roethel, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, and Jim Wright

Excused: Kevin Bauman and Sarah Staff

Absent: Katie Berkedal

Also present: Paul Fischer and Michelle Kotek

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the meeting agenda as distributed. Jim Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

Larry Cyrus moved to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2022 meeting. Jim Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Larry Cyrus moved to approve the vouchers as presented. Julie Meyers seconded the motion. Motion carried. The questions on the financial statement will be taken back for Wayde Pollock's review and brought back for approval at the November meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

Lindsay O'Hair, Hillsboro School District, took the Oath of Office for the Board of Control. Lindsay replaced Aaron Nemecek (La Farge) on the Board of Control.

### **APPROVE RECOMMENDED NEOLA POLICY UPDATES**

Paul Fischer reviewed the recommended updates from Neola and the revisions to the meal reimbursement schedule and mileage reimbursement (Policy #3440/4440) and the adoption of a

Weapons Policy (Policy #3217/4217/7217). Julie Meyers moved to approve the Neola recommended updates and revisions Volume 31, Number 2 (dated Sept. 2022). Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried. The expense reimbursement and weapons policy will be taken to the November meeting for a second reading.

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

- I am excited to report that we have re-established the PAC sub-advisory committee. This committee has not formally met in over 2 years. It has been well received by the entire PAC group that this committee has been brought back. I had my initial meeting with the group and we found it to be very productive. We identified a list of topics that the group would like to explore and get additional information or resources on. We also identified potential speakers that we felt could benefit our group. I will be reaching out and contacting these people and scheduling them for future PAC meetings. One item that was discussed and was evident is a very important topic is the current state of our Superintendents. While COVID for the most part is behind our district leaders, they are finding their jobs as challenging as ever. Items mentioned were the political environment and the fiscal cliff, to name just a couple. I will take it upon myself to make sure I am providing them resources and opportunities for them so that networking can take place for all of them.
- There are 77 school referendum over 56 school districts scheduled for the November 8 ballot. The 77 referenda include 38 to issue debt, 12 to exceed the revenue limit on a recurring basis, and 27 to exceed the revenue limit on a non-recurring basis. Taxpayers are being asked to expend \$2,054,981,999 to pay for the 77 referenda. Of those, 6 school districts are found in the CESA 4 region. Five of the six school districts, Bangor, Holmen, Onalaska, La Crosse, and Viroqua are asking for the issuance of debt for capital improvement projects. The school district of Hillsboro is asking for non-recurring funds of \$3 million to maintain district programs and maintain district facilities. The School district of Onalaska is also asking for non-recurring funds of \$21.6 million to allow them to exceed the revenue limit for operational purposes, while Holmen is asking for recurring funds of \$650,000 to address technology needs and building maintenance.
- The ALPSS program is now into its 2nd month of operation. The program started out with 2 individuals, but has already grown to 4 individuals. We have set a deadline for the end of October as the cutoff to sign up for the current school year. If individuals were to sign up after that, we feel that the coursework that they would need to do would be too significant and it would be in everyone's best interest to wait for the 2023-2024 cohort. With that in mind, we will start marketing the 2023-2024 cohort at our PAC meeting in December or January. We have also discussed doing additional marketing outside of our CESA PAC group. We feel that there may be a target group to market to that are outside of the educational field looking for a potential career change. Conversations are ongoing as to what that marketing will look like and consist of.

- The Fall WASB Region 6 meeting will take place on Thursday, October 27th at the Stoney Creek in Onalaska. The meeting will start at 4:30 p.m. with a meeting that will address “Running Effective School Board Meetings.” That session runs from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Following the workshop, there will be a networking opportunity from 6:00-6:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., dinner will be served. Following dinner, the Regional Meeting program will commence. Topics being discussed include Member Recognition Awards, the regional WASB directors election, a Legislative Update, and concludes with the Executive Directors report.
- A small group of Directors attended CESA University, which was held in Rothschild, WI in early September. This is meant to be a team building activity that brings together all 12 CESA’s. Due to the timing of the event, and me being new to the position, some directors were not able to attend due to conflicts in their schedules. The hope is for next year to have all directors to attend. This year's workshop welcomed Alyssa Gallagher. It was based off of the book “The Multiplier Effect.” The entire workshop focused on discussions on Diminishers and Multipliers that are found in the workplace. It expanded upon the idea of what diminishers looked like, sounded like, and felt like in a work environment. The discussion then led to how we could reduce conversations that would be deemed “diminishers” and turn them into productive conversations, or “multipliers.” It was a good day of professional development that we felt could be utilized in our professional development practices at CESA 4
- At our last meeting, I discussed briefly the proposed biennial budget request that has been submitted to Governor Evers office from the State Superintendent’s office. The handout provides a breakdown of the requests. Keep in mind that it is highly unlikely that all of these items will be brought into the Governor's budget, but it does highlight what the Department of Public Education is prioritizing.
- As reported last month, we continue to work with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services on the School Nursing grant awards that will be distributed to CESA 4 school districts. We were hopeful that the money would have been distributed by now, but DHS is still working through a few issues. The hope is to have the funds out to the districts by the end of October. One issue that has surfaced is that DHS was hoping that districts would utilize the grant funds to hire additional staff or services. Districts have provided feedback that while the extra funding is appreciated, finding employees to fill these positions would prove to be very difficult. We are working with DHS to provide some guidance to districts through a FAQ document. We feel this document addresses many of the questions that are surfacing from school districts throughout the state.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the report. Catherine Griffin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Second reading of the expense reimbursement and weapons policies.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Catherine Griffin moved the meeting adjourn. Larry Cyrus seconded the motion. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Legacy's Restaurant, Coon Valley.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Kotek