

**THREE LAKES EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 8, 2023**

1. Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order

Eric Ratzloff called to order the Three Lakes Educational Cooperative Board of Directors meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday May 8, 2023 at the TLEC Board Room.

B. Roll Call

The following individuals were present:

BOARD MEMBERS

Julie Spielman
Todd Peterson
Eric Ratzloff
Madison Sowers (Arrived @ 6:35)
Pam Masters
Caleb McNally (Alternate)

OTHERS:

Caroline Green
Michele Luksa
Dee Wiley

D. Approval of Agenda

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Todd Peterson and passed unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Approval of Warrant Register/Payables
- C. Approval of PDC Plans and Points
- D. Approval of Consent Agenda

- Warrant/Payables were reviewed.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Julie Spielman and passed unanimously.

3. Financial Information/Discussion

- A. Financial Reports were reviewed. The budget is on track and comparable to prior year percentages. A fifth assessment is not needed for FY 2023.

4. District Consultation

- A. The FY 2024 Acellus contract in the amount of \$8750.00, for 350 licenses (core replacement curriculum) was presented to the board for approval.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the contract with Acellus as presented. The motion was seconded by Pam Masters, and passed unanimously.

- B. The SPED Facilitator (formally Teacher Mentor) job description was presented to the board for approval.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the SPED Facilitator job description as presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Spielman, and passed unanimously.

- C. Greenbush FY 2024 contracts (PDP Toolbox- \$1997.00, SLS-\$14,000.00, Admin Services \$1650.00, Ed Tech \$750.00) were presented to the board for approval.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the Greenbush contracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Madison Sowers, and passed unanimously.

- D. A contract with Solient (for a maximum of 80 hours, at a rate of \$80/hr) for virtual ESY speech services was presented to the board for approval. A paraeducator will be required to provide some of the services.

Madison Sowers made a motion to approve the Solient ESY contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Eric Ratzloff, and passed unanimously.

- E. Solient contracts for three SLP tele-therapists in FY 2024 were presented to the board for approval. A paraeducator will be required to provide some of the services. Administration is continuing to negotiate for a lower hourly rate, but recommends board approval of contracts as presented to reserve the positions for TLEC.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the contracts with Solient for up to the amounts presented. The motion was seconded by Eric Ratzloff, and passed unanimously.

- F. A contract with Greenbush for HI services for FY 2024 was presented for board approval.

Madison Sowers made a motion to approve the contracts with Solient for up to the amounts presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Spielman, and passed unanimously.

- G. The EKAN (Headstart) MOU for FY 2023-2025 was presented to the board for approval.

Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the EKAN (Headstart) MOU for FY 2023-2025, was presented. The motion was seconded by Pam Masters, and passed unanimously.

- H. TLEC,(Karen McVay) will host an SLP externship from Baylor University next school year.

- I. Current staff openings were presented. Recruitment and retention were discussed. Currently TLEC is offering a \$2000 sign-on bonus for SLPs. Due to the number of vacant positions, it was decided that TLEC will offer a \$2000 sign-on bonus to fully fundable certified teacher recruits, paid in two installments- September and January. Furthermore it was decided that TLEC would offer a \$500 referral bonus to current staff for referring new staff to TLEC. The referral bonus would be paid in September, after the referred candidate has begun the school year.

5. Superintendents'/Board Member Discussion Items

- A. USD 420 will pay their district staff as well as the TLEC assigned to their district a premium pay stipend in June. TLEC will process the payment for our staff, and be reimbursed by USD 420.
- B. Preschool MOUs for FY 2024 were discussed. The overall consensus at the SAC meeting was that districts will follow the SPED preschool model (class ratio of 50% or more students with an IEP) to ensure that TLEC receives full funding for the classroom staff. Choosing to sign the MOU would allow the district to drop below the 50% SPED ratio, with the district responsible for the amount of the lost funding. Declining to sign the MOU signals to TLEC that the district intends to cap general education preschool enrollment in order to retain the 50% or higher SPED ratio.

- C. Next year there will be a student requiring high medical needs, that must be provided by a nurse. Currently the TLEC nurse, along with her TLEC assignments, is contracted out to USDs 421,454, and 456. TLEC will be faced with either: 1. Pulling currently available contracted services from one or more of the above districts 2. Contracting with an LPN or RN for full or part-time services, or 3. Hiring a second nurse LPN, or RN. It was decided that nursing services at SAC, provided by the TLEC nurse, were not needed for FY 2024. Board consensus was to look for a nursing candidate (full or part-time) to hire as a TLEC employee. Lauren Jerore (RN) would be responsible for the supervision of an LPN.
- D. ESY service projections were presented.

6. **Executive Session**

- A. Matters Relating to Student Issues- Executive Session

- No executive session

- B. Matters Relating to Personnel Issues- Executive Session

-Personnel Changes

-Technology Support Specialist

Motion was made by Eric Ratzloff and seconded by Madison Sowers to enter executive session with the board and administrators present beginning at 7:19 p.m. for a period of time not to exceed ten minutes for the matters relating to Personnel. Justification of the executive session is to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed. The meeting will return to open session at 7:29 p.m. in the TLEC boardroom. The meeting returned to open session at 7:29 p.m

- C. Matters Relating to Negotiations- Executive Session

-Negotiations Update

Motion was made by Eric Ratzloff and seconded by Madison Sowers to enter executive session with the board, administrators, and clerk present beginning at 7:30 p.m. for a period of time not to exceed ten minutes for the matters relating to Negotiations. Justification of the executive session is to protect the cooperative's right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position and the public's interest. The meeting will return to open session at 7:40 p.m. in the boardroom. The meeting returned to open session at 7:40 p.m.

D. Action on Items Discussed in Closed Session-

-Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the personnel changes as presented. Madison Sowers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

-Eric Ratzloff made a motion to approve the wage raise to \$35/hr for the Technology Support Specialist beginning July 1, 2023.

Adjournment

Eric Ratzloff motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion was seconded by Madison Sowers and it passed unanimously. The next regular board meeting will be held Monday, June 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Three Lakes Education Cooperative office in Lyndon.