

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIPLEY-  
OHIO-DEARBORN SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

September 15, 2015

The meeting of the Ripley-Ohio-Dearborn Special Education Cooperative Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at the South Dearborn Administration office. Those in attendance were: Karl Galey-Lawrenceburg, Andrew Jackson - Sunman-Dearborn, Paul Ketcham-Milan, John Mehrle-South Dearborn, Rob Moorhead-South Ripley, Branden Roeder-Rising Sun, and Cheryl Corning-ROD.

The Board met in executive session from 9:15 a.m. until 10:20 a.m. to discuss matters as provided for by I.C. 5-14-1.5-6-1. The Board discussed only the subject matter specified during executive session.

Dr. Mehrle called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m. Mr. Ketcham had to leave due to another obligation.

The minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Dr. Jackson to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claims 117880-117963 were presented for payment. The financial report was also presented. On the financial report, it was noted that there was an invoice for \$10,000 for the deductible incurred from the due process hearing that happened over the summer. A motion was made by Mr. Moorhead to approve the claims for payment and the financial report. Mr. Galey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Corning presented a revision to the 2015-2016 General Fund budget. A line for professional development was added to the budget for registrations - \$7,500 and travel expenses - \$7,500 for a total of \$15,000. The transfer to local corporations will be reduced by this amount. Dr. Jackson made a motion to approve the transfer of appropriation for professional development. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Corning presented a recommendation for employment for Ricka Cutter, occupational therapist. She will be working 3 days per week. We are still waiting on information from previous employers to determine her salary. We will pay her for 1 years experience until we get that information. A motion was made by Mr. Galey to employ Ms. Cutter. Mr. Roeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Preschool updates were presented. Ms. Corning provided information on programs.

The language change for the interlocal agreement was presented. It is recommended that this language be inserted: "Reporting: At the end of each fiscal year, the Treasurer will report to each local corporation the percentage amount of federal funds used for expenses and

reimbursements in the management and operation of the Cooperative. This will be added to each local corporation's Schedule of Federal Awards (SEFA). The allocations for costs and reimbursement will be based on the percentage of the grant award to each corporation." A motion was made by Mr. Galey to approve the added language. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The teacher contract for 2015-16 was presented for approval. Dr. Merhle thanked the teachers association for their work on the contract. The changes included: adding son-in-law and daughter-in-law into the 5-day bereavement leave. The compensation will be every other week. The ending date of the contract was changed to July 31. There was a 2% increase in salaries. A motion was made by Mr. Galey to approve the 2015-2016 teacher's contract. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding Maintenance of Effort - will be tabled until clarification is received from ISBA counsel.

A discussion with State Board of Accounts and DOE was held on August 26<sup>th</sup> hoping to get clarification about corporation reporting of ROD expenditures and receipts. The local corporations are responsible for grant compliance. Therefore, they will need to report this information on their SEFA. ROD will not report.

A discussion was held about the possibility of an autism clinic coming into the area. At this time ROD would not be interested in participating in this clinic. It would be better to train our current teachers and assistants in techniques that would also be used in this clinic. Release time would be necessary in order to train staff.

Ms. Corning presented information about the following:

1. There is a grant opportunity for PBIS that would be operated through Systems of Care. It requires a school system to have at least 50% free/reduced population in order to apply for the grant.
2. Hands in Autism will be presenting 2 workshops in September. One will be for mild disabilities teachers and one for severe disabilities teachers.
3. A program for parents will be presented on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Milan Elementary school about social skills for students with autism.

Public Comments - Yvonda Kramer, ROD teacher association representative, wanted to thank the Board for their cooperation during the contract negotiations.

A motion was made by Dr. Jackson to adjourn. Mr. Moorhead seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.