

**Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Board of Directors
Hearing on Reorganization Petition**

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 • 7:30 p.m.
Northeast Hamilton CSD Media Center, 606 Illinois Street, Blairsburg, Iowa

Purpose of Hearing:

The hearing was held pursuant to public notice given in the Webster City Daily Freeman-Journal which is a paper of general circulation in the Webster City and Northeast Hamilton School Districts. The hearing's purpose was to provide the public an opportunity to be heard, for or against, the proposed petition for the reorganization of Webster City and Northeast Hamilton School Districts.

Vice President Sue Brown called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Present: Prairie Lakes AEA:

Jeff Herzberg, Chief Administrator.
Dr. Gary Astor, Pat Brown, Sue Brown, Todd Lundgren, Board Members.
Michelle Dowd, Chief Financial Officer/Board Secretary
Rick Engel, Attorney for Prairie Lakes AEA.

Absent: Prairie Lakes AEA: Dawn Crane, Janice Harbaugh, Jeremy Riesenber, Board Members.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Director Todd Lundgren, seconded by Director Dr. Gary Astor, to approve the agenda for the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Procedures and Purpose of the Hearing:

Rick Engel, attorney for Prairie Lakes AEA, reviewed the hearing procedures. He also explained that the AEA Board would hear from all interested parties involving the petition to be considered and what options the Board had in coming to a decision. Mr. Engel asked Mr. Herzberg some questions regarding the AEA's actions relating to duties for this reorganization that occurred prior to hearing.

Presentation by Parties Present at the Meeting:

A. Parties Speaking in Favor of the Petition:

1. Danielle Hainfield, attorney for the Webster City and Northeast Hamilton school districts, spoke in support of the Petition on behalf of both Districts as did Mike Sherwood, Superintendent of both Districts.

B. Presentation of Evidence and Arguments by Objectors:

Mr. Engel invited anyone present to speak in opposition to the petition. No one spoke against the petition.

Board's Deliberation and Decision:

Mr. Engel reviewed the Board's options in making a decision.

It was moved by Director Todd Lundgren that the petition be approved as submitted and then be submitted to the voters of both Districts, seconded by Director Sue Brown. Roll call vote was taken: Dr. Gary Astor – yes, Pat Brown – yes, Sue Brown – yes, Todd Lundgren – yes.

Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

It was moved by Director Pat Brown that the AEA's decision include the following findings and that the decision be drafted by our Attorney and reviewed and approved in final form by the Board President, Dr. Gary Astor, and published as required by law:

1. The statutory and jurisdictional requirements of Chapter 275 have been met.
2. The reorganization petition to establish the new Webster City Community School District is approved as submitted.
3. The legal description of the territory to be included in the new District is approved as submitted with one small amendment as discussed in the hearing.
4. The proposed reorganization is consistent with and in compliance with the reorganization plans of the AEA.
5. The number of directors and method of appointment or election for the initial and regular Board for the new District shall be as submitted in the petition.
6. All provisions for treatment of the assets and liabilities of the two Districts shall be as submitted in the petition.
7. As set forth in the reorganization petition, a new revenue purpose statement ballot measure will be voted upon in conjunction with the reorganization vote.
8. This decision shall be published as required by law and the proposed reorganization shall be submitted for approval or rejection at an election as provided by law.

Director Sue Brown seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken: Dr. Gary Astor – yes, Pat Brown – yes, Sue Brown – yes, Todd Lundgren – yes.

Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Adjournment:

Director Todd Lundgren made a motion to adjourn the hearing, and Director Dr. Gary Astor seconded. Voice vote-all aye.

Hearing Adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



Dr. Gary Astor, Board President
Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency



Michelle Dowd, Board Secretary
Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency