



RSAI Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2020

10:00 – 2:00, ISFIS Office

1201 63rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50322

Legislative Committee Members:

NE - Barb Schwamman, Osage CSD & Riceville CSD

NW – Brian Johnson, Prairie Valley CSD & Southeast Webster Grand CSD

SE – Joel Pedersen, Cardinal CSD

SW – Tim Mitchell, Riverside CSD

Justin Daggett, Manson Northwest Webster CSD

Dennis McClain, Adair-Casey CSD & Guthrie Center CSD

Dan Peterson, Central DeWitt CSD

RSAI Staff:

Margaret Buckton and Larry Sigel

All of the above were present as ISFIS with the exception of Schwamman, Mitchell, and Peterson connecting via ZOOM.

1. Introductions and order lunch, share contact information, key legislative contacts.
2. Legislative Committee Responsibilities: *Reviewed the responsibilities of the committee and officers as articulated in the bylaws.*
3. Elect Chair, VC and Secretary of Legislative Committee: *Johnson nominated Joel Pedersen to be Chair. Daggett second. No other nominations. Joel Pedersen elected as chair unanimously. McClain nominated Brian Johnson as Vice Chair. Daggett second. No other nominations. Brian Johnson elected as Vice Chair unanimously. Johnson nominated Dennis McClain as Secretary. Daggett second. No other nominations. Dennis McClain elected as Secretary.*
4. RSAI Membership and Organization (Map and Key Values) – *Buckton reviewed the RSAI map and membership growth over the last year. Group discussed the possibility of increasing the number of RSAI regions to increase leadership potential, minimize travel requirements, and to better align with AEA boundaries. No recommendation at this time, other than to continue to think about it and discuss with members throughout this year.*

5. Review RSAI Bylaws Committee Recommendation: *Bylaws Committee of Paul Croghan and Justin Daggett reviewed the bylaws with Buckton in advance of this meeting, and made the redline recommendations in the Legislative Committee's packet. In Summary, changes included the following:*

- *Changed Legislative Group to Legislative Committee throughout (to avoid difficulty or errors related to Leadership Group references).*
- *Added an affiliate membership category and delegated authority to Leadership Group to annual set dues for affiliate membership.*
- *Provided specific language allowing electronic participation in meetings, including electronic voting as long as the identity of the individual voting can be determined.*
- *Clarified that proxy voting between districts isn't allowed.*
- *Specified that the Vice Chair assumes the Chair role if the Chair is vacant, until the next election of officers.*
- *Aligned the Leadership Group process for filling a vacancy as permissive (LG may fill a vacancy on the LG) with the vacancy process earlier in the bylaws. Also allowed appointment to be at the next regular or subsequent meeting, which allows time to notify members to solicit interest.*

Johnson moved approval of redline changes recommended Bylaws Committee. McClain seconded. Discussion. Approved unanimously.

6. Report of RSAI Regional Meetings: *The Committee reviewed the minutes of the regional meetings and the member survey responses regarding district priorities for the 2021 Session.*

7. Establish Priorities to recommend to Leadership Group and Annual Meeting: *Daggett moved approval of the 2020 RSAI legislative priorities for 2021 Session, with direction to staff to update year and dollar references as necessary and to edit for 2020 Session action by removing outdated references, and to generally consider talking points associated with the priorities be developed for members through the COVID-19 lens. Pedersen seconded. Discussion ensued. Approved unanimously. The Committee also discussed new priority resolutions recommended by the regional meetings and added the following: 1) Broadband/High Speed Internet Service Access and Affordability. Johnson moved addition of this priority to the list. Schwamman seconded. Discussion ensued. Approved unanimously. 2) Address the 5% limitation on bonding capacity for school construction by limiting calculation to only property tax debt issues. McClain moved approval to add this concept to the simple majority for bond issues priority. Pederson seconded. Johnson, Pederson, Mitchell, Daggett, McClain, and Peterson voted yes. Schwamman voted no. Motion approved. 3) Continued efforts at local flexibility, including taking home rule seriously and providing additional school board flexibility and*

authority; no one size fits all. Pederson moved approval. Schwamman seconded. Approved unanimously. 4) Allow remote learning for school cancellations to count as instructional time if the district provides required continuous learning. Johnson moved approval. McClain seconded. Discussion ensued. Approved unanimously.

8. Plan for October 21 Annual Meeting (select Leadership roles for priorities): *The following duties were assigned:*

	Leadership Representative at Oct 21 Annual Meeting	Backup Leadership Representative at Oct 21 Annual Meeting
2020 Priorities		
Adequate School Resources	Dan Peterson	Joel Pedersen
Student Mental Health	Tim Mitchell	Brian Johnson
Educator Shortage and Quality Instruction	Barb Schwamman	Justin Daggett
Formula and Transportation Equity	Tim Mitchell	Brian Johnson
Opportunity Equity for Low SES	Joel Pedersen	Justin Daggett
Sharing Incentives and Efficiencies	Justin Daggett	Barb Schwamman
Quality Preschool	Tim Mitchell	Brian Johnson
School Safety	Brian Johnson	Dan Peterson
Bond Elections Simply Majority + 5% debt limitation applied to property tax debt only.	Justin Daggett	Barb Schwamman
New Priorities Suggested for 2021		
Broadband/High Speed Internet Service Access and Affordability	Barb Schwamman	Justin Daggett
Snow days	Dan Peterson	Tim Mitchell
Home Rule Flexibility	Brian Johnson	Barb Schwamman

(Those connected remotely, Schwamman, Peterson and Mitchell) will connect later to discuss key questions/advocacy for Nov. 3 election. Those in-person remained.

9. Brainstorm key questions for legislative candidates: *The committee discussed what needs member may have in preparation for the Nov. 3 election and suggested pre-drafted letter, contact information, action steps for advocacy, a first meeting agenda checklist, and supports in building legislative relationships.*

10. Other business - *none*

11. Adjourn: *Johnson moved, Daggett seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.*

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate

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