

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 17  
207 N. Main St. Ainsworth, NE 69210  
December 14, 2021

Present: Roxie Lindquist, Sue Weston, Jan Knispel, Jean Pinney, Jody Dexter, Duane Gudgel, Renee Adkisson, Jeff McQuistan, Geraldine Erickson and Jan Foster

President Lisa Chohon called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The posting of the Open Meetings Act was acknowledged. The meeting notice was published on the ESU 17 website and on the front doors of ESU 17, Ainsworth Community Schools, Cody-Kilgore Unified School, Keya Paha County Schools, Rock County Public Schools, Valentine Community Schools and published in the Ainsworth Star Journal, Rock County Leader, Springview Herald and Valentine Midland News.

1. Jan Knispel made a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Renee Adkisson seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
2. A motion was made by Duane Gudgel and seconded by Jean Pinney to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2021 meeting. Roll call vote was unanimous.
3. Jeff McQuistan was present to provide an update on the Agency Improvement. Jeff shared the ESU 17 mission and vision statements along with the four values identified. A survey was sent to school staff members in the Fall to get their feelings on how ESU 17 is doing with these values. Three goals have been identified that will direct us in the next 3-5 years. Jeff presented an information handout with the Nebraska ESU Standards Implementation Rubric. ESU 17 board members expressed their views of the Board connection to these standards. The staff will work on creating team level action plans to support the agency goals at the all staff day on December 15.
4. Sue Weston made a motion with a second from Roxie Lindquist to approve the financial report ending November 30, 2021 with an ending balance of \$1,554,012.73. Roll call vote was unanimous.
5. The listing of bills and claims was reviewed. A motion was made by Jean Pinney and seconded by Duane Gudgel to approve payment of claims totaling \$330,995.70. Roll call vote was unanimous.
6. The ESU 17 negotiations team met prior to the regular board meeting. Lisa Chohon reviewed the three proposals of the ESU 17 staff bargaining team.
7. The Board will discuss the Administrator contract at the February meeting.
8. Geraldine attended the NCSA legislative preview last week in Lincoln. She will share information with the superintendents at the meeting on December 21. Topics discussed were the scholarship vouchers for private schools, the shortage of teachers and the possibility of alternatives to the praxis testing and administrative openings occurring earlier in the school year. Senator Kolterman stated the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System is in a good position. Representative of NCSA said there is a potential for a resolution for the State Board of Education committee members to be appointed versus being elected. The Columbus School administrator and business manager have developed a formula that could replace TEEOSA. This formula would provide some property tax relief. ESU 16 has been in contact with ESU 15 and ESU 17 inquiring about their needs for a hearing impairment provider. Geraldine watched a webinar on the federal vaccine mandates. Two of the mandates could affect the schools in our district.

9. A motion to approve the payment of bills in the absence of the January meeting was made by Jan Knispel. Duane Gudgel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
10. No action was taken on Action item X.B
11. Roxie Lindquist made a motion with a second from Sue Weston to approve the termination of ESUCC staff member Minh Vu. Roll call vote was unanimous.
12. A motion to approve the hire of ESUCC staff member Rita McKinney was made by Jan Knispel and seconded by Roxie Lindquist. Roll call vote was unanimous.
13. The next meeting of the ESU 17 Board will be on February 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., either in person at the ESU 17 Administration office or via zoom.
14. Roxie Lindquist made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

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Secretary