

BUDGET HEARING

A public hearing of the ESU #1 Board was held on September 15, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. at the central office in Wakefield. The purpose of the hearing was to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observation of taxpayers relating to the proposed General Fund Budget and to consider amendments relative thereto. Legal notice of the hearing date and time had been published and posted according to State statute.

Present: Joy Bock, Adrian (AJ) Johnson, Helen Sorensen, Sally Reinert, Jeff Messersmith, Dave Dowling, Fred Boelter, Ronnie Wenstrand, Rodney Garwood, and Rhonda Heise.

Absent: Tom Luxford

Audience: Kevin Mackeprang of Bloomfield (Knox County Board of Supervisors)

Hearing closed at 5:15 p.m., with action to be taken on the proposed budget at the reconvened regularly scheduled meeting that will follow all published hearings.



Lisa Salmon,
Recording Secretary

HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST

A public hearing of the ESU #1 Board was held on September 16, 2014, at 5:15 p.m. at the central office in Wakefield. The purpose of the hearing was to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observation of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request. Legal notice of the hearing date and time had been published and posted according to State statute.

Present: Joy Bock, Adrian (AJ) Johnson, Helen Sorensen, Sally Reinert, Jeff Messersmith, Dave Dowling, Fred Boelter, Ronnie Wenstrand, Rodney Garwood, and Rhonda Heise.

Absent:

Audience: Kevin Mackeprang of Bloomfield (Knox County Board of Supervisors)

Hearing closed at 5:30 p.m., with action to be taken at the reconvened regularly scheduled meeting that will follow all published hearings.



Lisa Salmon,
Recording Secretary

ESU #1 BOARD MEETING
September 15, 2015

A meeting of the ESU #1 Board of Directors convened in open and public session on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at ESU #1 in Wakefield, Nebraska.

Present: Joy Bock, Adrian (AJ) Johnson, Helen Sorensen, Sally Reinert, Jeff Messersmith, Dave Dowling, Fred Boelter, Ronnie Wenstrand, Rodney Garwood, and Rhonda Heise. **Absent:** Tom Luxford

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary maintains a list of news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Directors, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Audience: Kevin Mackeprang of Bloomfield (Knox County Board of Supervisors)

Call Meeting to Order.

A. Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, the Chairman announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available at the meeting site.

B. Board Member Roll Call. Recording secretary completed roll call of board members. Motion by Reinert, second by Heise, to excuse the absence of member Tom Luxford. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

C. Approval of Agenda. Motion by Boelter, second by Messersmith, to approve the September 15, 2015 agenda as presented. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

D. Consent Agenda. Motion by Wenstrand, second by Johnson, to approve all items on the consent agenda as provided (August 11, 2015 Minutes; Financial Reports; Treasurer's Report, September Bills of \$713,691.73 and Administrator's Report). After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

E. Public Comment.

F. Opening School Report. Administrator Uhing reported on the Tower School enrollment, overall financial position and staffing of the ESU and school districts, outlined the focus of staff development, provided an update on the strategic plan to improve student achievement in the Native American schools and the changes in ESU #1 SPED contracts for 2015-16.

G. Annual Report. Motion by Boelter, second by Reinert, to approve the 2014-15 Annual Report as presented. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

H. Budget Parameters/1% Approval. Motion by Dowling, second by Heise, to exceed the budgeted limit for fiscal year 2015-16 by an additional 1%. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

I. Adopt 2015-16 Budget. Motion by Garwood, second by Boelter, to adopt the 2015-16 Budget as presented. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

J. Property Tax Request. Motion by Dowling, second by Johnson, to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
Setting the 2015-16 Property Tax Request

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601-02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the governing body of the Educational Service Unit #1 Board passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request at a different amount; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Educational Service Unit #1 that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Educational Service Unit #1, by a majority vote, resolves that:

1. The 2015-16 property tax request be set at \$1,615,843.45 (**levy of 0.015**)
2. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Board on or before October 13, 2015.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

For: Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.

K. Co-op Update. Administrator Uhing provided an update on the Cooperative Purchase Program and the changes made to increase the efficiency of the program. Both school districts and vendors are happy with the changes made.

L. Native American Consortium. Administrator Uhing shared the school improvement goals and barriers that impact each school as defined by the individual district. This information will be shared with the Commissioner of Education and was developed at his request.

- M. Teacher Contract Abrogation. Administrator Uhing reviewed the various options outlined by the ESU #1 Attorney Rex Schultze. The Board directed Administrator Uhing to work with the staff on a resolution.
- N. Additional August Expenditures. Motion by Heise, second by Boelter, to approve the expenditures of the August 26 bill listing that totaled \$177,903.61. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:
- For:** Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.
- O. Additional September Grant Expenditures. Motion by Garwood, second by Johnson, to approve expenditures up to \$27,000 of additional grant funds at the end of September to close out the fiscal year of specific grants and meet reporting requirements. A complete listing of the bills will be presented to the Board in October. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:
- For:** Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.
- P. Negotiations. Administrator Uhing provided an overview of the negotiations process and an update on the ESU #1 NSEA membership. The Board directed Administrator Uhing to move forward with negotiations and meet with staff as the Board's representative. ESU #1 Attorney Rex Schultze, on behalf of eleven ESU's, will complete a comparability study and the cost will be shared equally (estimated at \$800/ESU).
- Q. Personnel. Motion by Boelter, second by Messersmith, to approve the 2015-16 employment contract increase for Speech/Language Pathologists' Sheila Becker (113 to 131 days) and Wendy Sudbeck (131 to 148 days) and approve the 2015-16 employment contract with Speech/Language Pathologist Janette Deck for 140 days. After discussion and on roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:
- For:** Bock, Johnson, Sorensen, Reinert, Messersmith, Dowling, Boelter, Wenstrand, Garwood, and Heise;
Against: None; **Not Voting:** None; **Motion Carried:** 10-0.
- The Board was informed of the following Classified staff changes ~
New Hires:
 Tower School Paraeducators: Stormie Surrell & Tara Koll
 Winnebago Paraeducator: Cindy Stansberry
- R. Adjournment. As there were no additional agenda items, Chairman Dowling declared the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.



Lisa Salmon, Recording Secretary

Ronnie Wenstrand, Board Secretary

Next Meeting ~ Tuesday, October 13, 2015 @ 5:30 p.m.