



145 SE Salmon Avenue, Redmond, Oregon 97756 / P 541.693.5600 F 541.693.5601 www.hdesd.org

## Board of Directors Board Minutes November 13, 2012

**Board Members** Board Chair Bob Moore, Vice-Chair Scott Reynolds, Directors Doug Nelson, Jenni Newby, Ron Radabaugh, Terry Rahmsdorff, and John Sundell

**HDES Staff** John Rexford, Superintendent, Jayel Hayden, Executive Director of Human Resources, Dave Holmberg, ALO Coordinator, Diane Meyers, Speech/Language Assistant, Greg Munn, Director of Fiscal Services, Rachel Went-Chaney, Chief Information Officer and Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant

**Guests** Candi Fronk and Michelle Rich

---

### Call to Order

Bob Moore called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### Audit Presentation

Candi Fronk and Michelle Rich, with Harrison Price Fronk, reported the 2012 year-end audit went very well this year. They found staff to be helpful and forthcoming with information. The actuarial study of other post-employment benefits (OPEB) this year resulted with a clean opinion. Districts will be required to include their PERS liability on their financial statements beginning in 2015. There was some discussion about this requirement.

Scott Reynolds attended the Finance Committee meeting with the auditors. He complimented Greg Munn on how great things look this year considering all the change and transition during the past year. Terry Rahmsdorff asked Candi if she were in his position, is there anything the Board should be concerned about. Candi said that she did not have any concerns.

### Finance Update

Bob Moore asked Greg Munn to explain the increase in the PERS account. Money that has been credited to the ESD is put in the PERS reserve to help draw down our rates. The original plan to draw down reserves over four years would have left the reserves at approximately \$975,000 as of June 30, 2012. The general fund balance is 7.3% of revenue. Greg plans to have a fund balance policy discussion with the Finance Committee and the Board in early 2013.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Superintendent Report and Legislative Update

Superintendent Rexford asked Jayel Hayden to report on the Best Individual Supported Employment award High Desert received from Abilitree for Workforce Inclusion. This is for a supported employment position with Kathy Martin. Jayel mentioned High Desert ESD's ongoing partnership with the Opportunity Foundation of Central Oregon and the Transition Center students as well.

Superintendent Rexford reported on the OAESD Summit. They announced the committee of six, who were appointed by Deputy Superintendent Rob Saxton to further the development of a regional services model. They include the superintendents from: Eugene 4J, Phoenix Talent and John Day school districts and NW Regional, Southern Oregon and Wallowa ESDs. This group will work with a mediator, and they intend to have a report complete by Christmas. Mr. Saxton said he will be asking for feedback from board members. Superintendent Rexford noted there is much more to monitor. We will get information out to the Board as soon as it becomes available.

Superintendent Rexford has been approached by Rick Molitor, Superintendent of Jefferson County ESD, their Board is interested in exploring a merger with High Desert ESD. Superintendent Rexford has been researching the tax impact with Greg Munn. The next step will be to arrange a meeting with both superintendents and the board chairs for each ESD. Doug Nelson asked if there was a merger model available for us to follow and use as a roadmap.

Central Oregon and Eastern Oregon Superintendents met with Representative Cliff Bentz from Ontario. They discussed the needs of those small counties and the challenges of providing services in their remote locations. Superintendent Rexford understands the need for representation in the rural areas.

The Governor, in his comments to OSBA regarding PERS, mentioned limiting salary spiking, COLA, limitations on collective bargaining and aligning changes in funding. He also mentioned redirecting IAP contributions back into the fund. Superintendent Rexford said we need to continue to work for fair PERS reform.

OAESD Executive Director, Jim Mabbott, believes he has the technical language in place to extend the pilot governance model.

### **Technology Program Update**

Rachel Wentz-Chaney, Chief Information Officer, presented a brief update on what is going on with Technology throughout the region. The Technology Department has been busy helping Redmond SD integrate and convert student data to a new system. The new system is Synergy through Edupoint. In the long run, it will take fewer employees to support this new system. Any time there is a data transfer this large, there are challenges, but for the most part, the system users seem to be pleased. The ESD is out in front leading this charge, and we are making good progress. Sisters SD is interested in how they may be able to join in. Across the state, we are spending millions of dollars supporting multiple systems in data warehouse projects. However, there is more willingness around the state to consider a single software provider than there has been in years past. Dr. Crew is expecting user friendly data around the region and around the state. Regionalization of technology systems is something that Dr. Crew is interested in. We are well positioned for this move and have a place on the steering committee to provide our input.

The transition to Common Core Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment includes technology standards and technology tools. These content standards have technology woven throughout. When it comes time to test this information, technology is included in every part of the process. We are well positioned for this transition with increased bandwidth. We are transitioning from our current data warehouse to the vault data center with Bend Broadband. Security and access to data take priority.

Budget challenges are creating a lot of changes throughout the districts. Terry Rahmsdorff mentioned that he would appreciate more regular updates going forward. Bob Moore noted some of the rural districts could use us for support because of our core strength in Technology.

### **Board Chair Report**

Bob Moore asked the board members who attended the OSBA conference to share their highlights:

- ✓ John Sundell attended the workshops focused on facilities and green energy.
- ✓ Ron appreciated the opportunity to attend. He feels like he will be able to understand issues, and be a more effective as a new board member.
- ✓ Scott reported on the excellent keynote speakers and open conversations with key players in the state. The common theme was change is coming, so be part of it. He feels we will see something happen by June 30.
- ✓ Doug said the impression he got was the train has left the station, so it is important that we are on the train. Governor Kitzhaber is clearly going to be a player in education in the state. Doug attended the property tax presentation and believes there will be a movement to introduce legislation to mitigate the impact of Measure 50.
- ✓ Bob noted Rudy's focus is the importance of reading by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, teacher improvement, arts and parent involvement. He made it clear he is not here to make friends. He is here for the children, not the board members, the teachers etc...
- ✓ Bob understood the Governor's focus to be reading, teacher improvement and PERS reform.

### **First Reading**

- ✓ BBA – Board Powers and Duties – Recommend deleting reference to District Boundary Board Duties
- ✓ BBAB – District Boundary Board- Recommend deleting policy.
- ✓ CBA – Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent – Recommend removing reference to District Boundary Board

There were several recommended changes to the policies that were presented for a first reading. Shelley will contact OSBA to make sure we are working with the most current language. She will make the recommended changes and return them to the Board for consideration in December.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **OSBA Board Nomination**

- **Scott Reynolds moved and John Sundell seconded a motion to cast our vote for Doug Nelson to represent the Central Region 3 on the OSBA Board of Directors. Motion carried 7-0.**

#### **Appointment of Achievement Compact Advisory Committee**

As a result of working with Jayel and Diane we recommend appointing a committee made up of three bargaining unit members, two administrators, and the superintendent.

- **Terry Rahmsdorff moved and Doug Nelson seconded a motion to appoint Carrie Compton, Bethany Kardy, Melanie Schaefer, Paul Andrews, Jayel Hayden and John Rexford to the Achievement Compact Advisory Committee. Motion carried 7-0**

#### **Consent Agenda**

- **John Sundell moved and Terry Rahmsdorff seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the November Personnel Report, the 2013 OSBA Legislative Policies and Priorities Resolution, and the board minutes from October 16. Motion carried 7-0.**

#### **Adjourn**

The November 13, 2012, High Desert Education Service District Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

---

Bob Moore, Board Chair

---

Shelley Knutz, Executive Assistant