



MEEKER AND WRIGHT SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

Board Meeting - Joint Powers Board #0938

Tuesday, July 22, 2025 - 5:00 pm

Meeting Minutes - Official

Present: Sarah Baker, Gena Jacobson, Jessica Johnson, Kelsey Puncochar, Jen Rasset

Absent: Alex Carlson, Cindy Miller

Others Present: Melissa Hanson, Kim Geurts, Emily Schneider

I. Call to Order/Board Roll Call

The Regular meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

A roll call was conducted.:

Sarah Baker: Present

Alex Carlson: Absent

Gena Jacobson: Present

Jessica Johnson: Present

Cindy Miller: Absent

Kelsey Puncochar: Present

Jen Rasset: Present

A quorum was established.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Gena Jacobson and seconded by Kelsey Puncochar. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Consent Agenda

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

- Minutes of Previous Board Meeting
- Bills for Payment and other financial reports as attached



■ Personnel Items

○ *Employment of the following staff:*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Laura Affeldt	1.0 FTE Paraprofessional, STEP	August 11, 2025
Logan Brunner	1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Village Ranch	August 11, 2025
Meggann Carlson	On-Call Speech/Language Pathologist	July 1, 2025- July 30, 2026
Colleen Carlson	1.0 FTE Director of Educational Programs	August 1, 2025
Joanna Cochran	On-Call ECSE Teacher	July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
Lea Dobbs	On-Call ECSE Teacher	July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
Emily Hilbelink	0.05 FTE Behavior Analyst	July 2, 2025- June 30, 2026
Angie Lauderbaugh	On-Call Speech/Language Pathologist	July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
Krista Looft	On-Call ECSE Teacher	July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
Karie Miller	On-Call ECSE Teacher	July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
Maddison Strang	1.0 FTE Paraprofessional, Cornerstones	August 11, 2025

● *Contract Changes/Approvals/Position Changes*

- *Reinstatement: Gregory Amundson, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Eastern Wright, Effective August 25, 2025*
- *Reinstatement: Cassandra Drusch, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Trek, Effective August 25, 2025*
- *Reinstatement: Olivia Engel, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, STEP, Effective August 25, 2025*



- *Reinstatement: Kristina Yaedke, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Journeys, Effective August 25, 2025*

V. Reports

Executive Director Report

MAWSECO welcomes Dr. Daniel Edwards as the new superintendent of Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted Schools. Staffing efforts continue, with several positions still open and recruitment ongoing. The Director of Educational Programs position has been successfully filled. Updated guidance on special education licensure emphasizes that staff working under an Out-of-Field Permission must be enrolled in a licensure program or completing a portfolio. Recent changes also allow both PELSB- and MDH-licensed speech-language pathologists to supervise SLPAs in schools, and the SLPA licensure fee has been significantly reduced. Additionally, a new Medicaid billing code is expected to allow districts to seek reimbursement for services provided by licensed SLPAs, offering a potential new funding source.

Director of Finance Report

Kim Geurts gave an update on the FY 2025-2026 preliminary purchased service billing. It has changed from 85% to 90%. She sent out the invoices to member districts. Final purchase service billings from FY 2024-25 are in progress and title billing for DC, Annandale, and Litchfield have been sent.

FY2024-25 Federal Allocation payouts: Reminder that some member districts utilize their federal allocation to pay tuition bills.

Kim gave an update on cash flow and forecast from previous conversations.

FY 2024-25 YE & Audit Planning

The team will be focusing on audit prep and completing the items necessary for the audit.

VI. Executive Director Evaluation

A Motion to go into a closed session to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(a) - Closed Meetings for Employee Evaluations was made by Gena Jacobson and seconded by Sarah Baker.

Roll Call vote:

Gena Jacobson- Aye

Sarah Baker- Aye



Kelsey Puncochar-Aye

Jen Rasset-Aye

Jessica Johnson-Aye

Motion passed unanimously and the board entered into closed session at 5:35 PM

Cindy Miller arrived.

Motion to reopen the meeting at 6:35pm was made by Sarah Baker, and seconded by Cindy Miller. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Future Board Meetings

- A. August 26, 2025, 5:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, MAWSECO Ed Center, Howard Lake
- B. September 23, 2025, 5:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, MAWSECO Ed Center, Howard Lake
- C. October 28, 2025, 5:00 p.m., Regular Board Meeting, MAWSECO Ed Center, Howard Lake

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. was made by Gena Jacobson and seconded by Jen Rasset. Motion carried unanimously.

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