



CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
1521 Technology Parkway, Cedar Falls, IA
Wednesday, March 2, 2022 - 4:00 PM

Work Session

Call Work Session to Order

Board President Dr. Debra Rich called the Central Rivers AEA Work Session to order at 4:02 p.m. Board members attending via Zoom were Bryan Burton, Maureen Hanson, Nicole Lovik-Blaser, Dr. Tony Reid, and Dr. Mary Stevens. Also present were Sam Miller and Lori Thomas. Absent were Dennis Craun, Kathy Enslin, and Dr. Darshini Jayawardena.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Tony Reid made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Administrator's Update

Chief Administrator Sam Miller updated the board on his professional development plan for 2021-22. He shared a legislative update and gave a report on retiring district superintendents. Sam also gave an update on the equity committee meetings and expressed to the board the appreciation from staff concerning the wellbeing initiatives.

Adjourn

Dr. Debra Rich declared the Work Session adjourned at 4:57 p.m. on a motion by Bryan Burton, seconded by Maureen Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order - Welcome Visitors

Board President Dr. Debra Rich called the Central Rivers AEA Board Meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. Board members attending via Zoom were Bryan Burton, Maureen Hanson, Nicole Lovik-Blaser, Dr. Tony Reid, and Dr. Mary Stevens. Also present via Zoom were Sam Miller, Karl Kurt, Michael Kalvig, Lori Thomas (in person), Beth Strike, Amy Knupp, and Jen Sigrist. Absent were Dennis Craun, Kathy Enslin, and Dr. Darshini Jayawardena. Visitors included Dr. Dana Miller, Rusti Sparks, and Pam Morrissey.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Mary Stevens made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Bryan Burton. Motion carried unanimously.



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Approval of Consent Agenda

Maureen Hanson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Tony Reid. Motion carried unanimously.

Program Review: Well-Being Update

Dr. Dana Miller and Rusti Sparks gave an update on the wellbeing work being done in the agency. Their team is partnering with districts to provide support for both students and educators. They are working on developing content for the new LMS and providing support and resources to agency staff. Karl Kurt thanked them both for leading this work and Dr. Debra Rich, on behalf of the board, expressed appreciation for this valuable work.

Board Policy 403.7 Certified Employee Resignations

Dr. Mary Stevens made a motion to approve the first reading of Board Policy 403.7 Certified Employee Resignations, seconded by Maureen Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Audit Report

Maureen Hanson made a motion to accept the Audit Report as presented, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion carried unanimously. Dr. Rich, on behalf of the board, thanked Michael Kalvig and his team for their work.

Approval of the Purchase of an Uninterruptible Power Supply System

Bryan Burton made a motion to approve the purchase of the Uninterruptible Power Supply System equipment from 3E Electrical Engineering & Equipment Company in the amount of \$32,319.77, seconded by Nicole Lovik-Blaser. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022-24, Administrative Guidelines, and the Contracts for the Central Rivers AEA Education Association for 2022-23

Bryan Burton made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022-23 and 2023-24, Administrative Guidelines, and contracts for the Central Rivers Education Association for 2022-23, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022-24, Administrative Guidelines, and the Contracts for CWA for 2022-23

Dr. Tony Reid made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022-23 and 2023-24, Administrative Guidelines, and contracts for CWA for 2022-23, seconded by Maureen Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Central Rivers AEA is committed to ensuring equitable, efficient, and effective educational services that prepare all Iowa children for a life well-lived.



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Approval of Salary Increases and Contracts for NUSS for 2022-23

Maureen Hanson made a motion to approve the salary increases & contracts for NUSS for 2022-23, seconded by Bryan Burton. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Salary Increases and Contracts for Administration for 2022-23

Dr. Mary Stevens made a motion to approve the salary increases & contracts for Administration for 2022-23, seconded by Nicole Lovik-Blaser. Motion carried unanimously.

Professional Services Proposal for River Hills School

Maureen Hanson made a motion to approve the proposal from Martin Gardner Architecture, in the amount of \$54,000 for professional services for the River Hills parking lot and lighting renovation, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Revised Office Calendars

Bryan Burton made a motion to approve the revised office calendars for 2021-22 and 2022-23, with agency offices closed on Fridays during the summer months of June and July, seconded by Dr. Tony Reid. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports to/from Board:

Amy Knupp, Executive Director of Special Education

Amy reported that she and Jen Sigrist sent a survey to district superintendents designed to gather interest regarding sharing positions for special ed directors and curriculum directors. Amy shared she had been concerned with the number of teachers who feel disheartened right now. To alleviate this, Amy has started sending educators personal notes with uplifting messages and has received many wonderful responses.

Jen Sigrist, Executive Director of Educational Services

Jen reminded the board of tomorrow's Future Ready Summit and invited them to attend.

Beth Strike, Director of Creative Services/Communications

Beth explained a new initiative supporting staff who wish to show appreciation to teachers in the districts. Staff can send pre-made cards with a personal note. This is being widely used. Beth also shared she will be hosting a live podcast with the keynote speaker at tomorrow's Future Ready Summit.



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Michael Kalvig, Chief Financial Officer

Michael reported on the possibility of an accounting software change that would increase efficiencies and decrease costs.

Sam Miller, Chief Administrator

Sam shared with the board a new wellbeing coaching position which will benefit staff.

Dr. Debra Rich

Debra reported on the Iowa AEA board meeting she recently attended.

Lori Thomas, Executive Assistant/Board Secretary

Lori reminded the board of the April board meeting which will be held in conjunction with the three community colleges on April 6, 2022, beginning at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Board President Dr. Debra Rich declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. on a motion by Maureen Hanson, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori A. Thomas

Lori Thomas, Central Rivers AEA Board Secretary

Debra Rich 4-6-22

Dr. Debra Rich, Central Rivers AEA Board President