

**EAST CENTRAL KANSAS COOPERATIVE IN EDUCATION
February 13, 2024, BOARD MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education Board of Directors was held February 13, 2024, at ECKCE 600 High Street, Baldwin City, Kansas.

Members Present: Chris Perry, Jamie Cox, Amanda Donovan, Zach Brooks, Claire Harding, Dr. Marcia Weseman, KASB consultant, Daniel Wray, Director (arrived at 7:45 p.m.), Jim Persinger, Asst Director (arrived at 7:45 p.m.), and Shelly McCart, Clerk of the Board.

Members Absent: Deb McCullough

Additional attendees: Rebecca Killen, arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Board President Chris Perry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Opening Business

Chris Perry added 3e. Executive Session

Approval of Agenda as Amended

Motion: Chris Perry

Second: Jamie Cox

Motion approved 5-0

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2024, and Special Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2024

Motion: Amanda Donovan

Second: Claire Harding

Motion approved 5-0

Approval of the Financial Reports and Disbursements/Ledger Report as Presented

Motion: Claire Harding

Second: Jamie Cox

Motion approved 5-0

Executive Session

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter executive session with the Board members and Dr. Marcia Weseman to discuss interview questions and procedures with regard to hiring a new Executive Director, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting to resume in the boardroom at 7:12 p.m.

Second: Jamie Cox

Motion approved 5-0.

The open meeting resumed at 7:12 p.m.

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter into executive session with the Board members and Dr. Marcia Weseman to discuss interview questions and procedures with regard to hiring a new Executive Director, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting to resume in the boardroom at 7:42 p.m.

Second: Claire Harding
Motion approved 5-0.

The open meeting resumed at 7:42p.m.

Chris Perry called for a 5-minute break.

The meeting resumed at 7:47 p.m.

Director's Report

- Personnel – We have received para candidates to the point I feel we have all of our positions filled in all districts, but we continue to have those who move on at the rate of 1-2 per month, and post to fill those as they come up. I will be trying to recruit teacher candidates from the Educate Kansas website as well as attending the ESU career fair in March.
- KU Grant – We received notice that KU had received a 1.4M grant to fund 35 paras over the next few years to become teachers. I have spoken to a couple of paras who I believe are excellent candidates and they are working on their applications.
- ESU teaching career fair—I have registered for this in person event.
- Strategic Planning – We continue to make progress toward our identified objectives.
- Legislative Update – While I had scheduled meetings with some of our representatives, those were not achieved because one was a snow day and another conflicted on the legislator's schedule.
- Negotiations Training – The annual negotiations training required by Kansas statute is being done virtually again this year.
- SEAC Update – A meeting was held as the Board meeting was beginning, with a handful in attendance. They would like to survey the parents and gather feedback to make the SEAC more of what they would like it to be. Rebecca Killen spoke briefly to the Board about some of the ideas or topics it could be.

Rebecca Killen left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Old Business

New Director Search:

The Board discussed the upcoming date for the candidate interviews and confirmed February 22nd and 23rd. Dr. Weseman will check with the 3rd potential candidate to see if they are still interested. The optional date for the 3rd interview, if needed, would be on the 26th, with Jamie Cox virtually joining.

Strategic Plan Update:

Planning a parent survey regarding the focus of the SEAC group.

Interviewed a potential SLP for the 24-25 school year.

Para to Teacher Pathway Project through KU-grant awarded to provide for 35 participants over the next 4 years, the Interlocal is looking at getting 1-2 of those spots and have talked to a few paras that would be good candidates.

New Business

None

Board Member Input

Board President Chris Perry shared that he would have a meeting with Representative Carrie Barth on Friday to have a conversation regarding the bills and SpEd funding and to articulate why it is a big concern.

Director Dan Wray and Asst. Director Jim Persinger left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Executive Session

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters regarding the candidate interview questions, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and returning to open session at 9:15 p.m.

Second: Amanda Donovan

Motion approved 5-0

The open meeting resumed at 9:15 p.m.

Board President Chris Perry made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters with regard to the candidate interview questions, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and returning to open session at 9:45 p.m.

Second: Claire Harding

Motion approved 5-0

The open meeting resumed at 9:45 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report as Presented

Motion: Jamie Cox

Second: Amanda Donovan

Motion approved 5-0

Meeting Adjournment

Motion: Amanda Donovan

Second: Jamie Cox

Motion approved 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

These minutes are subject to final approval at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Shelly McCart,
Clerk of the Board

Action on Personnel

Resignations

Paras:

Lindsey Welsh, WES

Certified:

Kynda Harshman, WES, Retirement

Hirings/Changes

Paras:

Lauren Frank, EES

Jodi Anderson, WMS/WHS

Stephanie Somers, BPC

Rocky Juarez, BPC

Sydney Bergan, BHS

Sue Beery, BPC