



Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency
Held Virtually due to the COVID-19 Closure

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8, 2021

President Hewitt called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Present: David Hewitt, Ed Haynor, Sarah Robinson, Karen Kasankiewicz

Absent: Laura Johnson

Visitors: Lori Tubbergen Clark, Gretchen Spedowske, Jodi DeKuiper,
Nicole Skrabis, Lynette Hodges, Corinne Toth, Ryan Ergang, Tami Jacobs, Karen
Milborne, Jodie Ruehmeier, Bernard Brown, Emily Truax (recorder)

ROLL CALL

Motion by Karen Kasankiewicz, supported by Ed Haynor, to approve the agenda. Roll Call
Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays—None. Motion unanimously
carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE
AGENDA**

President Hewitt inquired if there were any citizens who wished to address the board. Mrs.
Tami Jacobs thanked the Career-Tech Educators for their service in recognition of national
CTE month. Jacobs added that Career-Tech is an essential program for students now more
than ever, and that our team of Career-Tech educators are hard workers who are dedicated
to their students.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Jodi DeKuiper presented the [January, 2021 Financial Report](#).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Hodges presented the January ECOL report and noted that 100% of students had two-
way communications with instructors.

**NEW
BUSINESS/DISCUSSION
ITEMS**

Mr. Brown presented a Career-Tech Center mid-year report, which centered around how
remote learning impacted grades and attendance. A team was formed to provide more
tailored support to students.

The board reviewed the following consent agenda items:

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve the regular meeting minutes of January 11, 2021.
- b. Approve the bills for January, 2021.

General Fund	\$400,179.74
Special Education Fund	\$567,005.44
School Lunch Fund	\$7,980.70
Career-Technical Fund	\$236,336.27
Debt Retirement Fund	\$0.00
Capital Projects Fund	\$0.00
Agency Fund	\$1,288.70
NCATS Fund	\$193,568.10
Office Services Fund	\$10,982.88
TOTAL	\$1,417,359.83

Motion by Karen Kasankiewicz, supported by Ed Haynor, to approve the consent agenda. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays—None. Motion unanimously carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA
CONT.**

Motion by Karen Kasankiewicz, supported by Sarah Robinson, to approve Power of Attorney submission to ORS for the dispute with the IRS regarding the exempt status of 3% for retiree healthcare. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays—None. Motion unanimously carried.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY
TO ORS FOR DISPUTE
WITH IRS**

Motion by Ed Haynor, supported by Sarah Robinson, to cast the vote for Region 3 MASB Board of Director to Mr. Ryan Good. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays – None. Motion unanimously carried.

**REGION 3 MASB VOTE
FOR BOARD OF
DIRECTOR**

Motion by Karan Kasankiewicz, supported by Sarah Robinson, to reconfirm the ECOL plan for NC RESA center-based programs. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays – None. Motion unanimously carried.

**RECONFIRM THE ECOL
PLAN**

Mrs. Robinson provided a report regarding a potential sale of RCASCA. An interested party approached the board to purchase RCASCA, and after investigating several options including a condo structure, a partial sale or full sale of the property, none of the options provided NC RESA with a financially favorable outcome. The building appraised at \$3.4 million which is significantly less than what was invested. The committee does not recommend moving forward with a sale of the property.

**INFORMATION FROM
THE BOARD**

Mr. Haynor stated that the MASB legislative priorities list was included for board members to review.

Mr. Hewitt announced that his term is ending this year and he has decided not to seek re-election in June. Mr. Hewitt has served as an NC RESA board member for 27 years during his tenure and has done extraordinary work. Board members and administrators expressed their sincere appreciation for his leadership and his many years of service.

The timeframes for election were distributed by the County Clerk's Office, and each local board will have a voting representative that will come together on Tuesday, June 7th. Mr. Haynor asked that we encourage Fremont to seek out a consensus candidate from their area to ensure as many local districts as possible was represented on the board.

Superintendent Tubbergen Clark reported on the following items:

- The House passed their supplemental budget last week with an emphasis on summer school and credit recovery. The Governor and Senate will release their budgets in next week. Dr. Clark shared that she requested retirement reimbursement (147a) money for ISD's in the Governor's budget. This is something that only local districts benefit from. Meanwhile, schools are still waiting for ESSER dollars to be released while trying to plan for summer programs. Dr. Clark will meet with superintendents and Rep. VanSingel for a Legislative update on Friday.
- NC RESA is working to participate in the state's antigen testing program. The state has provided enough rapid antigen tests for every school person across Michigan to

**INFORMATION FROM
THE SUPERINTENDENT**

be tested once a week. These tests are optional and are not for student use. Once completing the training, our team expressed concern over the thousands of dollars it would cost to properly dispose of the required bio-medical containers. This question caused the state to pause this program since disposal of the containers had not been considered. We are waiting for answers in terms of implementation protocol.

- Dr. Clark will send an email to Superintendent White and Mr. Good from Hesperia to inform them of our vote supporting Mr. Good's election to the MASB Board of Directors.

Jodi DeKuiper, Chief Financial Officer, reported that Ms. Renouf will start the process of working on next year's budget as part of her new role and will continue to do payroll until the 15th. Dr. Clark shared that the interview and skills assessment testing protocol followed by personal interviews has been a very successful process.

Ryan Ergang, Director of Maintenance, reported on the following items:

- A new boiler system was installed at the Neway Center.
- All buildings now have the backbone for access control to assist with contact tracing and building security.
- The new entryway at CTC passed building construction and fire safety inspections. State officials were impressed with the lockdown devices and expressed that NC RESA should share what they did with other schools across Michigan.
- NC RESA partnered with DHD #10 to host a vaccine clinic by sharing space at the ESC building. Two more sessions are scheduled.

Nicole Skrabis, Director of Elementary Learning, announced that GSRP is currently serving 257 preschoolers, and that the Office of Great Start is working to implement the P-EBT food card program for preschool students.

Gretchen Spedowske, Director of Career and Employability Services/CEPD, provided information on the upcoming virtual career fair, summer internship application process and CTC competitions.

Lynette Hodges, Director of Prevention and Intervention, thanked the maintenance team for their work on the boiler system at Neway and shared that Tom Humpage began his transition to Supervisor of Special Education services.

Motion by Ed Haynor, supported by Sarah Robinson, to adjourn. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Haynor, Kasankiewicz, Robinson, Hewitt; Nays – None. Motion unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

David Hewitt, President

Laura M. Johnson, Secretary