

**Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, February 18, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.
Pocahontas, Iowa**

President Astor called the regular board meeting of the Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency Board of Directors to order at 4:05 p.m. The following board members were present: Christina Allen, Pat Brown, Sue Brown, Dawn Crane, Janice Harbaugh, and Todd Lundgren.

On a motion by Pat Brown, seconded by Sue Brown, board approval was given to the agenda, including an amendment, as presented by Chief Administrator Jeff Herzberg.

At 4:10 p.m. the board conducted a public hearing on the 2019-20 proposed budget, as mandated by law and as previously announced. No comments were received from the public. On a motion by Janice Harbaugh, seconded by Dawn Crane, the board approved the proposed budget of \$27,072,170 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

President Astor asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the January 21, 2019 Regular Board Meeting and the minutes of the February 1, 2019 Special Board Meeting. Hearing none, the minutes stood approved.

Staff presentation: Andrea Stewart (MBAEA), Director of The Center, shared [the work](#) that the AEA system is supporting in the area of Personalized Learning. This work started as the state's support of the Competency Based Collaborative went away and because of the fact that there is still a strong need for guidance in this important work across the state.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Pat Brown, board approval was given to the bills as presented by Michelle Dowd. Motion carried unanimously. The cash flow report was reviewed by Dowd.

On a motion by Sue Brown, seconded by Dawn Crane, board approval was given to the following retirements: Susan Burnside, Physical Therapist, Storm Lake office, effective May 31, 2019; Kris Taphorn, Special Education Consultant, Storm Lake office, effective May 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board was informed of the following resignations: Rachael Votrobeck, Educational Paraprofessional, Lakes Partnership School, effective February 14, 2019; Brent Gerzema, Computer & Network Technician, Fort Dodge Office, effective April 30, 2019.

The Board was informed of the following new hire: Matthew Foley, School Technology Technician, Storm Lake office, \$14,257.81, 100 days, (based on a 256 day contract). Start date February 11, 2019.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Pat Brown, the board approved the Support Employee Sharing Agreement with Fort Dodge Community School District. Terms of the agreement: commencing January 29, 2019 to June 30, 2020, FDCSD will employ up to two EL/Bilingual Tutors and coordinate and supervise their work. The Tutors shall be employees of FDCSD. Prairie Lakes AEA shall reimburse FDCSD actual costs in employing the Tutors through PLAEA's Title III ELL funds. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Janice Harbaugh, seconded by Sue Brown, the board approved the Prairie Lakes Educational Services Association's 2019-2020 contract settlement of 2.92%, \$51,365. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Janice Harbaugh, the board approved the Prairie Lakes Employees Association's 2019-2020 contract settlement of 2.43%, \$321,521. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Administrator Herzberg shared information with the Board regarding the possibility of offering financial incentives for hard to fill positions within the Agency. The Board asked Herzberg to bring back additional information pertaining to what private companies, and the other AEA's, are doing to attract employees. The Board will continue this discussion next month.

On a motion by Todd Lundgren, seconded by Christina Allen, the board approved the purchase of a 2019 Ford Transit Commercial Cargo Van from Fort Dodge Ford. Cost, including the trade in, \$28,671. Roll call vote was taken: Astor – Yes, Allen – Yes, P. Brown – Yes, S. Brown – No, Crane – Yes, Harbaugh – Yes, Lundgren – No. Motion carried 5 to 2.

Chief Administrator's Report: Recognition of Excellence: Valerie Harmon's recognized our Agency, and Sharon Richardson, for their support; and Carrie Weishaar was recognized for going above and beyond to help out the hearing staff with an appointment. Board Member Development: Chief Herzberg shared information on two upcoming Superintendent meetings: March 5th, Jimmy Casas, talking about Culture and Leadership and April 2nd, Scott McLeod talking about Personalized Learning and Tech. Advocacy: Chief Herzberg shared out on the AEA system's legislative event held on February 4th and 5th and shared the key talking points from the Superintendent's survey. Herzberg will bring back the Governor's bill to support Childrens' Mental Health and advocacy tips for making this a reality.

Upcoming dates: AEA Governing Boards Conference - March 28-29 in Des Moines. NW Iowa Cooperative Joint Board meeting, April 2, 2019, 5:00 p.m. Prairie Lakes AEA, Storm Lake. November 8-9, Trauma Conference 2.0 at BVU.

The March board meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2019 - 4:00 p.m. Prairie Lakes AEA, 500 NE 6th Street, Pocahontas, Iowa.

On a motion by Pat Brown, seconded by Janice Harbaugh, the Board moved to go into closed session for a negotiation strategy session according to IA Code 20.17(3). By unanimous vote the board entered into closed session at 5:30 p.m.

At the end of the closed session, it was moved by Sue Brown, and seconded by Pat Brown, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously. No action was taken during closed session.

The board entered into regular open session, all members present as previously noted, and there being no further business, the board adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary