

**MID-STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

March 18, 2015

Minutes

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

Chairperson, Dr. Scott Doerr, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education Office in Morrisonville, Illinois.

Members Present – Mr. Richard Wilson, Morrisonville; Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Taylorville; Mr. Mike Dickson, Edinburg; Dr. David Lett, Pana; Mr. Ron Graham, South Fork; Dr. Scott Doerr, Nokomis; Mr. Brad Turner, Mulberry Grove; Mr. Jeff Strieker, Bond County; Mr. Adam Bussard, Brownstown; Mr. Rich Well, Vandalia; Mr. Mike Kelly, Carlinville; Mr. Aaron Hopper, Panhandle; Mr. David Powell, Hillsboro

Members Absent – Ms. Deb Philpot, St. Elmo; Ms. Melissa Ritter, Ramsey; Mr. John Mullett, Litchfield

Presentation of Proxies – None

Others Present – Ms. Brenda Patrick, Director; Ms. Angie Armour, Assistant Director; Ms. Crystal Lawler, Assistant Director; Ms. Jeanne Vancil, Comptroller; and Ms. Tammy Hadley, Secretary/Recorder.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Presented for review and approval:

- Regular Session Minutes from February 25, 2015
- Destruction of Executive Session audio recordings older than 18 months – September 18, 2013
- Monthly payables totaling \$247,920.62:
 - \$235,122.05 = MSSE Central
 - \$47.32 = CR/MSSE
 - \$2,911.39 = BF/MSSE
 - \$9,839.86 = MC/MSSE
- Statement of Position – as of February 28, 2015, the fund balance for MSSE was \$1,126,333.91
- Receipts vs. Expenditures Report – Revenues at 68.62% and expenditures at 65.12%.
- Ms. Patrick noted that the second quarter FY15 State Personnel payment was vouchered 12/22/2014, but still has not been received.

Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda: Mr. Well; second, Mr. Graham. Roll call yielded 13 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Excess Cost Sheet Update – Ms. Patrick reported that 14 of 16 districts have completed the revised Excess Cost Sheet. She will continue to work with districts to complete the process. Once all districts have received final approval, we will make the FY15 expenditures available to allow district bookkeepers to determine

- if they are meeting the FY15 Excess Cost Threshold. She reiterated that there are no allowable exceptions for IDEA excess cost. Ms. Patrick also reported that ISBE is revising the cost sheet for FY16, and instructions are being drafted. They will share the draft with the field test group. MSSE plans to participate.
- Financial Forum – Ms. Patrick, Ms. Vancil, and Mr. Bussard attended the second Special Education Cooperative Finance Form on Tuesday, March 10th. Again, they learned that our cooperative is unique and in a different place than other cooperatives who participated in the forum. Specifically, many of the other cooperatives maintain healthy fund balances and do not rely as heavily on their IDEA funds as we do. Additionally, there are a variety of ways that IDEA funds are divided. Some cooperatives keep all the funds, where we flow as much as possible to our member districts. Due to the excess cost requirement, the utilization of IDEA funds is one of the items the finance committee will be exploring.
 - Maintenance of Effort (MOE) – Ms. Patrick indicated a portion of the Excess Cost Sheet has been used to take an initial look at the MOE status for districts. Based on the preliminary review of the revised excess cost sheets, it appears that 9 districts have met MOE and 5 districts may have issues – 2 districts are still working through the revised excess cost sheet process. The official MOE reports are due to be released in April. If there are major differences between these reports and our preliminary review, it could indicate problems with the excess cost sheets. We are also waiting for the FY14 Per Capita to be released. If there is an increase in your per capita, you meet MOE.
 - Equalization Proposal – Ms. Patrick continues to have concerns related to Senate Bill 1 and the impact it will have on our member districts, specifically, the private facility reimbursement that will require districts to pay 3 times per capita instead of 2 times per capita and likely decrease the reimbursement to a reduced proration. It is still unclear where professional organizations stand on the bill.
 - MSSE Finance Committee – Ms. Patrick reminded the committee of the meeting following the MSSE board meeting. In addition to Ms. Patrick and Dr. Doerr, the members are Mr. Bussard, Mr. Powell, and Dr. Fuerstenau.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Infinitec FY16 Agreement for Services – Ms. Patrick presented the renewal for Infinitec. There is no increase in the membership fee. It remains at 55 cents per student. She encouraged superintendents to take advantage of the Infinitec services, when includes a program called Engage for required annual staff trainings.

Motion to approve renewal of the Infinitec Agreement for FY16: Mr. Stricker; second, Mr. Powell. Roll call yielded 12 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

- Notification of maternity leave – Ms. Patrick shared a request for maternity leave from Casey Matheson, School Psychologist serving the Taylorville School District in Christian Region. Ms. Matheson will utilize FMLA and sick time concurrently as per our policy. Her anticipated due date is May 7, 2015.

Motion to accept maternity leave request: Mr. Kelly; second, Mr. Turner. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mid-State Special Education office in Morrisonville. Also, the Governing Board is scheduled to meet Monday, March 30, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 10:17 a.m.: Mr. Well; second, Mr. Bussard. Voice vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Tammy Hadley, Recorder

Chairperson

Date

Secretary

Date