



## CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

### **Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Organizational Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

#### **Call to Order – Welcome Visitors**

Board President Dr. Debra Rich called the Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Meeting to order via Zoom at 5:02 p.m. Board members present were: Dennis Craun, Kathy Enslin, Maureen Hanson, Dr. Darshini Jayawardena via Zoom, Nicole Lovik-Blaser, and Dr. Mary Stevens. Bryan Burton joined the meeting via Zoom at 5:09 p.m. Absent was Dr. Tony Reid.

Also present were: Chief Administrator Stan Rheingans; Asst. Chief Administrator/Director of HR Karl Kurt; CFO/Board Treasurer Jennifer Coombes via Zoom, Directors Beth Strike, Tesha Moser-Zimmerman and Annette Hyde, and Board Secretary Lori Thomas.

Visitors attending were: Stephanie Nederhoff (Zoom) and Heidi Nederhoff (Zoom) and staff members Jodi Johnson, Tiffanie Nederhoff, Pam Morrissey, Dr. Bill Soesbe (Zoom), Liz Del Castillo (Zoom) and Angela Gansen (Zoom).

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Kathy Enslin made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Public Comments**

Jodi Johnson, Special Education Consultant asked to address the board and read a prepared statement concerning her request to resign mid-year from her position with Central Rivers AEA. Jodi shared that she has been happy at the agency and wishes to leave her position in order to work at a different educational agency in the state. Jodi thanked the board for the opportunity to address them.

Tiffanie Nederhoff, Early Childhood Special Education Consultant asked to address the board and read a prepared statement concerning her request to resign mid-year from her position with Central Rivers AEA. Tiffanie shared that she wishes to leave her position in order to work at a different educational agency in the state. Tiffanie presented a list of concerns that she experienced related to her resignation request. Tiffanie thanked the board for the opportunity to address them.



## CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

### **Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Organizational Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

#### **Elect a Board President - Administer Oath of Office**

Chief Administrator Stan Rheingans opened the floor for nominations for Board President. Maureen Hanson nominated Dr. Debra Rich. There were no other nominations made. Maureen Hanson made a motion to cease nominations and elect Dr. Debra Rich as Board President for 2025, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Board Secretary Lori Thomas issued a roll call vote with seven voting in favor and Dr. Debra Rich abstaining. Motion passed. Stan Rheingans administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Debra Rich who then took the chair.

#### **Elect a Board Vice-President - Administer Oath of Office**

Board President Dr. Debra Rich opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice-President. Kathy Enslin nominated Maureen Hanson. There were no other nominations made. Kathy Enslin made a motion to cease nominations and elect Maureen Hanson as Board Vice-President for 2025, seconded by Nicole Lovik-Blaser. Motion passed with Maureen Hanson abstaining. Dr. Debra Rich administered the Oath of Office to Maureen Hanson.

#### **Appoint a Board Secretary - Administer Oath of Office**

Bryan Burton made a motion to appoint Lori Thomas to continue to serve as board secretary, seconded by Kathy Enslin. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Debra Rich administered the Oath of Office to Lori Thomas. Lori thanked the board for the privilege to continue to serve as board secretary.

#### **Appoint a Board Treasurer - Administer Oath of Office**

Maureen Hanson made a motion to appoint Jennifer Coombes to continue to serve as board treasurer, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Debra Rich administered the Oath of Office to Jennifer Coombes. Jennifer thanked the board for appointing her as board treasurer.

#### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Kathy Enslin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented with two exceptions: the mid-year resignation from Jodi Johnson and the mid-year resignation from Tiffanie Nederhoff, which were not approved, motion seconded by Bryan Burton. Motion carried unanimously. Kathy acknowledged the staff retirements and expressed her well-wishes to all of them, specifically mentioning Jackie Fober and the great work she has done at the agency.



## CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

### Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Organizational Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024

#### Approval of Board Meeting Dates for 2025

Nicole Lovik-Blaser made a motion to set the meeting dates for 2025 as recommended, seconded by Kathy Enslin. Motion passed unanimously. The board will meet on the following Wednesdays at 5:00 P.M. in 2025.

- January 8, 2025
- February 5, 2025
- March 5, 2025
- April 2, 2025 (Annual, joint board meeting with the community colleges)
- May 7, 2025
- June 4, 2025
- \*July 23, 2025 (July/August Combined)
- September 3, 2025
- October 1, 2025
- November 5, 2025
- December 3, 2025

#### Appoint Committee Members for 2025

Dennis Craun made a motion to continue with the current committee appointments and appoint Kathy Enslin to the newly formed Ad Hoc Committee, seconded by Bryan Burton. Motion passed unanimously. The committee appointments for 2025 are as follows:

- Iowa AEA Ad Hoc Committee: Kathy Enslin
- Iowa AEA Executive Board: Dr. Debra Rich
- Audit Committee: Bryan Burton, Kathy Enslin, Maureen Hanson, Nicole Lovik-Blaser
- Board Policy Committee: Dennis Craun, Kathy Enslin, Maureen Hanson, Dr. Debra Rich
- Facility Committee: Dennis Craun, Dr. Tony Reid, Dr. Mary Stevens

#### Appoint Legal Counsel for 2025

Dr. Mary Stevens made a motion to appoint both Ahlers & Cooney and Swisher & Cohrt to continue to serve as Legal Counsel for 2025, seconded by Kathy Enslin. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Approval of Depository Banks & Establish Limits for 2025

Kathy Enslin made a motion to approve Farmers State Bank as a depository bank with a limit not to exceed \$25,000,000 (twenty-five million), and Lincoln Savings Bank as a depository bank with a limit not to exceed \$15,000,000 (fifteen million), seconded by Maureen Hanson. Motion passed unanimously.



## CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

### **Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Organizational Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

#### **Approval of District Transportation Agreements 2024-25**

Kathy Enslin made a motion to approve the District Transportation Agreements for 2024-25 that are currently on file, seconded by Dr. Mary Stevens. Motion passed unanimously. Stan Rheingans thanked Lori Thomas for her work with the districts on the transportation agreements.

#### **Approval of the Agreement with Access Systems**

Maureen Hanson made a motion to approve the agreement with Access Systems for copiers, seconded by Kathy Enslin. Motion passed unanimously. Tesha Moser-Zimmerman acknowledged Sarah Nelson for her work on reducing the number of agency copiers.

#### **Approval to Waive Board Policy and Close Agency Offices on December 24, 2024**

Maureen Hanson made a motion to approve waiving Board Policy 401.12: Holidays and approve December 24, 2024, to be included as an identified office closed day for 2024-25, seconded by Dennis Craun. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Reports to/from Board:**

##### **Stan Rheingans, Chief Administrator**

Stan gave an update on the AEA Task Force Committee and shared that the committee members will meet again prior to March 2025.

##### **Karl Kurt, Asst. Chief Administrator/Director of HR**

Karl reported on a presentation he and Beth Strike gave to the Rotary Club regarding our services and mentioned that he will be attending a labor management meeting soon.

##### **Beth Strike, Director of Creative Services/Communications**

Beth shared that the presentation to the Rotary Club went well and the members asked many good questions regarding the AEA's services.

##### **Annette Hyde, Executive Director of Special Education**

Annette relayed that she is working closely with other AEAs to streamline services for assistive tech needs. She also noted that she recently attended the Special Ed Law Conference with several staff members.

##### **Tesha Moser-Zimmerman, Executive Director of Ed Services**

Tesha commented that Central Rivers AEA and Keystone AEA are collaborating together in order to effectively deliver services to their districts.

**Board Members Dr. Mary Stevens, Kathy Enslin, and Dennis Craun**



## CENTRAL RIVERS AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

### Central Rivers AEA Board of Directors Organizational Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Mary, Kathy, and Denny all shared that they appreciated the opportunity to attend the IASB Convention and enjoyed meeting the Keystone board members.

#### **Dr. Debra Rich, Board President**

Deb thanked the agency for the opportunity to attend this year's IASB Convention and reported that she also attended the IAAEA State Meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

Dr. Debra Rich declared the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. on a motion by Dr. Mary Stevens and seconded by Kathy Enslin. .

#### **Respectfully Submitted,**

*Lori A. Thomas*

Lori Thomas, Central Rivers AEA Executive Assistant/Board Secretary

*Dr. Debra Rich 1-8-25*

Dr. Debra Rich, Board President