

**NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING #5, FY18
AGENDA
Ogle County Education Center
Byron, IL
May 16, 2018
5:00 p.m.**

Open Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Ogle County Education Center
Type of meeting: Regular
Name of person taking the minutes: Jean Tritle, Board Secretary
Name of person(s) presiding: Kim Moore, Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 4:58 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members in attendance:

1. Dennis Daly
2. Melissa Geyman
3. Susie Kopacz
4. Kathleen Kreller
5. Kimberly Moore
6. Mike Noble
7. Crystal Swan-Gravatt

Absent:

1. Kathy Countryman
2. Pamela Ransom
3. Cheryl Robinson
4. Leatrice Satterwhite
5. Corena Steinmeyer

Also present:

1. Jon Malone, Regional Director
2. Jean Tritle, Board Secretary

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the agenda
Motion seconded by: Swan-Gravatt

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Reception of Guests & Visitors & Opportunity for Public Comment

Jennifer Bochenek and her husband attended the meeting to inform the Board members about her concerns over the non-renewal of her contract for the 2018-2019 school year. She presented each Board member with a written copy of her rebuttal.

V. CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGAINST LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY TO DETERMINE ITS VALIDITY SECTION 2.01 [5 ILCS 120/2.01].

Motion made by: Daly

Motion: to move into Closed Session at 5:02 p.m.

Motion seconded by: Geyman

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

Motion made by: Daly

Motion: to return to Open Session at 5:42 p.m.

Motion seconded by: Noble

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt, Daly

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of FY18 Meeting #4 on April 4, 2018**
- B. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of FY18 Meeting #4 on April 4, 2018**
- C. Approval of the Personnel Report for May 2018**
- D. Approval of Accounts Payable for the months of April 2018 and May 2018**
- E. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Treasurer’s Report for the month of March 2018**

Motion made by: Daly

Motion: to approve the Consent Agenda

Motion seconded by: Geyman

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

VII. REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Action Plan Update

Malone reminded the Board members of their annual obligation to complete the Statement of Economic Interest and the FOIA and OMA training.

Malone reported that all surveys have been completed for the year and the results of each have been shared with member districts and NIA staff. Leaders rounded with their staff members approximately 4 times this year and they have completed their 180 day action plans. All leaders have received 2 days of leadership training, which included a new strategy called *Performance Conversations*. This new strategy will be implemented next year. The NIA Standards of Excellence have also been developed and rolled out to all NIA employees.

B. Quick Fact

Malone informed the Board that the FY19 daily rates have been calculated and Needs Assessment completed. The next step is to present the tentative budget for FY19 to the Board in June. with the final budget being presented in August.

C. Challenge

Malone reported that, since March, NIA has conducted nine interviews for the position of Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI) in order to fill three vacant positions. Job offers have been made to all nine candidates; eight of the candidates have turned down the position citing reasons such as low salary, high cost of family insurance, negative perception of travel requirements, or other complex reasons.

D. Board Member Resignations

Malone informed the Board that three members have submitted their resignations:

- Kim Moore will be starting a new job that requires travel
- Cheryl Robinson has a new position with her district and no longer has time available to serve on NIA's Board
- Pamela Ransom resigned for personal reasons

Malone stated that Matt Zilm, the new Director of Ogle County Special Education, has agreed to run for the open Subregion III Special Education Director seat on the Board. He asked Noble to consider staying on to fill Cheryl Robinson's seat as District Administrator for Subregion III. Malone reported that Theresa Montalbano-Owen has agreed to take the seat being vacated by Moore. Kopacz informed the Board that she will not be running for the School Board in District 300 when her term is up and, therefore, will no longer be able to also serve on the NIA Board.

Malone asked the Board members what they will do about a quorum if we cannot recruit three new members to fill the vacant positions. He added that it is particularly difficult to find Board members from Subregion III. Noble suggest that the new Director for Bi-County Special Education be asked to serve on the NIA Board.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Change in Base Responsibility Days for Audiologists

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the Change in Base Responsibility Days for Audiologists
Motion seconded by: Swan-Gravatt

Malone explained that the request to change the base responsibility days came from the Audiologists. They felt there were not enough appointments during the summer months to fill the hearing clinics. Their daily rate will be adjusted to reflect the change in base responsibility days. The decrease in their daily rate only affects the full-time Audiologists. NIA will sell fewer days but will have fuller and more efficient clinic days.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman, Kopacz

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

B. Approval of the Ballots for the FY19 election of Board Members

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the Ballots for the FY19 election of Board Members
Motion seconded by: Geyman

No discussion.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

C. Approval of the Appointment of Kathleen Kreller to the NIA Executive Board for a One-year Term as the District Administrator for Subregion II

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the Appointment of Kathleen Kreller to the NIA Executive Board for a One-year Term as the District Administrator for Subregion II
Motion seconded by: Swan-Gravatt

Malone explained that, per the Articles of Agreement, Special Education Directors and Members-at-Large are voted onto the Board in even-numbered years. Somehow we have gotten off-track, since Kreller is a District Administrator whose term expires this year. By appointing her to a one-year term, we can get back on track for electing District Administrators and Board Members in the odd-numbered years.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:

“Ayes” – Noble, Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore

“Nays” – None

Action: Approved

D. Approval of the FY19 Board Meeting Schedule

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the FY19 Board Meeting Schedule
Motion seconded by: Kreller

No discussion.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:
“Ayes” – Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble
“Nays” – None
Action: Approved

E. Approval to Negotiate Salary for 2.0 FTE Teachers of the Visually Handicapped

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the FY19 Board Meeting Schedule
Motion seconded by: Noble

No further discussion.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:
“Ayes” – Swan-Gravatt, Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble
“Nays” – None
Action: Approved

F. Approval of Salary Changes for the NIA Teaching Staff (PEL Holders in Teaching Positions)

Motion made by: Daly
Motion: to approve the FY19 Board Meeting Schedule
Motion seconded by: Kreller

Malone explained that this is necessary to keep current teaching staff salaries in line with the salaries that may be negotiated for the two Teachers of the Visually Impaired that NIA is seeking to hire. He proposed that, in addition to the 2.5% raise all NIA staff members are scheduled to receive in FY19, an additional 2.0% increase be given to teaching staff members who were hired using the Teacher Salary Guide. This would be given to 19 teaching staff members and does not include O & M Specialists or Speech/Language Pathologists. The approximate cost would be \$25,000.00.

The Chairman asked for a roll call

Roll Call:
“Ayes” – Daly, Geyman, Kopacz, Kreller, Moore, Noble, Swan-Gravatt
“Nays” – None
Action: Approved

IX. Chairperson’s Comments and Other Business

Malone thanked Kim Moore for her service to the NIA Board. He asked the Board members to contact him if they wish to take Moore’s place as Chairperson starting with the June 2018 meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT – The Chairperson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: **Daly**
Motion: **to Adjourn**
Motion seconded by: **Swan-Gravatt**

The Chairman asked for a Voice Vote:

Voice Vote:

“Ayes” – All “Nays” – None

Action: **Approved**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.