**RSAI Leadership Group Minutes**

**Friday, Sept. 13, 2017 Noon**

Attending via gotomeeting were Bob Olson, Lee Ann Grimley, Laurie Noll, Dennis McClain, Paul Croghan, Larry Sigel, Jon Muller, Jen Albers and Jeff Herzberg. Margaret Buckton originated the meeting at ISFIS 1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50311

* Olson called the meeting to order at 12:03 P.M. At that time, Olson, Grimley, Noll, Croghan, Herzberg and staff were present.
* Approve Agenda – Croghan moved approval of the agenda. Grimley seconded. Approved unanimously.
* Approve Minutes of Aug. 11, 2017 Leadership Group Meeting – Noll moved approval of the minutes of the Aug. 11, 2017 Leadership Group Meeting. Croghan seconded. Approved unanimously. McClain joined the meeting in progress at 12:07.
* **Monthly Business:**
  + Albers reviewed the monthly Membership Report – YTD 59 paid, + 3 comp, = 62, including 16 brand new members. 14 have requested but not yet paid = 76. Pekin added = 77. Buckton shared the membership map. If all of the outstanding renewal invoices are paid, but for the one withdrawal, there will be 91 RSAI member districts for FY 2018. Buckton reviewed the process for leadership group members to connect with those superintendents not yet renewing and thanked Noll for following back up with results of her contacts. Croghan will reach out to Shenandoah. Olson will call Westwood and East Sac. (FYI - Noll later volunteered via email to reach out to Keokuk’s new superintendent.)
  + Albers shared the Monthly Financials through July 31, 2017.
  + McClain moved approval of the reports. Croghan seconded. Approved unanimously.
* **Mission Critical Actions**
  + Membership Recruiting – Buckton explained one next step for each Leadership Group member to look at the map and find a neighboring district close to you. Reach out to them, invite them to the annual meeting as a guest. Offer to share more information about RSAI. Report any necessary follow-up
  + Buckton shared the website from the Rural School Collaborative regarding building a rural teacher network for teachers to share best practices and ideas. The group discussed whether they should forward this link to member districts. The group had questions about the Collaborative and also expressed being sensitive to the ISEA and not wanted them to feel undercut in any way. Buckton will find some descriptive information and send to the group. “I’m a rural teacher” [initiative](http://mailchi.mp/46cfe8cc4b17/rural-teachers-this-ones-for-you?e=842c2192b2) of the Rural Schools Collaborative
  + National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification NASDTEC Clearinghouse Access possibilities: Muller explained the database and the cost for districts to participate in verifying licensure issues of teachers from other states coming to Iowa. Muller explained that NASDTEC is a good fit for RSAI, since smaller districts aren’t likely to expend the resources individually, but in the aggregate, RSAI could save districts tens of thousands of dollars and provide access to this database as a member benefit. Croghan had questions about timely of the licensure verification. Olson thought this might be of real benefit to districts that border on other states. Noll suggested this could be a good tool in recruiting additional members to RSAI. After additional discussion, Muller said he’d prepare a timeline and write up what it would look like. The group will have a chance to review the details further.
  + Annual Meeting Oct 24, 5:30 in Ankeny.
  + Buckton reminded the Leadership Group members to be thinking about recruiting a candidate for the At-large position up for election, which is a three-year term to fill. Kevin Fiene will not be seeking reelection to the seat.
  + Buckton also review the Responsibilities of Leadership Group and Legislative Group during the annual meeting, encouraged the Leadership Group to each invite one member and one prospective member to the annual meeting.
  + 37 have registered so far.
  + Buckton also described the Meeting Materials Packet, which will be posted online and sent to the Leadership Group members before the meeting.
  + State Penny Extension Advocacy Plan – Buckton shared that Dave Wilkerson of SAI, Emily Piper and Phil Jenery of IASB and she met and went through a list of targeted legislators to brainstorm about generating contact in the next month. Leadership Group members will be sent information to convene a conversation, including talking points, with other school leaders and generate contact to legislators.
  + NREA Conference – Oct 12-14 Columbus OH. Buckton is going. Jeff Herzberg is also going, sharing their Gilmore City Bradgate Seed to Table Garden experience as a session at the conference.
  + Issue Video – post Sept. school board election – Larry and Margaret will tape next week.
  + Presence at IASB Convention – booth duty for **Trade Show Hours & Dates**Nov. 15, 3:30 - 5 p.m. and Nov. 16, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Margaret will survey the leaders and others and create a schedule to staff the booth.
* **Remaining Meeting dates for 2016-17 year**
  + - Annual Meeting: October 25, FFA Enrichment Center, Ankeny 5:30. (will have one at-large leader to elect.)
    - RSAI organizational meeting immediately following Annual Meeting

(elect officers, bring calendars – will set series of Leadership Group meetings for the 2017-18 year.)

* **Other Business**
  + Albers mentioned the RSAI insurance renewal. Working with Jester to find an alternative provider/policy. If there are changes to coverage or cost, will bring that back to the leadership group at a future meeting.
  + Albers also mentioned that she and Fiene have completes the internal audit process and will compile a report of findings for the annual meeting.
  + Olson mentioned the FAQ by DE regarding used of general fund for paying for judges and officials for extracurricular events. FAQ says it’s inappropriate (page 40 #9), but there is no law or rule that states such. Olson reported he has talked with attorneys and Tom Cooley at the DE. Tom is looking into it.

Croghan motioned to Adjourn. Noll seconded. Approved, and adjourned, at 12:53 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Margaret Buckton, Sept. 13, 2017