**RSAI Leadership Group Minutes**

**November 19, 2021 at noon**

Via Zoom or at ISFIS 1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50311

*(Contact* [*jen@iowaschoolfinance.com*](mailto:jen@iowaschoolfinance.com) *for Zoom link)*

***Leadership Group Member Attendees:*** *Dennis McClain (Chair), Paul Croghan (Vice Chair), Laurie Noll (Secretary/Treasurer), Dan Peterson, Nick Trenkamp, and Scott Williamson*

***ISFIS Staff Attendees:*** *Margaret Buckton, Larry Sigel, Dave Daughton and Jen Albers*

**I Call To Order/Roll by McClain**

*Vice-Chair Croghan called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm and led until McClain was able to join.*

**II Approve Agenda**

*Trenkamp moved and Noll seconded approval of the agenda. Approved unanimously.*

**III Approve Meeting Minutes**

* Annual Meeting – October 26, 2021
* Leadership Group – October 26, 2021

*Trenkamp moved and Peterson seconded approval of the Annual Meeting minutes from 10/26/2021 and the Leadership Group Organizational Meeting minutes from 10/26/2021. Approved unanimously.*

**IV Receive Membership Report & Corporate Sponsors**

*Albers shared the YTD membership report showing 142 member districts received to date and reported on 3 additional new member districts since preparing the report, bringing total members to 145. Discussion ensued around pending renewals, others that have requested membership invoices, as well as marketing efforts. No new corporate sponsorship applications have been received since the previous meeting.*

**V Approve Monthly Financials**

*Albers reviewed the year-to-date financials through September 30, 2021 and the request for reimbursement to ISFIS. Noll moved and McClain seconded approval of the financial report through September 30, 2021, including a total payment to ISFIS for $15,097.50. Approved unanimously.*

*Vice-Chair Croghan turned the meeting over to Chair McClain.*

**VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates**

* **Annual Meeting Debrief**
  + Attendance & Logistics
  + Press Release
  + Reflections
  + 2022 Annual Meeting Date – *Proposed – Tues, October 25, 2022*

*Buckton and Albers shared information about the Annual Meeting including attendance trend information and a copy of the press release that was circulated. The group shared reflections. A proposed date for the 2022 Annual Meeting was discussed.*

* **Priorities Review including Operational Sharing and Quality PK priority language**.

*At the Annual Meeting, the membership suggested the Leadership Group revisit the language in the priorities on both Operational Sharing and Quality PK and discuss whether or not additional information should be incorporated. Buckton shared draft language for consideration reflecting the comments from the Annual Meeting. Discussion ensued. Croghan moved and Trenkamp seconded amending the two 2022 legislative priorities as follows. Approved unanimously.*

***Quality Preschool:*** *funding of quality PK at the 1.0 per pupil cost for full time or prorated proportionally and formula protections against budget and program impacts of PK enrollment swings (budget guarantee/on-time spending authority).*

***Sharing Incentives/Efficiencies:*** *extension of Whole Grade Sharing, Reorganization and Operational Sharing Incentives. The 21-student cap should expand to allow access to any new flexibility. Weightings should be sufficient to encourage and support sharing opportunities.*

* **Report from NREA Annual Conference**

*Buckton and Daughton shared reflections and information from the NREA Annual Convention. Discussion ensued. Both Buckton and Daughton echoed the value of a presentation by* Benjamin Winchester, University of MN Extension, Center for Community Vitality, Rewriting the Rural Narrative. Winchester’s presentation contained lots of data and information about the quality of rural life that dispels many myths about rural decline. A PPT of a similar presentation by Winchester is found here: <https://swmnelca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/ecd_benjamin_winchester.pdf>

* **Leadership Group Member Updates**

*Leadership Group members discussed reflections from the IASB Convention and discussions from the RSAI tradeshow booth.*

**VII Other Business**

*No other business was brought up for discussion.*

**VIII. Upcoming Meeting dates:**

* **December 8, 2021** – 12:30 pm
* **January 12, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **February 9, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **March 9, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **April 13, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **May 11, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **May 2022** – Regional Meetings – TBD Dates
* **July 13, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **Sept 14, 2022** – 12:30pm
* **Oct 2022** – Annual Meeting – TBD Date

**IX. Adjourn**

*Croghan moved to adjourn and Williamson seconded. Approved unanimously. The meeting concluded at 1:14 pm.*

*Minutes respectfully submitted*

*Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 11/19/2021*