

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY NO. 9
BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING
CESA 9 OFFICE
304 KAPHAEM ROAD
TOMAHAWK, WISCONSIN
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021

MINUTES

Chair Andy Merry called the January 6, 2021 Board of Control meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and 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
Terry McCloskey - Three Lakes
Andy Merry - Antigo
Chris Petreikis - Northland Pines
Shannon Peel - Athens
Deb Velleux - Tomahawk

Absent: Helen Palmquist - Prentice
Lee Webster - Wausau

CESA staff members in attendance via Zoom included Hilary Cordova, Dawn Nordine, Teri Phalin, Al Betry, Peggy Francour, and Agency Administrator Dr. Karen Wendorf-Heldt. Wipfli representative, Rob Ganschow was in attendance via Zoom for the first part of the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by McCloskey, second by Krueger to approve the consent agenda as presented. Agenda items included approval of meeting agenda, approval of December 9, 2020 meeting minutes, approval of new employee letter of employment, and approval of new employee contract. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business

Wipfli representative, Rob Ganschow, gave an overview of the 2019-2020 Agency Audit Report and financial statement via Zoom. Board members were able to access the audit report prior to the board meeting and had the opportunity to ask questions during Rob's presentation. Motion by Krueger, second by Dananay to approve the report as presented. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Chris Petreikis had been appointed to be the CESA 9 Board of Control delegate for the General Assembly at the State Education Convention this month. There was discussion on the various resolutions that will be voted on at the assembly. Chris was given guidance by the rest of the board on their views to inform how he should vote as their representative of our CESA 9 region.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation of Financial Report and Monthly Claims

Financial reports for December were reviewed along with the updated historical monthly cash balance chart. Hilary explained how the fiscal picture has again been affected this month by timing issues with payments going out and a lag in contract payments from DPI, specifically with the CARES Act for the Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative (WDLC). Motion by Krueger and second by Petreikis to approve the December financial report and claims as presented. Upon roll call vote, all present voted aye. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report

Karen provided the following shout outs: to Hilary for all her work on a webinar our regional business folks organized with her and with WASBO that will be held on January 7 for business office staff across the state. Close to 500 people will be in attendance. Hilary will be a panel participant for one of the sessions. Karen also acknowledged Hilary for all the work she puts in the proper care of all matters fiscal for the Agency that resulted in the clean audit we received. Karen's second shout out was to Al Betry, Director of Continuous School Improvement Services. He, along with Amy McGovern and Casey Gretzinger, have been working on getting DPI approval for an alternative pathway assessment to the FoRT requirement for special education candidates in the ETP program. Notification was received yesterday that it was approved by DPI. The last shout out was to acknowledge the leadership of all of the superintendents in the districts that CESA 9 serves. In Karen's check-ins and rounding with them, the one thing they all mention is how proud they are of their students, families, staff, communities, and board members during this challenging time.

The December PAC meeting took place virtually. There was a legislative conversation which was attended by three of the legislators in the CESA 9 district. There was a time of checking in with each other to assess how things are going in their districts relative to the pandemic. The superintendents also had the opportunity to join a Zoom webinar with the superintendents from CESA 8 for a candidate forum with the state superintendent candidates.

The Kohl Scholarship and Fellowship Regional scoring has been completed. Thirteen students and twelve teachers from CESA 9 districts will be advancing on to the state Kohl scoring this month.

Board Development - "Optimism, Frustration, and Opportunity"

Karen shared a form she created from material presented by Brian Kight of Focus 3. This form was shared with the CESA 9 staff at the December staff meeting and follow-up work will continue in future staff meetings. The Board was encouraged to use the form for their own learning and reflection on what is going well, what is frustrating, and what opportunities lie ahead in their respective work as board members in our CESA 9 districts.

Adjournment

Motion by Velleux, second by McCloskey to adjourn. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.