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## Board of Directors Board Minutes January 15, 2013

**Board Members** Board Chair Bob Moore, Directors Cathy Miller, Carol Moorehead, Doug Nelson, Jenni Newby and John Sundell

**HDESD Staff** John Rexford, Superintendent, Paul Andrews, Deputy Superintendent, Jayel Hayden, Executive Director of Human Resources, Greg Munn, Director of Fiscal Services, Holly Remer, Director of Healthy Beginnings, Diane Meyers, HDEA Representative and Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant

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### Call to Order

Bob Moore called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

### Changes/Additions to the Regular Agenda

Superintendent Rexford announced that January is School Board Appreciation month. Students from Child Center, BIC and EI/ECSE made cards and signs to thank the board members for their service. On behalf of the entire ESD staff, Superintendent Rexford thanked the board members for the time and energy they spend serving on the ESD Board.

### Healthy Beginnings Program Report

Holly Remer thanked the board members for providing Healthy Beginnings with a high level of support. She said the program would not survive without the support of the ESD. Healthy Beginnings (HB) is a community based program that provides free health and development screening and assessment to children birth through five years of age. This is the only HB program in Oregon. The program was developed to increase the number of children entering kindergarten ready to learn at their highest potential. The state has reported, nearly 40% of the children who enter kindergarten do not enter "prepared to learn". HB has been identified by the state's Early Learning Council as a model program to address this concern.

Children birth through five are eligible for a 12-point kid inspection. There are currently 400 professional volunteers from the community that provide one-on-one screening, referrals and parent education using evidence based assessment tools. Holly invited the board members to attend a screening. It is best to see how extensive the screening is first-hand. Superintendent Rexford added it is valuable to see the connection between the children and screeners. There are 17 full-day screening clinics per year throughout the 7 communities in central Oregon. There are no eligibility requirements. Any child, in any community, can and should attend a screening. Services are provided at no cost to the families. Parents get excellent information from the screenings that are valued at approximately \$3,000. Carol Moorehead asked if there was a way to know how many children are not being screened. Holly explained between HB and Headstart, only 12% of children receive a universal screening.

Healthy Beginnings is the only program supported by HDESD that is also a 501c3. Their staff members are employees of the High Desert ESD, but HB pays for them. Paul Andrews noted that Holly has shepherded this program from a home grown program to what it is today. She is an amazing grant writer, and she is able to procure excellent funding support for the program. Cathy inquired about the children who receive referrals but their parents cannot afford to follow up. Holly said they work closely with Healthy Kids to get children access to medical insurance. They also work with vision providers, dental providers and have created their own networking system to get services for children.

### Fiscal Report

Property tax revenue for 2012-13 has improved over 2011-12. The banking Request for Proposal (RFP) went out on January 4 and included 8 districts. The RFPs are due the end of January, and review of the RFPs will take place in February. Scott Reynolds will help review the RFPs. Greg distributed the 2013-14 budget calendar. The budget calendar and current openings on the budget committee will be on the February board agenda as an action item.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Local Service Plan**

Superintendent Rexford noted the 2013-14 Local Service Plan (LSP) is a broadly written menu of services from which the districts can select. He will be presenting the LSP to the school boards in our constituent districts. The LSP needs to be approved by the boards before 3/1/2013. Superintendent Rexford, Paul Andrews and Greg Munn will meet with the superintendents individually in April to customize their LSP to meet the needs of each district.

### **First Reading Board Policies**

- ✓ DB – District Budget – Language update
- ✓ DBDB – Fund Balance – This policy will set the fund balance at a minimum of 5%. Greg said historically we have been at about 5%. Superintendent Rexford noted we are in the business of serving children, and this policy just creates fiscal stability.
- ✓ DBEA – Budget Committee – Language update
- ✓ DIE – Audits – Language update

### **Superintendent Review Process Planning**

Bob Moore distributed a copy of the evaluation language from Superintendent Rexford's contract. Bob explained the evaluation process that has been used in the past. The Board offered to provide Superintendent Rexford with feedback six months into his contract. Superintendent Rexford said he would appreciate feedback prior to his annual evaluation. Carol feels the six month feedback should be a more informal discussion. Doug noted it would be a good time to visit with Superintendent Rexford, to discuss if he is meeting or exceeding the expectations of the Board.

Superintendent Rexford said he will be sending out his transition plan summary report to the board members by the end of the week. He would suggest the Board meet with him in executive session, prior to the February board meeting. It was decided to have a few board members review the past process, and propose a more comprehensive evaluation process going forward. Cathy, Carol and Doug volunteered to work on this. Shelley will contact other districts and ESDs to request their superintendent evaluation process. She will also contact OSBA for a sample ESD policy CBG – Evaluation of Superintendent.

### **Superintendent Report and Legislative Update**

- ✓ Regional Services Update – The “group of six” have met twice and are not discussing the details of their meetings. They have given their proposals to Rob Saxton. Speculation is that the final proposal may look more like contract services. Superintendent Rexford will let the board members know when he hears more.
- ✓ The Governor's funding proposal has received a lot of push back from K-12. They understand what a negative financial impact this would have on their budgets.
- ✓ Achievement Compact Advisory Committee Report – The committee will be bringing a preliminary recommendation to the Board by February 1. Without many details to work with, the initial proposal is likely to be very broad.
- ✓ It is very good to have Doug serving on the OSBA Board. There are other opportunities coming up: OAESD is electing a new board chair, and the OAESD Spring meeting at Eagle Crest in May. Superintendent Rexford is also working with Commissioner Baney on the Central Oregon Health Council Board.
- ✓ Jayel Hayden mentioned the OSBA Labor and Employment meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Shelley will send them the site for more information.

### **Board Chair Report**

- ✓ Doug Nelson reported the OSBA Board will be interviewing candidates for OSBA Executive Director this weekend. Bob feels that OSBA direction is more focused and much more relevant.
- ✓ Jefferson ESD Update – Bob reported that we were approached by the Jefferson ESD to consider a merger. Superintendent Rexford said it would need to be a win-win for both organizations. If we are facing a drastic funding cut, he would not support a merger. There would be much to consider: merging of taxing districts, alignment of services, the governance piece etc.
- ✓ John Sundell asked about pilot governance, and Bob said he has been assured it is being taken care of.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Approve 2013-2014 Local Service Plan**

- **Doug Nelson moved & Carol Moorehead seconded a motion to approve the 2013-14 Local Service Plan as presented. Motion carried 6-0**

### **Consent Agenda**

- **Carol Moorehead moved and Cathy Miller seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the January Personnel Report, Board Policy BBA, and the Board Minutes from December 18, 2012. Motion carried 5-0. John Sundell abstained because he was not in attendance.**

### **Adjourn**

The January 15, 2013, High Desert Education Service District Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Bob Moore, Board Chair

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Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant