

**Union County Educational Services Commission  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 10, 2024**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

This meeting was posted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings act PL 1975 Chapter 231.

This meeting was called to order at: 7:06pm

**1. Attendance Roll Call**

Roll call by verbal roll call. There were present:

Berkeley Heights	Ms. Gale Bradford
Clark	Ms. Lorraine j. Aklonis
Cranford	
Elizabeth	
Garwood	Ms. Linda Koenig
Hillside	Ms. Laquana Best
Kenilworth	
Linden	
Mountainside	Ms. Dana Guidici Pietro
New Providence	
Plainfield	Mr. Rashon Hasan (arrived 7:15pm)
Rahway	Ms. Jennifer Moteiro
Roselle	
Roselle Park	
Scotch Plains/Fanwood	Ms. Debora Brody
Springfield	
Summit	
Union	Ms. Elsie Mackey (arrived 7:40pm)
U. C. Vo-Tech	Ms. Gwen Ryan
Westfield	
Winfield	
Superintendent	
Board Secretary	Ms. Gina Hidalgo (on behalf of Eric Larson)

**2. Salute to the flag**

**3. Recognize the public and ask for comments on agenda items only - None**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION:

It was moved by Ms. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Best, and carried by roll call vote, to approve the items below:

4. Motion to approve the following Executive Committee Action taken on December 20, 2023

Personnel Agenda dated December 20, 2023 (Att. A)

Motion to approve the attached proposal for \$15,500 to develop HVAC specifications and to oversee air balancing at the Lamberts Mill Road building. This is the last phase of the upgrade of the entire HVAC system (Att B)

5. Motion to approve the following Executive Committee Action taken on January 3, 2024

Check Register for the month ended 12/31/2023 for \$6,655,896.92 (Att. 5)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, Motiero, Brody & Ryan

Nays: None Abstain: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

6. It was moved by Ms. Moteiro and seconded by Ms. Guidici Pietro, and carried by unanimous voice vote, to move into Executive Session at 7:09 pm for the purpose of reviewing 2 HIB Cases #24-04 & HIB Case #24-05. Any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as practicable.

The Board of Directors meeting returned to open session at 7:11 p.m. on motion of Ms. Koenig, and seconded by Ms. Brody, and carried, by unanimous voice vote.

END OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

MINUTES:

It was moved by Ms. Koenig, seconded by Ms. Moteiro, and carried by voice vote, to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of December 6, 2023.

7. Motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of December 6, 2023 (Att. 1)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, & Motiero

Nays: None Abstain: Ryan  
Brody

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

John Marquet presented an overview of HAN.

It was moved by Ms. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Guidici Pietro, and carried by unanimous voice vote, to approve the following:

8. Motion to approve the Report of the Superintendent for January 2024 (Att. 2)

FINANCE:

It was moved by Ms. Best and seconded by Mr. Hasan, and carried by roll call vote, to approve items 9 - 12:

9. Motion to approve the Secretary's Financial Reports:

Board Secretary's Report dated November 2023 (Att. 3)  
Detailed Budget Report & Summary Budget Report dated 12/31/23 (Att. 4)  
Budget adjustments and line item transfers for December 2023 (Att. 6)

10. Motion to approve the attached check register for the School Lunch Account  
December 2023 with a total of \$23,790.12 (Att. 7)

11. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 6:30-213, over expenditure of funds requires certification from the Board Secretary on the status of account and fund balances

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Board of Directors does hereby acknowledge that there are no line item accounts showing a deficit balance for the month of December 2023

AND FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby acknowledges that a deficit balance does not exist in any major category

12. Motion to approve funding of \$2,000 per school year to be used for custodian training.

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, Hasan, Motiero, Brody, Mackey & Ryan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

PROGRAMS:

It was moved by Mr. Guidici Pietro and seconded by Ms. Best, and carried by roll call vote, to approve items 13-16A:

13. Motion to approve the Schedule of Tuitions, Fees and Surcharges for the Union County Educational Services Commission's Programs and Services for the 2024-2025 school year  
(Att. 8)
14. Motion to approve agreement with Atlantic Health regarding funds for Project Search program.  
(Att. 9)
15. Motion to approve the use of the New Jersey School Climate Improvement Survey in all schools and departments
16. Motion to approve agreement with Kid Clan Services for services and evaluations  
(Att. 9A)
- 16A. **Motion to approve the affiliation agreement between UCESC and East Stroudsburg University for internships.**  
(Att.9B)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, Hasan, Motiero, Brody, Mackey & Ryan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

TRANSPORTATION:

It was moved by Ms. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Moteiro, and carried by roll call vote, to approve items 17-19:

17. Motion to approve Amendments to Existing Transportation Contracts dated January 11, 2023, in accordance with the contractual provisions relative to adjusted mileage and the contractor's bid for adjusted miles  
(Att. 10)
18. Motion to approve Emergency Contract payments for the month of December to the listed contractors at the costs indicated  
(Att. 11)
19. Motion to approve the attached Emergency/Negotiated contracts  
(Att.12)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, Motiero, Brody, Mackey & Ryan

Nays: None

Abstain: Hasan (# 18 & 19)

TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES:

It was moved by Ms. Best and seconded by Mr. Hasan, and carried by roll call vote, to approve item #20:

20. Motion to authorize in advance, as required by statute and Commission policies and regulations, attendance at the specified professional development conferences/workshops/programs by the employees listed for the dates and costs indicated on the attached Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form (Att. 13)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Koenig, Best, Guidici Pietro, Hasan, Motiero, Brody, Mackey & Ryan

Nays: None

Abstain: None

PERSONNEL:

It was moved by Ms. Guidici Pietro and seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried by roll call vote, to approve items 21 & 22:

21. Motion to adopt, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:28-9.11(d), the attached Resolution of Censure related to board member Linda Koenig. (Att. 14)

22. Motion to approve the personnel agenda dated January 10, 2024 as recommended by the Superintendent (Att. 15)

Ayes: Bradford, Aklonis, Best, Guidici Pietro, Hasan, Motiero, Brody, Mackey & Ryan

Nays: None

Abstain: Koenig

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Koenig suggested that the November Board of Education elections should be moved to June to get a better turn out as well as it would give the new candidate/s more time to “get up to speed” before the new school year.

RECOGNIZE THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Guerriero reminded the attendees that a notice went out regarding “Unsung Hero Award” and to pass on the information to the school staff.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be at 7:00 p.m., **Wednesday, February 7, 2024** in the second floor conference room at 45 Cardinal Drive, Westfield, N.J.

ADJOURNMENT:

On the motion of Ms. Motiero seconded by Ms. Best and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric Larson", written in dark ink.

Eric Larson, Board Secretary