

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF NSSEO

The April 6, 2016, regular meeting of the NSSEO Governing Board was called to order by President Frank Fiarito at 7:00 p.m. at NSSEO Administration, 799 W. Kensington Road, Mt. Prospect, Illinois. Present were Governing Board members Debbi McAtee, Carol Botwinski, Erin Johannesen, Dennis Composto, Janice Krinsky, Anna Klimkowicz and Jim Perkins.

In attendance from the NSSEO staff were Cathy Williams, Brian Weems, Jill Anderson, Kim Dungan, Bryan Bolger, Mary Ann McGinn, Sheryl Goldman, Sue Mahoney, Nancy Milne, Pam Radford, Greg Hill, Melissa Swanson, Judy Hackett, Julie Jilek and Cathy Kostecki. Also in attendance were Administrative Representatives Donald Angelaccio, District 23; Renee Erickson, District 211; and Marni Johnson, District 214. Also present were Pam Guio, Joan Obial, Julia Cahill, Vanessa Wilkensen, Teresa Erbacci, Tom Jaslikowski, Susana Miller, Erin Paisley, Maura Kramer, Amy Long, Christian Dudgeon, Julia Dixon, and NSSEO Foundation President, Lynn Davis, NSSEA representatives Gina Lozano and Mary Cassin, as well as other observers.

Also present were Michael Ausnehmer a District 214 student from Miner School along with his family as well as other observers.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSIONS DATED MARCH 2, 2016

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Jim Perkins to approve the minutes of the regular session dated March 2, 2016. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Krinsky, Perkins, McAtee, Klimkowicz, Fiarito and Botwinski. Abstain: Composto. Nays: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SPOTLIGHT ON NSSEO STARS-COMMUNICATION PILOT PROJECT

Sue Mahoney, NSSEO Assistive Technology Coordinator acknowledged that communication is the means through which we learn allowing us to become independent, make choices and express our feelings, thoughts and emotions. During the 2015-16 school year, NSSEO Instructional and Assistive Technology Program teams initiated a pilot project to increase student growth in the area of communication. Student skills are facilitated through the use of classroom technology tools including iPads/TouchChat Word Power and supported by the educational teams' use of modeling and expanding opportunities for expression. NSSEO recognized Michael Chavira, Zahid Gonzalez, and Michael Ausnehmer who have demonstrated growth in their communication skills and increased active participation in their classrooms.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Fiarito asked if there were any items on the consent agenda that Board members wanted to remove for separate consideration. There were none.

Consent agenda items consisted of the FY 2014-15 Unreserved Fund Balance; Disbursement List dated April 2016, Batch #1054; Procurement-Card automatic payment; Personnel Transactions dated April 6, 2016; and Payroll Expenditures by fund for the February 29, 2016 and March 15, 2016 payrolls; and Non-Resident Student Placement requests for Miner and Kirk Schools.

FY 2014-2015 UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE

On November 4, 2015, the NSSEO Governing Board accepted the FY 2014-2015 audit as presented by Milburn Cain & Co. The current unreserved fund balance is \$665,950.01. It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the refund of the FY 2014-2015 Unreserved Fund Balance to NSSEO member districts. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

DISBURSEMENT LIST DATED APRIL 2016/BATCH #1054

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the disbursement list dated April 2016/Batch #1054, in the amount of \$2,522,297.59. On roll call vote - Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

PROCUREMENT-CARD AUTOMATIC PAYMENT

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the procurement-card automatic payment in the amount of \$15,218.27 to BMO Financial Group on April 10, 2016. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS DATED APRIL 6, 2016

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the personnel transactions dated April 6, 2016, which included the hiring and transfers of staff (a copy of which is made a part of these minutes). On roll call vote - Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

PAYROLL EXPENDITURES BY FUND

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the payroll expenditures by fund for the February 29, 2016, March 15, 2016 and March 29, 2016 payrolls. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Composto Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENT PLACEMENT REQUESTS

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to approve the requests for placement of non-resident students at Miner and Kirk schools for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year with all educational costs to be paid by the students' district of residence. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ENGAGE•CONNECT•GROW

Dr. Hackett highlighted some of the activities published in the April 2016 *Engage•Connect•Grow* Board Briefs newsletter.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Dr. Hackett stated that NSSEO received three (3) Freedom of Information Requests and all information was provided for the requests.

NATIONAL/STATE UPDATE

Dr. Hackett stated that with the election this fall, there have not been many significant occurrences happening this spring at the National and State level. Serious conversations regarding state funding and the potential budget impacts districts will face with regards to special education continue to be a hot topic.

NSSEO JUNE BOARD MEETING

The NSSEO Board meeting originally scheduled for June 7th conflicts with the Timber Ridge graduation ceremony. Regularly scheduled Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month which would be June 1st. This date does not conflict with any member district Board meetings or graduations. It was agreed upon that the NSSEO June Board meeting will be held on June 1, 2016.

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Dr. Pam Radford stated April is National Autism Awareness month and provides an excellent opportunity to promote autism awareness. Over 70 million individuals have autism worldwide and counting. Autism education and research are areas of continued need. Dr. Radford stated that NSSEO provides various support services and training to staff and families of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

INFINITEC MEMBERSHIP FY 17

NSSEO has been a member of the Infinitec North Assistive Technology Coalition for over sixteen years. Infinitec's mission is *Infinte Potential through technology* and has a strong established reputation as a member-based organization across Illinois and expanded to serve other states. Dr. Hackett stated that our member district administrative representatives have continued to support our membership in the Infinitec coalition which enables the districts to access expert resources in Assistive Technology.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Dennis Composto to approve membership for FY17 in the Infinitec Assistive Technology Coalition at a cost of 55 cents per student based on member districts' previous Fall Housing Report, at an approximate total cost of \$26,493.50. On roll call vote – Ayes: Fiarito, Botwinski, McAtee, Klimkowicz, Composto, Krinsky, Johannesen and Perkins. Nays: None.

RESOLUTION FOR DISMISSAL AND NON-RENEWAL OF CERTAIN NON-FINAL YEAR PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

Cathy Kostecki presented a resolution for dismissal of certain non-final year probationary staff.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Erin Johannesen to adopt a resolution for dismissal and nonrenewal of certain non-final year probationary staff members. On roll call vote – Ayes: Krinsky, Perkins, Johannesen, Botwinski, McAtee, Composto, Klimkowicz and Fiarito. Nays: None.

RESOLUTION FOR THE HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF TEACHERS DUE TO REDUCTION IN FORCE

Cathy Kostecki presented a resolution for the honorable dismissal of teachers due to reduction in force.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to adopt a resolution authorizing the honorable dismissal of teachers due to reduction in force. On roll call vote – Ayes: Composto, McAtee, Krinsky, Botwinski, Fiarito, Perkins, Johannesen and Klimkowicz. Nays: None.

NSSEO BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

FOUNDATION UPDATE

Lynn Davis, NSSEO Foundation President provided the Board with a brief update on the successful Arts and Craft Showcase held at Kirk School in March and upcoming fundraising opportunities. Lynn thanked the Board for their continued support throughout the year.

FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE / BUDGET PRESENTATION

Julie Jilek distributed binders which contained the FY17 budget. She narrated a brief presentation and pointed out the highlights of the NSSEO proposed budget and stated that the Finance Advisory Committee recommended that the Board vote to transmit the budget to member districts for review and approval.

PUBLIC HEARING, 2016-17 PROPOSED BUDGET

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Jim Perkins to recess the regular meeting at 7:34 p.m. and convene the public hearing for the purpose of public review of the proposed 2016-17 budget. On roll call vote – Ayes: Perkins, Klimkowicz, Krinsky, Composto, Johannesen, Fiarito, McAtee, and Botwinski. Nays: None.

No comments or questions were presented from the audience.

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It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Debbi McAtee to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m. On roll call vote – Ayes: Perkins, Klimkowicz, Krinsky, Composto, Johannesen, Fiarito, McAtee, and Botwinski. Nays: None.

TRANSMITTAL OF THE PROPOSED 2016-17 BUDGET TO MEMBER DISTRICTS

It was moved by Jim Perkins and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to transmit the FY17 NSSEO budget to the member districts for review and action. A directed vote on the FY17 Budget would be anticipated at the June 2016 NSSEO Governing Board Meeting. On roll call vote - Ayes: Klimkowicz, Fiarito, Krinsky, Johannesen, Composto, Botwinski, Perkins and McAtee . Nays: None.

2016 NSSEO EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR BUDGETS (ESY)

Julie Jilek stated that at the March 2, 2016 NSSEO Governing Board meeting, the projected staffing plans and salary schedules for extended year services were presented and approved by the Board. Julie Jilek presented the Extended School Year budgets for the 2016 based on those staffing plans for Kirk School, Miner School, Riley School, Timber Ridge School and the DH/H Elementary/Middle School Program, and the DH/H Itinerant Program.

It was moved by Jim Perkins and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to approve the financial operating budgets for the 2016 NSSEO extended school year services, which would provide programs and services for the special education population in the NSSEO ESY policy, as determined on an individual child basis. On roll call vote - Ayes: McAtee, Botwinski, Johannesen, Fiarito, Composto, Krinsky, Klimkowicz and Perkins. Nays: None.

E-RATE CONTRACTS UPDATE

Julie Jilek stated that NSSEO participates in the Schools and Libraries E-Rate Program which provides reimbursement for telecommunications and information services. As a part of this program, when our contracts for services expire, NSSEO obtains competitive quotes for new contracts for services within the E-Rate timelines. We have currently received quotes from both AT&T and Comcast for our five PRI lines and 19 POTS lines. Comcast came in at a cost savings for both services when compared to AT&T. However, in further discussions with Comcast it was discovered that Comcast does not offer traditional POTS (analog) phone lines. Therefore, in order to best address our organizational needs, we recommend maintaining our dedicated phone service for 911 emergency use with AT&T.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Jim Perkins to enter into an Agreement with Comcast for a three-year term for five (5) PRIs at a monthly cost of \$1,445.00. On roll call vote – Ayes: Composto, Johannesen, Krinsky, Perkins, McAtee, Klimkowicz, Fiarito and Botwinski. Nays: None.

It was moved by Jim Perkins and seconded by Frank Fiarito to enter into an Agreement with AT&T for a one year term for 16 to 19 POTS lines at a monthly cost of \$45/line and to enter into an Agreement with AT&T for a one-year term for long-distance service at a cost of \$.045 per minute with a minimum annual commitment of \$600.00 On roll call vote – Ayes: Composto, Johannesen, Krinsky, Perkins, McAtee, Klimkowicz, Fiarito and Botwinski. Nays: None.

CHEVROLET SUBURBAN VAN BID OPENING

Julie Jilek stated that at the March 2, 2016 Board meeting, permission was granted to go to bid for three (3) 2016 Chevrolet Suburbans. Notice was placed in a local newspaper and bid packets were sent out to thirteen (13) Chevrolet dealers. Six bids were received. The lowest bid was received from Hawk Chevrolet, in Joliet, Illinois.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Frank Fiarito to authorize administration to purchase three (3) new 2016 Chevrolet Suburbans at a cost of \$117,184.41 from Hawk Chevrolet. On roll call vote – Ayes: Johannesen, Composto, Perkins, Botwinski, Fiarito, Klimkowicz, McAtee and Krinsky. Nays: None.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were presented: program highlights from SLOEC; Kirk Walk and Wheel A-Thon; Timber Ridge Newsletter; position vacancies/current FTE enrollment; professional development highlights; activity fund report dated 2/1/16 – 2/28/16; NSSEO health insurance, TRS and workers' compensation account transactions; NSSEO graduation dates and Infinitec awards dinner.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Fiarito thanked those that attended the Issues & Interests Traditional Bargaining (IBB) meeting held on Saturday, April 2nd. The meeting was productive and respectful.

On behalf of District 57, Dennis Composto thanked the Board members on the Negotiations Committee for their time and dedication.

Janice Krinsky stated that she looked forward to the upcoming negotiations and felt there was great energy shared by all.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:48 p.m. it was moved by Erin Johannesen and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to convene into closed session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. [5 ILCS 120/2(c) (2)].

Also for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. [5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1)]

On roll call vote – Ayes: Fiarito, Botwinski, McAtee, Klimkowicz, Composto, Krinsky, Johannesen, and Perkins. Nays: None.

REGULAR SESSION

It was moved by Jim Perkins and seconded by Carol Botwinski to adjourn the closed session and reconvene into open session at 8:27 p.m. On roll call vote – Ayes: Krinsky, Perkins, Johannesen, Botwinski, McAtee, Composto, Klimkowicz and Fiarito. Nays: None.

TERMINATION PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS

Cathy Kostecki presented the termination personnel transactions.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Jim Perkins to terminate the employment of Angela Armenta effective April 6, 2016. On roll call vote – Ayes: Composto, McAtee, Krinsky, Botwinski, Fiarito, Perkins, Johannesen and Klimkowicz. Nays: None.

It was moved by Debbi McAtee and seconded by Anna Klimkowicz to accept the resignation of Renee Neri effective April 6, 2016. On roll call vote – Ayes: Klimkowicz, Fiarito, Johannesen, Composto, Botwinski, Perkins and McAtee. Nays: None. Abstain: Krinsky.

It was moved by Anna Klimkowicz and seconded by Carol Botwinski to accept the resignation of Jared Scovill effective April 6, 2016. On roll call vote – Ayes: Klimkowicz, Fiarito, Krinsky, Johannesen, Composto, Botwinski, Perkins and McAtee. Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Debbi McAtee and seconded by Frank Fiarito to adjourn the April 6, 2016, regular meeting of the NSSEO Governing Board at 8:30 p.m. On roll call vote – Ayes: Perkins, Klimkowicz, Krinsky, Composto, Johannesen, Fiarito, McAtee and Botwinski. Nays: None.

Carol Botwinski, Secretary

Frank Fiarito, President

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minutes of 4.6.16