

Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 · 4:00 pm
Pocahontas, IA

President Dean Saunders called the regular meeting of the Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Board of Directors to order at 4:00 pm. The following board members were present: Sue Brown, Pat Brown, Steve Jimmerson, Todd Lundgren, Rick Morain, and Dean Saunders. Absent: Gary Astor

Board approval was given to the agenda presented by Chief Administrator Jeff Herzberg.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Pat Brown, board approval was given to the minutes of the February 16, 2015, Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Astor joined at this point in the meeting.

On a motion by Gary Astor, seconded by Steve Jimmerson, board approval was given to the bills as presented by Michelle Dowd. Motion carried unanimously. The cash flow report was reviewed by M. Dowd.

Bill Heileman, Supervisor of the Print and Production Department shared print statistics and how the department is changing to meet the needs of our schools. Board members took a tour of the production facilities. Gary Astor left the meeting during the tour.

On a motion by Rick Morain, seconded by Sue Brown, the board approved the following PLAEA retirements:

1. Theresa Golden, Regional Administrator, retirement effective June 30, 2015;
2. Linda Williamson, Regional Administrator, retirement effective June 30, 2015.
3. Kim Rost, Administrator for Professional Services, retirement effective June 30, 2015

and the resignation of:

1. Allison Betsch, Behavior Strategist, resignation effective at the end of the current 193 day contract.

Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Astor rejoined the meeting.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Pat Brown, the board approved the 2015-16 PLAEA Staff Calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Gary Astor, seconded by Sue Brown, the board approved the Amended and Restated 28E Agreement of the Iowa Association of Area Education Agencies and the Bylaws of Iowa Association of Area Education Agencies as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Sue brown, seconded by Rick Morain, the board appointed Gary Astor as their representative on the IAAEA Board. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Pat Brown, the board awarded the bid for the purchase of the NW Media Cooperative van, a 2015 Ford Transit Connect to Mouw Motor, Sioux Center, for a cost of \$21,789 with trade in of the 2010 Ford Transit Connect, currently in use. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Sue Brown, seconded by Pat Brown, the board approved the 2015-2020 PLAEA Comprehensive Improvement Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The board appointed Michelle Dowd as board secretary, effective April 1, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

The solar report has not been received, thus it will be presented at the April board meeting.

J Herzberg and M Dowd shared a draft proposal on how to eliminate \$1.8 million from the PLAEA budget before the 2016-17 school year. Herzberg posed the question "How do we get to this...in two years, now or other ideas?" to the Board. Board discussion followed on restructuring options, staffing, continued decline in the PLAEA budget, and how to adjust the financial commitment. Comments shared included:

- Offices do not do the work, employees do.
- Keep looking at data, what is doing the work.
- Settlements will make the difference.
- Must make budget work. Can't do everything we used to do.
- April 15 is pink slip date.
- Services will suffer as a result of reducing staff at the AEA.
- Need to become more focused on work. Can't do everything we used to do.
- If we get to the \$.7 million now through attrition, restructuring that will leave \$1.1 million to remove from start of 2016-17.

Herzberg is holding administrative discussions this week for further planning and asked the board to provide guidance and feedback.

Recognition of Excellence:

- From an Eagle Grove first year special ed teacher - Denise Gajewsky, School Social Worker, has been a great help, not only with students on behavior plans but also with those who do not have one, by being very responsive and willing to help with any questions/concerns. "She has made my first year of teaching go much smoother and easier than I could have anticipated. ... I just wanted to commend her for the, in my opinion, fantastic work she is doing." This is what our work is all about! Thanks Denise!
- From a Clay Central Everly teacher - Erin Olson did a few sessions with a number of staff members over using Twitter and Google+ in our classrooms. I thoroughly enjoyed these sessions and found them extremely helpful. I have wanted to use them in the past, but didn't know where to start. She made me feel more comfortable and gave me great tips. She was awesome!

Wendy Parker reviewed the Lakes Partnership School Update "Consortium Communication" with the board. The Literacy update was placed in the board packet and a "save the date" TICL card was handed out.

Herzberg urged board members to attend the remaining Eggs & Issues as the AEA's still need to be heard.

- **Spencer** - 9-10:30 am Council Chamber, Spencer City Hall. Light breakfast served by sponsors beginning at 8:30
 - March 21
- **Storm Lake** - King's Pointe, Regatta Grille - 10:00 am
 - March 21
- **Fort Dodge** - Iowa Central Bio Science Building. - 8:30 am
 - March 28

Upcoming Staff Presentation Schedules include:

- April 21, 2015 - PEC program
- May 18, 2015 - Hearing Dept.
- June 15, 2015 - Summer Reading Program

Upcoming Dates

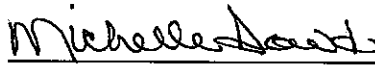
- IASB Spring ABLE Workshops - Strategic Board Governance - The Time is Now! - 6-8:30 pm. Dinner at 5:30 is included in registration. Let Ginger know if you want to register. Rick M has registered for the Carroll session
 - March 26 - Carroll
 - April 21 - Sheldon
 - April 28 - Emmetsburg
- AEA Board of Director's Conference - April 16 & 17, 2015-Des Moines
 - Keynote speaker is Grant Lichtman <http://www.grantlichtman.com/>
 - Be sure to watch/listen to his Ted Talk <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZEZTyxSl3g>
- ILCC & PLAEA Joint Board Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2015-Emmetsburg. Regular meeting at 4:00; joint meeting at 6:00
- TICL Conference - June 15-17, BVU, Storm Lake

The April board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2015 - 4:00 pm, Iowa Lakes Community College with dinner and a joint board meeting with ILCC to follow at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business the board adjourned at 6:05 p.m.



Board President



Board Secretary