



MEEKER AND WRIGHT SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

Board Meeting - Joint Powers Board #0938

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 - 6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes - Official

Present: Amy Johnson, Gena Jacobson, Jessica Johnson, Colleen Carlson, Kelsey Puncochar, Julie Rae Pennertz, Cindy Miller

Others Present: Melissa Hanson, Heidi Hennen, Caren Heltne, Rebecca Atkinson, Emily Schneider

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jessica Johnson and seconded by Gena Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Colleen Carlson and seconded by Kelsey Puncochar. The board unanimously approved the consent agenda which included:

- Minutes of Previous Board Meeting
- Bills for Payment and other financial reports
- Personnel Items as follows:

Resignation of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Sherri Blomker	Paraprofessional	August 14, 2023

Employment of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Megean Friederichs	1.0 FTE Teacher Trek	August 21, 2023
Kathy Lee	1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional-VRAP	August 21, 2023



Employment of the following staff (continued):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Laura Skouge	1.0 FTE Special Education	August 21, 2023-
	Paraprofessional-VRAP (temp)	November 20, 2023
Linda Wharram	Special Education	August 1, 2023 -
	Supervisor Consultant	June 30, 2024

Leaves of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Natalie Dunning	School Psychologist	Appr. Jan. 22, 2024- June 5, 2024

V. Reports

A. Executive Director Report

General Updates

A “Policy Retreat” to organize the review process and review a large number of policies was held in July. Policies will continue to be reviewed at the admin level and brought to the policy committee for their review and feedback.

Melissa attended the MDE/MASA Back to School Conference in August to learn more about the MDE’s guidance following the 2023 legislative session.

MAWSECO Employees & Staffing

School Nurses of MN (SNOM) has selected Jolie Holland, LSN, as the 2023 MN School Nurse of the year.

MAWSECO Administrators participated in a supervision training led by Elizabeth Sullivan and Melissa Hanson on August 7th where a variety of topics were covered including the supervisor’s role in the ADA Interactive Process.

August brings a number of Back to School Staff Trainings and Inservices for our employees. We look forward to welcoming new and returning staff to the 2023-2024 school year!

B. Business Manager Report

HITA Bid Process



Final decision was made on July 27, 2023 with the committee deciding to move to Medica under the Minnesota Healthcare Consortium. There is a 10.27% increase associated with this move.

Negotiations

Tentative agreement was reached with the EdMN MAWSECO group on August 8, 2023. Next steps are for the union to vote on the tentative agreement and then board approval would be needed to fully ratify the contract.

FY23 Year End/Audit Preparation/FY24 Planning/Preparation

Preparations for the FY23 audit continue as things are wrapped up for the year end.

FY24 budget meetings have already begun with the programs and are being planned for the itinerant groups.

Short Term Borrowing

The full amount borrowed on July 12, 2023, was paid back in full on August 3, 2023 after 22 days. The total interest paid was \$1,453.47.

C. Alternative Program Administrator Report

General Updates

Caren Heltne, Assistant Director of Care and Treatment Programs, and Rebecca Atkinson, Program Administrator, gave updates on staffing and position changes. Rebecca Atkinson has started as the Program Administrator and will be supporting the Village Ranch Alternative Program. Policies were reviewed over the summer and new procedures are being developed. The care and treatment program staff will attend a Nurtured Heart Approach training in August.

Village Ranch Alternative Program

Village Ranch Alternative Program will begin the school year with approximately 35 students. The addition to the school at VRAP is anticipated to be approved sometime this fall. Once the plan is approved, building will begin. School schedules will be modified to accommodate having one less classroom. It is anticipated that construction will be completed by December to allow them to move into the new space over the holiday break.



Sholund School for Girls

Sholund will begin with approximately 10 students and is expected to increase to 12 students within the month of September. Staff will be implementing some program changes and additional training to better support the students.

Wings

Wings experienced water damage as a result of the sprinkler system being set off and the extent of the damage is still being assessed.

VI. Action Items

A. Old Business

1. A motion to approve the listed policy changes was made by Jessica Johnson and seconded by Gena Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.
Policies included: 102, 202, 418, 419, 424, 507, 514, 516.5, 524, 535

B. New Business

1. Policy Review [First Reading]
The following policies were presented for a first reading.
406.p, 410, 413, 414, 504, 506, 515, 526, 529, 532, 534, 602, 706, 722
2. A motion to approve the 2023-24 MAWSECO Program Student handbook was made by Julie Rae Pennertz and seconded by Gena Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the MAWSECO Fiscal Compliance and Procedures Manual was made by Gena Jacobson and seconded by Cindy Miller. Motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to set the date of Wednesday, August 30, 2023 for a special board meeting to take action on EdMN MAWSECO Master Agreement was made by Jessica Johnson and seconded by Kelsey Puncochar. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Future Board Meetings

- A. September 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, MAWSECO Education Center, Howard Lake
- B. October 30, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, MAWSECO Education Center, Howard Lake

VIII. Adjournment



Meeting Date:
Tuesday, August 22nd, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

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