



RSAI Leadership Group Minutes

May 10, 2023 at 12 pm

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

(Contact jen@iowaschoolfinance.com for Zoom link)

Leadership Group Attendees: Paul Croghan (Chair), Scott Williamson (Vice-Chair), Justin Daggett, Dan Peterson, Nick Trenkamp. AEA representative – Jason Plourde.

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

I Call to Order by Chair Croghan

Croghan called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm. A quorum was present.

II Approve Agenda

Williamson moved and Trenkamp seconded approval of the agenda. Approved unanimously.

III Approve Meeting Minutes

- Leadership Group Meeting from April 12, 2023
- NW Regional Meeting on May 2, 2023
- SE Regional Meeting on May 3, 2023

Trenkamp moved and Williamson seconded approval of the various meeting minutes included in the packet as presented. Approved unanimously.

IV Review Membership Report

Albers shared the YTD membership report, noting 177 member districts received to date. Discussion ensued.

V Approve Monthly Financials and Corporate Sponsors

Albers reviewed the year-to-date financials through March 31, 2023. Petersen moved and Trenkamp seconded approval of the financial report through March 31, 2023, including reimbursement to ISFIS as noted in the packet. Approved unanimously.

No Corporate Sponsorships were presented at this meeting.

VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates

• Approve Membership & Affiliate Dues for 2023-24

Albers and Buckton shared the proposed membership fee schedule for FY 2024 with no changes in rates, as well as copies of the draft materials that will be accompanying the dues renewals. Discussion ensued. Trenkamp moved approval of the FY 2024 RSAI Membership Fee Schedule as presented. Second by Williamson. Approved unanimously. Renewal packets will be mailed out mid-May.

• ISFIS/RSAI Contract

At the last Leadership Group Meeting, the RSAI Officers were tasked with preparing a recommendation for a new contract between RSAI and ISFIS for FY 2024 and FY 2025, which was included in the materials packet. Buckton and Albers walked through a redline version showing changes from the expiring contract. Croghan and Williamson shared feedback from the officers' discussion. Discussion ensued. Trenkamp moved approval of the FY 2024 and FY 2025 proposed contract between RSAI and ISFIS. Second by Williamson. Approved unanimously.

- **Approve Budget 2023-24**
Albers and Buckton shared the proposed FY 2024 budget and reviewed line items with variances from the prior year. Discussion ensued. Williamson moved approval of the FY 2024 Budget as presented, with second by Trenkamp. Approved unanimously.
- **RSAI Regional Meetings – Reports, Reflections, Follow Up**
Buckton and those that attended the NW and SE meetings shared reflections and discussions that took place during the final two RSAI Regional Meetings. Discussion ensued.
- **Legislative Committee – Committee Members, Recruitment, Meeting**
Buckton reviewed the list of RSAI Leadership for 2023-24 as included in the packet.
 - *Dan Maeder, Davis County CSD and Moulton-Udell CSD, was elected to the RSAI Leadership Group as the SE Representative, previously held by Laurie Noll. The Leadership Group requested Dan Maeder fill the remainder of the term through September 2023, if Laurie Noll is unlikely to return from leave. Staff will follow up to determine next steps.*
 - *The Leadership Group was tasked with filling several appointments to the RSAI Legislative Committee. Discussion ensued. Peterson moved and Williamson seconded the appointment of **Mike Pardun, Denison & Schleswig**, from the NW Region representing Northwest AEA, and **Mike Van Sickle, Louisa-Muscatine**, from the SE Region representing Mississippi Bend AEA, to the RSAI Legislative Committee for FY 2024. Approved unanimously. Two other positions still need to be determined and will be reviewed at the next Leadership Group meeting.*
- **Bylaws Committee**
Williamson and Trenkamp volunteered to participate in the RSAI Bylaws Committee, and Dan Meader was appointed. Staff will coordinate a Committee meeting in August to review feedback from the Regional Meetings. Any recommendations of the Bylaws Committee would be shared with the Legislative Committee and ultimately be presented to the membership for approval at the Annual Meeting in October.
- **Legislative Update**
Buckton reviewed the latest status of legislation pending the Governor’s signature. Discussion ensued.
- **Letters of Support for American Institutes for Research**
Buckton shared a couple of letters of support for grant funding prepared by RSAI. Discussion ensued.
- **Possible Rural Administrator Support Cohort: U of I**
Buckton shared information about a group being formed to learn and network on rural issues. More information will be coming.
- **TPRA Grant Update**
Buckton and Albers shared the next report deadline on the TPRA Grant Program is coming up on May 25th. We are still awaiting feedback and reimbursement from Iowa Workforce Development on the first TPRA expense submission, which we’ve heard to plan for around the end of June.

- **Leadership Group Member Updates (anything to share with the group?)**
Leadership Group members discussed several items including: difficulties finding teachers and the impact on administration and other positions by those vacancies; the new budget process and impact on bond timing for next year; the current litigious environment and how to start with communication rather than starting with the lawyers; the past practice of schools making due even with budget cuts and significant system changes without sharing publically the impact they really have on the education system; and a recent TED Talk on the reward of teaching.

VII Other Business

Jason Plourde shared information on the AEA funding cuts being even deeper for FY 2024, noting this will have an impact the services the AEA can provide. Discussion ensued.

No other business was brought up for discussion.

VIII Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- July 12, 2023 at noon (LG)
- August 9, 2023 at noon (LG)
- September 13, 2023 at noon (LG)
- October 17, 2023 – Annual Meeting

IX. Adjourn

The meeting concluded by mutual consent at 1:15 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 5/10/2023