

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY NO. 9  
BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING  
CESA 9 OFFICE  
304 KAPHAEM ROAD  
TOMAHAWK, WISCONSIN  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

MINUTES

Chair Andy Merry called the September 2, 2020 Board of Control meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Bruce Krueger led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were in attendance via Zoom:

Present: Carol Ballerstein - Stratford  
Jason Dananay - Rib Lake  
David Holperin - Rhinelander  
Bruce Krueger - DC Everest  
Andy Merry - Antigo  
Helen Palmquist - Prentice  
Shanon Peel - Athens  
Chris Petreikis - Northland Pines  
Terry McCloskey - Three Lakes  
Deb Velleux - Tomahawk

Absent: Theresa Miles - Wausau (recently resigned from WSD Board)

CESA staff members in attendance via Zoom included Hilary Cordova, Dawn Nordine, Teri Phalin, Al Betry, Peggy Francour, and Agency Administrator Karen Wendorf-Heldt.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Krueger, second by McCloskey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Agenda items included approval of meeting agenda, approval of August 3, 2020 organizational meeting minutes, approval of August 3, 2020 meeting minutes, review of August 3, 2020 annual convention minutes, and approval of new employee contract. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

### Presentation of Financial Report and Monthly Claims

Financial reports for August were reviewed along with the updated historical monthly cash balance chart. Motion by McCloskey and second by Petreikis to approve the August financial report and claims as presented. Upon roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried.

### New Business

- A. Approval of Limited Exemption from Policy 3330--an updated policy regarding retirement benefits, specifically contributions to HRA upon retirement, was approved by the board last year. The previous policy included an option for use of a chart that based HRA contribution on an obscure formula that increased by about 1% per year. The chart has become obsolete as wage increases have outpaced the formula used to calculate the chart. There are two employees of CESA 9 that could benefit from using the former chart for determining HRA contribution. Administration recommends these two employees be exempted from the new policy and be allowed to use the old chart as it was in 2019-2020 to calculate the HRA contribution. Motion by Krueger to approve limited exemption from Policy 3330 for two current CESA 9 employees as recommended. Second by Velleux. All present voted aye. Motion carried.
- B. There was a discussion on how future Board of Control meetings could take place - virtually or face to face. The board members were all given an opportunity to express their preference. After the discussion, it was decided that the Board Chair and the Administrator will continue to make the decision as the date approaches based on the nature of the agenda and the regional status of the pandemic near the time of the meeting.

### Administrator's Report

Karen provided the following shout outs: to the School Improvement team for the work they are doing in the districts around professional learning and to the Wisconsin Virtual School team as they experience a huge increase in enrollments and are working to train teachers to provide online and blended instruction; to Scott Foster at Northland Pines and Terry Reynolds at Tomahawk for writing letters to their state legislative representatives regarding flexibility during this time of the pandemic; to Matt Collins, retired Special Education Director at CESA 9, for helping deliver resources from the IMC at CESA 12 to CESA 9; to Dawn Nordine, Hilary Cordova, and John Jacobs (Wisconsin eSchool Network) for all the work they have been doing to finalize the contract with DPI around supporting digital learning with use of a portion of the state's CARES money.

All CESA 9 home office staff, with their colleagues from other CESAs, will be participating in CESA University on September 8. This year the keynote speaker will be Kevin Honeycutt. This year CESA University will take place virtually.

The All Staff Kick-off was held on August 17, 2020. It was held virtually this year. The theme was CESA 9 CARES (Culture, Attitude, Response, Excellence, Service) and all employees received a CESA 9 CARES package. With our colleagues at CESAs 8 and 11 we enjoyed a

keynote from Focus3. The day also included business office updates, regrouping in our principles of excellence and our shared cultural beliefs and behaviors, Title IX training, the CESA 9 crisis plan, and COVID-19 responses.

Shanon Peel from Athens had resigned her position on the CESA 9 Board of Control in June. There was a replacement appointed by the local school board. That person has now moved out of the district and is no longer on the board. Shanon agreed to come back on the board as the Athens School District representative. Welcome back! Karen reported that she had received a press release from the Wausau School District that Theresa Miles had resigned from the local school board because of ongoing health issues. The Wausau School Board will designate a replacement for her on the CESA 9 Board of Control.

Karen gave an update on the DPI-CESA 9 contract which was received that afternoon. The deliverables in the contract include scaling up work with the Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative (WDLC) to subsidize the costs of courses, provide access to elementary online content and provide training and support for educators across the state. We will be hiring additional staff to assist with the work ahead over the next two years of the contract. Dawn Nordine shared information with the Board regarding the significantly higher number of course enrollments already experienced and the capacity building work that is already happening to support districts.

Karen introduced the board to a google site that will be used going forward by the Board of Control and will serve as a “host” site for the agendas and other important board materials.

#### Adjournment

Motion by Holperin, second by Dananay to adjourn. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

