



Approved April 18, 2022

## Education Minnesota Governing Board Hybrid Meeting Minutes February 26, 2022

**Members present (v = Virtual):** Amy Aho, Jamie Alsleben, Todd Andrix, Heather Bakke, Jerry Bellefeuille, Monica Byron, Annette Davis, Michelle Dennard, Geneva Dorsey (v), Wendy Drugge-Wuensch, Michelle Farnum, Ryan Fiereck, Marty Fridgen, Michelle Gottberg, Jodi Hansen, Janelle Hart, Jana Hedlund, Al Helgerson, Jessie Holm, Valerie Holthus, Julie Jagusch, Cindy Kluempke (v), Tammy Knapper, Joan Lancour, Gretchen Long, Carrie Lucking, Maureen Morrow (v), Yasmin Muridi, Ellen Olsen, Bety Rios-Christensen (v), Judy Rohde, Tammy Roth (v), Rodney Rowe, Kate Schmidt, Ben Schwanke, Marty Scofield, Jared Simpson (v), Denise Specht, Mark Swenson, Kim Thole, Stacey Vanderport, Matthew Wilmes, Kelly Wilson.

**Members absent:** Greta Callahan, Linda Howe-Wensel, Ryan Roseen, Dylan Steberg, Leah VanDassor.

**Staff present:** David Aron, Sarah Derdoski, Lisa Enwright, Rob Gardner, Allison LaBree, Shelley MacDonald, Kathi Micheletti, Bridget Moore, Shane Patrick, Dan Rivera, Mike Roehl, Athelgra Williams.

**Guests:** Anna Anderson, Peter Eckhoff

### **PRELIMINARY MATTERS:**

**Call to order:** President Denise Specht called the meeting of the Education Minnesota Governing Board to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Roll call:** Recorded by Secretary-Treasurer Rodney Rowe as noted above.

**M-1 Moved, using unanimous consent, without objection, to approve the agenda as presented with flexibility.**

**Recess:** At 9:04 a.m. the board recessed and reconvened as the Education Minnesota Properties Board.

***Education Minnesota Properties convened at 9:04 a.m.***

**Properties Audit:** Anna Anderson from Harrington Langer presented the Properties Audit. Key points included:

- Unmodified, clean audit opinion
- Net assets increased slightly from the previous year

**M-1 Moved by Rodney Rowe with a committee second to receive and file the Education Minnesota Properties audit and management letter dated August 31, 2021.**

**ESI Report:** Shelley MacDonald, Director of ESI, and Peter Eckhoff, Chair of the ESI Board of Directors, presented the Annual Report to Stockholders. Key points included:

- A background summary of what ESI is and provides for members
- Overview of the Advisory Committee and Board of Directors along with recent changes

- FY20-21 Financial strength
- Current work in progress

**Properties Update:** Shane Patrick, Human Resources Director, provided a properties update. Key Points included:

- Current boilers need replacement; three options being considered include direct replacement, upgrade replacement or move to join District Energy
- Landscaping needs updating and replacing around the HQ building
- HQ building elevator requires maintenance and compliance work
- Future projects in the next 12-24 months include work on the HVAC system, additional work on the elevator, and roof replacement

**M-2 Moved by Rodney Rowe with a second from Jodi Hanson that the final approval for upcoming capital improvements be done by the officers for up to the following amounts:**

- a. Boiler replacement: \$500,000**
- b. Landscaping: \$20,000**
- c. Elevator compliance updates: \$110,000**

**Motion carried.**

*Education Minnesota Properties adjourned at 10:01 a.m.*

**Reconvene:** The meeting of the Education Minnesota Governing Board was reconvened by President Denise Specht at 10:01 a.m.

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report:** Secretary-Treasurer Rodney Rowe reported on the following (full report on file):

- Anna Anderson of Harrington Langer presented the Education Minnesota audit:
  - Unmodified, clean audit opinion.
  - Net assets increased slightly from the previous year.
  - Liabilities decreased, mainly due to timing issues.

**M-2 Moved by Rodney Rowe with an audit committee second to receive and file the Education Minnesota audit and management letter dated August 31, 2021.**

**Motion carried.**

**M-3 Moved by Jamie Alsleben with a committee second to approve the Audit Committee meeting report from February 12, 2022.**

**Motion carried.**

**M-4 Moved by Jamie Alsleben with a committee second that a report out of the Audit Committee's recommendation happens by the next time the Audit Committee is reconvened.**

**Motion carried.**

**M-5 Moved by Rodney Rowe with a committee second to approve the Organizing for Settlement Fund items as presented:**

LOANS

1. Approval of a loan in the amount of \$39,350.00 to Education Minnesota-Fillmore Central for unusual negotiation expenses.

GRANTS

1. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$5,877.74 (80% of \$7,347.17 allowable expenses) to Education Minnesota-Crosby-Ironton for unusual negotiation expenses.
2. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$5,357.75 (80% of \$6,697.19 of allowable expenses) to Montevideo Education Association for unusual negotiation expenses.
3. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$362.50 (80% of \$453.12 of allowable expenses) to University Education Association for unusual negotiation expenses.
4. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$4,395.94 (80% of \$5,494.92 of allowable expenses) to Ely Education Association for unusual negotiation expenses.
5. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$10,744.14 (80% of \$13,430.17 of allowable expenses) to Education Minnesota-Greenway, Local No. 1330 for unusual negotiations expenses.
6. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$2,220.30 (80% of \$2,775.37 of allowable expenses) to Grand Meadow-Maple Valley Education Association for unusual negotiations expenses.
7. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$13,852.66 (80% of \$17,315.82 of allowable expenses) to Goodhue Education Minnesota for unusual negotiations expenses.
8. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$46,951.81 (80% of \$58,689.76 of allowable expenses) to Education Minnesota-Worthington for unusual negotiations expenses.
9. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$4,520.00 (80% of \$5,650.00 of allowable expenses) to Education Minnesota-St. Louis County Local 1406 for unusual negotiations expenses.
10. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$1,722.34 (80% of \$2,152.92 of allowable expenses) to Nicollet Education Association for unusual negotiations expenses.
11. Approval of a grant in the amount of \$11,342.37 (80% of \$14,177.96 of allowable expenses) to Education Moorhead for unusual negotiation expenses.

**Motion carried.**

Consent agenda:

**M-6 Moved, using unanimous consent, without objection, to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented:**

- **Minutes of January 15, 2022 Governing Board Meeting**
- **NEA RA State-Credentialed Delegate Certification**
- **Certify New Local: Education Minnesota Brainerd Confidential**
- **Certify New Local: Ortonville Education Support Professionals**
- **Certify New Local: West Central Education District Association**
- **Certify New Local: Springfield Paraprofessionals**

**Vice President's Report:** Vice President Ryan Fiereck reported on the following (full report on file):

- Vice President Fiereck and Secretary-Treasurer Rowe are participating on a Retirement Pension Task Force
- A full written report of Vice President Fiereck's first six weeks is on file

**President’s Report:** President Denise Specht reported on the following (full report on file):

- 2022 Representative Convention will be held at the RiverCentre; delegate registration deadline is March 18, 2022
- Peterson-Schaubach award nominations have been re-opened and will remain open until March 1; please take a moment to nominate one of the outstanding leaders you know

**M-7 Moved by Tammy Knapper with a second from Julie Jagusch that the Officers set a date for the April meeting of the Governing Board and the calendar be amended accordingly.**

**Motion carried.**

**Executive Director’s Report:** Executive Director Carrie Lucking reported on the following (full report on file):

- The progress on organizational priorities in her first 100 days as Executive Director
- Focus on building strong staff relationships and collaboration within the organization
- Director of Public Affairs Kathi Micheletti gave a legislative update

**Unfinished Business:**

**Priority Updates:**

**Racial Equity:** Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Athelgra Williams updated the board on the Racial Equity priority, including the integration of the Affirmative Involvement Plan (AIP) into the work of the Racial Justice Planning Committee (RJPC).

The board recessed for lunch at 12:00 PM

The board reconvened after lunch at 12:46 PM

**Union of Strong Unions:** Director of Field Services, Rob Gardner, gave an update on MFT and SPFE as they are readying for strikes in the coming weeks. Local petitions were shared via email with the board. Chief Financial Officer Mike Roehl presented on the strike loan program which makes loans available to striking members through a partnership between Education Minnesota and Saint Paul Federal Credit Union.

**New Business:**

**Proposed Constitution and Bylaws amendments:** Secretary-Treasurer Rodney Rowe presented the proposed amendments on behalf of the committee and was in attendance while the Constitution and Bylaws committee reviewed the proposals.

**M-8 Moved by Rodney Rowe, seconded by Marty Fridgen, to take a position of support for proposed Bylaw Amendment 1.**

**37 Yes                      2 No                      0 Abstain**

**Motion carried.**

**M-9 Moved by Wendy Drugge-Wuensh, with a second from Kate Schmidt, to take a position of support for proposed Bylaw Amendment 2.**

**39 Yes                      0 No                      0 Abstain**

**Motion carried.**

**M-10 Moved by Kim Thole, with a second from Valerie Holthus, to take a position of support for proposed Bylaw Amendment 3.**

**39 Yes            0 No            0 Abstain**

**Motion carried.**

**RC Rules:** Secretary-Treasurer Rodney Rowe presented the proposed changes to the Representative Convention Rules on behalf of the Rules Committee.

**M-11 Moved, using unanimous consent, without objection, to approve the RC Rules changes as presented.**

**Open Forum:**

**Yasmin Muridi:** The website is very confusing and not intuitive. It would be helpful to convene another group to offer feedback and insight.

**Marty Fridgen:** FYI the NEA RA will be in Chicago, IL. Planning for both virtual and in-person attendance options.

**Monica Byron:** Piggy backing on Yasmin's comment, the search function of the website is not intuitive, Education Minnesota should solicit additional voice and feedback from members.

**Marty Scofield:** Appointed to the MN AFL-CIO general board on Thursday.

**Yasmin Muridi:** ESPs need support for the Unemployment Insurance bill that is coming up.

**Michelle Dennard:** Raised a concern about elections materials not getting into building on time.

**Kim Thole:** Elections issues – one voting day fell on a snow day, causing fall out and limited voting time. Sought advice from General Counsel Aron on online elections; union elections are governed by the LMRDA which does not currently support online elections.

**Adjourn:** The board adjourned at 1:58 p.m.