

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
A.E.R.O. SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011
A.E.R.O. BOARD ROOM

The meeting was called to order by President Johnstone at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Nicefore, 122; . MacDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; J. Amado, 229; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Admin: James W. Gunnell, Director; Christine Putlak, Asst. Director; Maggie Lesniak, Business Manager

Absent: C. McSweeney, 108; C. Passmann, 110; M. Cook, 220; R. Trzeciak, 231

Mrs. Cook reported at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Trzeciak reported at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Recognition of
Public

President Johnstone welcomed Mrs. Christine Putlak, new Assistant Director and acknowledged the members of the A.E.R.O. Education Association that were in attendance, Ms. Cynthia Tremback, Co-President; Ms. Barbara Reilly, Co-President; and Ms. Lisa Johnson, Regional Council Representative. Ms. Tremback briefly addressed the board, stating that the Transition classes' annual garage sale was held recently and even though it was cold, the classes raised nearly \$1,000 that would be put towards field trips. She also invited Board Members to attend the general A.E.R.O. Educational Association (A.E.A.) meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st at PRIDE.

Approval of
Agenda
Motion #6360
Roll Call Vote:

It was moved by Mrs. Derting, seconded by Mr. Leifker to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda.

Ayes: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. MacDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; J. Melnik, 229; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Mrs. Cook arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the A.E.R.O. Governing Board
Held on Monday, September 19, 2011
Page 2

Approval of
Special Meeting
Minutes of
08/15/11
Motion # 6361
Roll Call Vote

It was moved by Mr. Johnstone, seconded by Mrs. VanAllen,
that the Board approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Governing Board held on Monday, August 15, 2011.

Ayes: S. Niceforo, 122; T. MacDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220;
J. Melnik, 229; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays: None

Abstain: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111

Motion Carried.

The following recommendations on the consent agenda were approved as presented:

Regular August 2011 Bills, dated September 7, 2011 in the amount of
\$2,138,474.05. **(Consent Agenda Item #1)**

Education Fund (Fund 10)	\$461,715.46
Building Fund (Fund 20)	56,187.56
Transportation Fund (Fund 40)	61,551.89
IDEA Flow Through Grant (Fund 19)	1,552,834.72
Medicaid Administrative Outreach (Fund 18)	-0-
Medicaid Fee for Service (Fund 17)	6,184.42

Payrolls (Consent Agenda Item #2)

August 04, 2011, in the amount of \$110,614.89

Education Fund	\$99,076.80
Building Fund	7,735.33
Transportation Fund	3,802.76

August 19, 2011, in the amount of \$87,784.82

Education Fund	\$76,313.98
Building Fund	7,708.08
Transportation Fund	3,762.76

The following recommendations on the consent agenda were approved as presented (Cont'd.):

Approval of Personnel Recommendations (Consent Agenda Item #3)

Resignation(s)

LAST	FIRST	POSITION	PROG	EFFECT. DATE
Sweis	Angela	Instructional Assistant	Reavis	December 22, 2011

Approval of Personnel Recommendations (Cont'd.)

Employment/Re-employment Recommendations

Certificated Personnel (None)

Non-Certificated Personnel

NAME	POSITION	PROG.	FTE	STEP/ LANE	SALARY	NEW/ REHIRE/ REPLACEMENT
Sonderby, Carol	Instructional Assistant	STAR	1.0	5/5	19,477	Replacement
Triezenberg, Thomas	Instructional Assistant	STAR	1.0	1/5	17,532	Replacement

Employment/Re-employment Recommendations

Contract Agencies

NAME	POSITION	PROGRA M	FTE	SALARY (FY11)	NEW/REHIRE/ REPLACEMENT
Top Echelon Contracting Inc. Gervais, Amy	Occupational Therapist	OT	.6	\$72/hr.	Replacement/ Temp./7weeks

Notices of Intent to Retire (None)

Salary Adjustment(s) (None)

Salary Correction(s) (None)

The following recommendations on the consent agenda were approved as presented (Cont'd.):

Approval of Personnel Recommendations (Consent Agenda Item #3)

Leave of Absence Request(s)

Forsyth, Holly, PRIDE Social Worker, has requested a Family Medical Leave for up to a six week period beginning approximately September 16, 2011.

Griffin, Crystal, STAR Instructional Assistant, has requested a Family Medical Leave for up to a six week period beginning approximately August 19, 2011.

Amedeo, Jessica, Social Worker, has requested a Family Medical Leave for up to a six week period beginning August 19, 2011.

Williams, Laura, MN Teacher, has requested a Family Medical Leave for up to a six week period beginning approximately October 5, 2011.

Request to Attend Out-of-State Conference

Chwierut, Barbara, Assistive Technology Coordinator, requests the opportunity to attend the "Closing the Gap" conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from October 11-14, 2011 at a cost not to exceed \$1,335.00. (Budgeted)

Approval of Budget and Fiscal Recommendations

Medicaid Reimbursement Distribution – Fee for Service (Consent Agenda Item #4)

Authorize the Administration to disburse \$213,795.29 to Member Districts, PCG Consultants and A.E.R.O. as described in Columns "B" and "C" of the attached reimbursement schedule (for funds received as of July 31, 2011 for the Fee for Service Program.)

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the A.E.R.O. Governing Board
Held on Monday, September 19, 2011
Page 6

Midwest
Transition
(Cont'd.)

Mr. Gunnell then answered questions from the board of the contract (2 years) and whether we currently have anyone on staff to take on this role. Mr. Gunnell replied no, we have no one on staff to do this job.

Motion #6362

It was moved by Mr. Johnstone, seconded by Mrs. Derting that the Governing Board authorize the A.E.R.O. Administration to contract services from Midwest Educational Support Services and amend the A.E.R.O. FY 12 Budget.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes:

J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. MacDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220; J. Melnik, 229; R. Trzeciak, 231; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays:

None

Abstain:

Motion Carried.

Request for
Additional
Speech
Pathologist
Motion #6363

It was moved by Mrs. Derting, seconded by Mr. Leifker that the Governing Board authorize the A.E.R.O. Administration to add one half (.5) time FTE Speech Pathologist to the FY12 Early Childhood Budget.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:

J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. MacDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220; J. Melnik, 229; R. Trzeciak, 231; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays:

None

Motion Carried.

Software Purchase
for Worth Township
Treasurer

Mr. Gunnell reviewed the discussion that was held at the June 2011 Governing Board meeting regarding the Worth Township Treasurer's Office purchase of a new software system, Infinite Visions. He and Ms. Lesniak answered questions from the board regarding ongoing costs and maintenance costs. A.E.R.O.'S first year cost would be \$64,429, which is an increase of \$4,738 over what the current cost would be. A discussion took place regarding the costs and security of this new system, as well as the short notice of the decision to make this purchase. Mr. Gunnell pointed out that if A.E.R.O. does not contribute towards the purchase of this new system, we will be responsible for the entire cost of maintaining the old software. By contributing now, we are able to take advantage of the discounts being offered.

Motion #6364

It was moved by Mrs. VanAllen, seconded by Mr. Leifker that the Governing Board approve the proposed purchase of "Infinite Visions" software by the Township Treasurer and amend the FY12 Budget accordingly.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. McDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220; D. Johnstone, 104

Nays: J. Melnik, 229; R. Trzeciak, 231; B. Leifker, 123

Motion Carried.

Changes to TRS/
IMRF Speech
Language
Paraprofessional
Retirement

Mr. Gunnell reviewed the recent changes to the Speech Paraprofessionals retirement plans. They will no longer be covered by the Teacher Retirement System; instead they will be covered under the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. A.E.R.O. has four Speech Paraprofessionals that will be affected by this change. There will be an increase of \$29,282 in the FY12 A.E.R.O. Budget.

Motion #6365

It was moved by Mrs. Derting, seconded by Mrs. Cook that the Governing Board approve the Budget amendment to comply with recent changes to the Teacher Retirement System Program excluding Speech Language Paraprofessionals.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. McDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220; J. Melnik, 229; R. Trzeciak, 231; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Bills Payable
to A.E.R.O. /
Cash Flow

Ms. Lesniak briefly described A.E.R.O.'s current outstanding invoices and cash flow. She stated that there are no significant concerns at this time.

Education Fund Balance (Fund 10)	\$ 1,057,000
Building Fund Balance (Fund 20)	\$ 637,000
Transportation Fund Balance (Fund 40)	\$ 296,000

Outstanding Invoices (under 60 days)	\$240,000
---	-----------

Insurance

Ms. Lesniak stated that there were no changes to report regarding insurance premiums or plans. She also reported that SSBC is in much better shape this year than it was two years ago.

FY10 ISBE
External
Assurance
Review

Mr. Gunnell reported that ISBE has notified A.E.R.O. that all FY10 issues have been resolved and the audit is now closed. Mr. Gunnell stated that kudos should go to Business Manager Maggie Lesniak for efforts in getting the issues resolved.

Standing Board Committees

Executive Board
Budget/Finance
Committee

Mr. Gunnell reminded the board that this committee was established in May 2010 to review A.E.R.O. staffing patterns. The committee is comprised of two Executive Board members and two A.E.R.O. Administrators. Dr. Cody, 124 and Dr. Hart, 231, volunteered to serve on this committee last year. Dr. Cody suggested that with her upcoming retirement, someone else should probably serve. Mr. Schmitz, 110, volunteered to replace Dr. Cody. Mr. Gunnell will follow up with committee members on a date for the first meeting.

Joint Boards Facility
Planning Committee Members of this committee are: Don Johnstone,
Governing Board President; Ray Trzeciak, Governing Board Vice
President; Tom Smyth, Superintendent, D.122; Michael Riordan,
Superintendent, D. 229; A.E.R.O. Administrators.

Mr. Gunnell reported that The Joint Board Facilities Committee convened only once during the 2010-2011 school year. Due to FY11 Budget reductions the committee determined there is no need to meet for the remainder of the year. Mr. Gunnell stated that at this meeting he presented a brief history of the PRIDE locations. After a brief discussion, the Superintendents felt that due to the continued economic conditions, it was not necessary for this committee to meet this year, unless the Governing Board members felt there was a need to meet. Mr. Gunnell mentioned that Dr. Art Fessler, Superintendent D. 123 expressed an interest in joining this committee. Mr. Johnstone added that there were several good ideas presented at this meeting. The Governing Board agreed that there was no reason for the committee to meet this year due to the economic climate.

A.E.R.O.
Policy
Committee Members of this committee are: Chairperson Frank Patrick,
Superintendent, D. 108; Tom Dixey, Superintendent, D. 104; Dan Riordan,
Superintendent, D. 220; one Governing Board Member TBD; Jim
Gunnell, Director.

Mr. Gunnell reported that this committee was recently established to review new or revised policy recommendations from Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB). Procedures were outlined on a memo included in the board packet. The committee convened following the September board meeting and made some revisions to the policies presented. Once the revised policies are approved by the Executive Board they will be forwarded to the Governing Board.

Donations **(Consent Agenda Item #4)**

A.E.R.O.
Operated Programs Mr. Gunnell reported that the new school year is off to
a good start. Music therapy and dog therapy have begun at the
A.E.R.O. Educational Center and Open Houses at A.E.R.O.
Educational Center and PRIDE are scheduled for later this month. The
board room and gym renovations are not quite complete, but finishing
touches are expected to be done soon.

A.E.R.O. Operated
Programs (Cont'd.)

Mr. Gunnell also reported that the summer WIA program was a success, with 46 students participating this year. As an outcome of this program one student has been hired by Walgreens. The FY12 grant has been applied for in the amount of \$540,000, which will accommodate 90 students.

Mr. Gunnell reviewed several new initiatives taking place this year, some of which have actually been "in the works" for several years, including the launch of AIMsweb, a progress monitoring software program. Speech Language Therapists are incorporating RtI strategies.

A.E.R.O.
Orientation and
Opening Day
Institute

Mr. Gunnell reported that nine (9) new A.E.R.O. employees were invited to and attended A.E.R.O.'s New Employee Orientation on August 10, 2011. Thirty-two (32) employees who were hired since the last orientation were invited and ten (10) attended this orientation.

Mr. Gunnell also reported that A.E.R.O.'s Opening Day Institute on August 19, 2011 at the Double Tree Hotel in Alsip was a resounding success. A.E.R.O.'s theme for this school year is "Stormin', Normin, & Transforming "!

RichLee Vans Inc.
Proposed Contract
Extension

Mr. Gunnell reviewed the transportation contract extension proposed by RichLee Vans, Inc. for the 2012-2013 school year. Mr. Gunnell stated that he and Ms. Lesniak met and negotiated with RichLee Vans. The increase they arrived at was 3%. After a brief discussion, the Executive Board directed Mr. Gunnell and Ms. Lesniak to return to negotiations with RichLee as they believed RichLee would accept less than the current 3% increase being proposed.

Board Presentation:
Federal and
State Updates

Mr. Gunnell presented a PowerPoint presentation to Governing Board members that gave an overview of Federal and State funding formulas and how they are allocated. He reviewed A.E.R.O.'s funding sources and how those funds are specifically required to be spent by A.E.R.O. and its member districts. He reviewed how A.E.R.O. and its member districts spent the ARRA and IDEA funds received in FY10 and FY11.

Mr. Gunnell informed the Board that he has been asked by Lt. Governor Shiela Simon to be part of the *Classrooms First Commission* that is charged with investigating how school districts could operate more efficiently and whether the consolidation of school districts would be beneficial. The Board held a brief discussion of the presentation and thanked Mr. Gunnell for his presentation.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the A.E.R.O. Governing Board
Held on Monday, September 19, 2011
Page 14

Correspondence No correspondence received.

Other Matters:

Procedures for Policy Committee Mr. Gunnell briefly reviewed the memo outlining the newly established Policy Committee's procedures.

A.E.R.O. Policies Revisions/Additions The following policies are being reviewed by the policy committee and will be forwarded to the Governing Board for final approval/acceptance in November.

A.E.R.O. Policy 2:10 – Special Education Cooperative Governance (Revision)

A.E.R.O. Policy 2:125 – Board Member Expenses (Revision)

A.E.R.O. Policy 3:10 – Goals and Objectives (Rewritten)

A.E.R.O. Policy 3:70 – Succession of Authority (Revision)

A.E.R.O. Policy 5:125 – Personal Technology and social Media: Usage and Conduct (New)

Unfinished Business None.

New Business None.

Adjournment Motion #6366 It was moved by Mrs. Derting, seconded by Mr. MacDonald that the meeting be adjourned.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: J. Derting, 109; K. Smith, 111; S. Niceforo, 122; T. McDonald, 124; M. VanAllen, 217; M. Cook, 220; J. Melnik, 229; R. Trzeciak, 231; D. Johnstone, 104; B. Leifker, 123

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Diana Karlovsky, Recording Secretary

President: _____

Donald Johnstone

Date

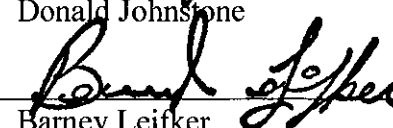
Secretary: _____

Barney Leifker

Date



11-21-11



11-21-11