

Board of Directors Board Meeting Minutes



June 11, 2024

BOARD MEETING

Ms. Margaret Borgen, board president, called the meeting of the Heartland AEA Board of Directors to order at 4:04 p.m.

Board members present: Ms. Margaret Borgen, Ms. Liz Brennan, Mr. Pete Evans, Mr. Alex Piedras, Dr. Steve Rose and Ms. Margie Schwenk. Ms. Tiara Mays-Sims arrived following roll call. *Absent:* Mr. John Kinley and Ms. Kelly Simmons.

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Kevin Fangman, Dr. Susie Meade, Mr. Kurt Subra, Ms. Jenny Ugolini and Dr. Cindy Yelick.

Approval of Agenda

A MOTION was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Dr. Rose to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from May 14 and 30, 2024

A MOTION was made by Dr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the minutes from May 14 and 30, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum and Correspondence

There was no one present from the public to speak at the public forum.

Work Session

Conference Highlights

Dr. Rose and Mr. Evans attended conferences this spring. They shared highlights from the learning sessions they attended and from the keynote speakers. Mr. Evans attended the Future-Ready Brains Conference presented by Learning & the Brain. He discussed the value of the conference and the sessions on learning spaces, 21st century skills and how to measure student learning. Dr. Rose attended the Middle America School Mental Health Conference in May. The conference was heavily attended by social workers, school psychologists and teachers. Two themes emerged, the first on meeting the needs of students and the percentage of kids not getting services, which was estimated at 300,000. The second theme was about Iowa and what will happen to students given the passage of recent legislation.

Discussion Items

Service Delivery Update and District Visits

Dr. Cindy Yelick, Heartland AEA Chief Administrator, and Dr. Susie Meade, Heartland AEA Chief Academic Officer, have spent the last several weeks visiting public school districts to discuss their fee-for-service plans. For FY2024-25, the AEAs will only receive 40% of educational services and media/technology services funding. Districts will receive 60%. For larger districts, their portion may be over \$1 million, but for smaller districts, it may be less than \$10,000. There is a huge range of differences, and districts will need to determine how best to spend their dollars. Dr. Meade shared that the AEAs will lose economies of scale for bulk purchasing of media systems and resources, which will make it more expensive for districts to purchase. Dr. Yelick discussed how the fee schedules were determined, how districts will be invoiced for any services above the 40% and planning for FY2025-26.

Board Summer Retreat Options

Board members discussed options for the August Board Retreat. Ms. Ugolini will poll board members and finalize a date and time for August. Retreat topics will include board policies, the staff handbook, data collection, finance transition and how the Agency is moving forward after the passage of HF 2612.

Board Treasurer

Dr. Yelick shared that this is Mr. Kurt Subra's last meeting as Heartland AEA Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Brian Whalen, Heartland AEA Business Manager, has been sworn in as board treasurer effective July 1, 2024. Board members expressed their thanks to Mr. Subra for his work at the Agency since 2012. They noted that he has had a positive impact internally with staff and externally working with districts.

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Action items

Change Orders for Phase II Remodeling Project

Mr. Subra reviewed the final two change orders related to Phase II of the Johnston REC remodeling project. A MOTION was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Mays-Sims to approve the change orders as articulated on agenda item #3.02 (change orders #008 and #013.) The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Rose reviewed the bills and stated everything was in order. Revenues are down about 1%, and there is nothing out of the ordinary to report. A MOTION was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Dr. Rose to approve the consent agenda including payment of warrant numbers 420953 through 421129 and electronic warrant numbers 48705 through 49237. The motion passed unanimously.

- Personnel Report: Mr. Kevin Fangman, Heartland AEA Chief Human Resources Officer, reminded board members about Board Policy 406 and employee resignations. It will be brought back as a future agenda topic.
- Purchase Orders:
 - *Perspective Consulting Partners* - \$42,000.00
 - *PowerSchool Group, L.L.C.* - \$73,742.52
 - *WebSpec Design, L.L.C.* - \$81,900.00
 - *Journey Ed/Microsoft Office* - \$25,802.76
 - *Tenax Solutions, L.L.C.* - \$167,280.00
 - *Amazon Capital Services* - \$30,000.00
 - *Harvest Technology Group, Inc.* - \$57,960.00
 - *Morningside University* - \$27,000.00
 - *Drake University* - \$36,000.00
- Ember Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Rosedale Shelter/YSS)
- Ember Facility Service Agreement (Rosedale/YSS)
- Ellipsis Rental Agreement (formerly YESS)
- Audit Engagement Letter between Heartland AEA and Bohnsack & Frommelt, L.L.P.
- Marco Memorandum of Understanding

Chief Administrator Comments

- Dr. Yelick shared that school district visits will continue into July. Districts need to think about the services they need so the Agency can build a staffing plan.
- Statewide AEA director groups have been meeting twice a month at Heartland AEA. They will continue to meet and plan about how to package services and learning time and will start looking at planning for FY2025-26 soon. There will be a sales training session on June 20. The AEAs have a lot of resources and very talented staff to tackle this new order of change.

Board Comments

There were no comments from the Board.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Reports and documents and the full text of motions, resolutions or policies considered by the Board at this meeting are on file in the Board Secretary's office, (515) 473-6644, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Handwritten signature of Margaret P. Borgen in black ink.

Ms. Margaret Borgen
Board President

Handwritten signature of Jenny Ugolini in black ink.

Ms. Jenny Ugolini
Board Secretary