

Regional Office of Education Committee
Regional Office of Education Conference Room
Charleston, IL 61920
Monday, September 9, 2014

Regional Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mattingly called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Dr. Mattingly. Members present were: Susan Guinnip, Clark County; Jan Eads, Coles County; Alan Zuber, Edgar County; Ken Johnson, Moultrie County; Kay Kearney, Shelby County; Dr. Bobbi Mattingly, Regional Superintendent of Schools; Kyle Thompson, Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools, and Elizabeth Peterson, Bookkeeper. Todd Beard, Cumberland County, and Bibby Appleby, Douglas County, were not present.

Dr. Mattingly asked for public comment. None heard.

Minutes from the June 2, 2014 meeting were reviewed by committee members. No additions or corrections needed to be made to the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Alan Zuber. Jan Eads seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2014 committee meeting.

Bobbi stated that Brian Bower, Coles County State's Attorney, provided the ROE with the Amendment to Lease. Dr. Mattingly said that the maintenance fund will be named as it was in the original agreement. Ken Johnson voiced concern as to whether this would cause confusion, having a fund created 18 years after the current structure was built. Bobbi explained that the fund was created in the original lease but never became operational. Elizabeth Peterson also explained that maintenance services have differing codes which determine how the fees are paid. The minor repairs are taken care of by the ROEC yearly budget. Codes 300 and 9400, for example, are purchase services and supplies. Major building maintenance has code 9520 and will be paid out of the Major Maintenance fund. Discussion was had as to whether these payments should be placed in a CD or deposited into a banking account. Jan Eads said that the availability of the funds needs to be considered should an emergency arise. Alan Zuber asked if Coles County Building Commission ever paid any maintenance fees related to the ROE. Jan Eads said the building commission has no financial responsibilities. Alan Zuber asked if county payments have always been on a percentage basis. He also asked if the building sells, how will the proceeds be distributed amongst the counties? Dr. Mattingly stated that she would attempt to find answers by the next meeting by contacting Brian Bower and reviewing the original lease agreement. ROE #11 bookkeeper, Elizabeth Peterson assured the committee that there are records of the each of the counties payments for every year. She will also ask him where the deed will go after the building is paid for. If all present agree to the amendment, Bobbi and Kyle will collect signatures from each county board chair. Ken Johnson asked for clarification. Dr. Mattingly explained that

all signatures need to be on one original document. Kay asked if each county board had to approve the amendment. Bobbi told her no. It is up to the ROEC committee to accept the amendment and report the agreement with their respective county board. Dr. Mattingly will collect all signatures by December 1. Susan Guinnip made the motion to accept the Amendment to Lease. Kay Kearney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ed Carter Construction replaced the ROE building roof on July 24 and 25. The roof is paid for. Jan Eads inquired as to the whereabouts of the warranty of the new roof. Elizabeth Peterson will follow up on this. Dr. Mattingly and Kyle Thompson nominated Elaine Komada for a Friend of Education award. Komada assisted in the bidding process for the roof replacement. The article that ran in the Journal Gazette-Times Courier was given to each member.

Dr. Mattingly addressed the Mandated Duties report. She pointed out that alternative education is thriving in our region. Educator licensure has gone paperless and presented areas of concern. The Illinois State Board of Education continues to repair the system, as errors are causing qualified personnel to be denied licensure.

Alan Zuber asked if the counties are billed quarterly for funds. Elizabeth explained that counties are billed twice a year with the exception of Coles County that is billed quarterly. Alan also asked the status of payments from the state. Bobbi reported that all funds due in FY14 have been received. Elizabeth Peterson said that this is the first time in four years that the ROE didn't have to defer revenue. In other financial news, Kyle applied for and was awarded \$18,000 from REAP grant to be used by ROE alternative education programs. The funds will bring new computers to the alternative schools that will be used for the online curriculum and the PARCC tests. Also, Bobbi reported that the truancy grant received a nice increase in the allotted amount.

Dr. Mattingly moved discussion to the proposed budget. Elizabeth Peterson said that the Fiscal Year 2015 budget for the ROE remains level with the exception of adding in the \$4050 increase shown due to the major maintenance fund previously agreed upon. The estimated amounts given in June were based on FY14 values and are subject to change with the new EAV values from the Illinois Department of Revenue. Clark and Coles counties have changed. Clark County saw a slight increase, and Coles County saw a decrease. Alan Zuber made a motion to approve the budget. Susan Guinnip seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by Kyle Thompson. Jan Eads-aye. Susan Guinnip-aye. Kay Kearney-aye. Alan Zuber-aye. Ken Johnson-aye. Motion carried.

Another statutory duty of the ROE is an Annual Report. The Annual Report is a compilation of its work based on FY14. The ROE will provide copies to each county if requested. Copies of the Annual Report are available at the ROE front desk and website.

Kyle Thompson told the committee about Dr. Chris Koch's recent visit to the ROE. The majority of the region's superintendents were present to share their comments and concerns. The discussion was based on three of the most concerning topics: funding, assessments, and licensure. The superintendents told of their districts' drastic budget cuts. Illinois has stringent requirements to be an educator. It is difficult for someone with an out-of state license to teach in Illinois. In our area, there are teacher shortages for specific classes like foreign language and industrial arts. PARCC testing is replacing the ISATs. The testing is for third through eighth grade and eleventh grade. Districts expressed concerns about connectivity and internet access. Dr. Koch acknowledged their concerns. During the veto session, he plans to introduce legislation to address them.

The next Regional Office of Education Committee meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2014. Ken Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Susan Guinnip seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Bobbi Mattingly, Ph.D.
Regional Superintendent of Schools