

**RSAI Leadership Group Minutes**  
**August 25, 2015**  
**ISFIS Office, 1201 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Des Moines IA 50311 and GoToMeeting**  
**5:00PM**

**I**      **Call To Order Bob, LeAnn, Brian, Gregg, Kevin**

The meeting was called to order by Olson at 5:03 p.m. Present - Olson, Grimley, Rodenberg, Fiene, Cruickshank, Buckton, Sigel, and Albers

**II**      **Approve AgendaKevin and Brian**

Fiene moved to approve agenda, Rodenberg second. Carried

**III**      **Review/Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) - Brian and Kevin**

Rodenberg moved to approve July minutes, Fiene second. Carried

**IV**      **Communications**

- Continued communication with Olson and Franklin County Farm Bureau on advocacy and legislative priorities/issues.
- Buckton and Olson are on an IASB committee regarding priorities and funding.
- Cruickshank is on an IASB state penny task force. Next meeting is October 20.
- Communication with Darwin Lehman who has new House Speaker Upmeyer as a representative - talking points to convey to her on the state penny repeal effort. With the bill in House Ways and Means it is a good time to move it to a vote so it isn't scooped for other purposes.
- Discussion about formula equity, low income equity, and transportation equity. Davenport's effort to raise everyone to the maximum per pupil funding level.

Any to report? Franklin Co Farm Bureau invited Superintendents to attend again and will be working with them on legislation. IASB - legislative stakeholder groups invited regarding funding and priorities...Bob and Margaret invited...RSAI maintain identity and distinguish when we are part of coalitions...Larry talked to Darwin Lehman...Upmeyer is in his district....he wanted talking points on extending state penny ...she has authority to compel Sands to move out of ways and means...Upmeyer is also one of Bob's reps...perfect time for republicans to do this...can keep ISEA's hands off of it - goes right to gov...Dems in Senate cant touch it...Davenport - equity in formula, low income inequity, transportation inequity...Davenport want to raise everyone to the top...craft an email to those who are not members to the annual meeting...indiana rural school group - putting together a panel for teacher evaluation...

Any recruiting efforts to report? Jen - 2014/15 - 48 memberships...47 memberships for 2015/16....7 invoices outstanding...4 renewals and 3 new...

**V**      **Membership**

- Albers reported there are 47 paid memberships for 2015/16 and 7 outstanding invoices.

**VI**      **Financial Report**

- Rodenberg moved to approve the report with an additional \$154.58 paid to ISFIS, Fiene second. Carried
- Albers and Cruickshank will set up a time to review financial transactions.

**VII**      **RSAI Leadership Group Administration**

- Suggested dates for monthly leadership group meetings will be sent out. Suggested first Wednesday of the month.
- Annual Meeting Planning
  - a) Agenda - a combination of Business Meeting and setting legislative priorities and advocacy strategy. Have legislative group lead the discussion and focus on membership voices discussing the issues.priorities...determine platform and strategic advocacy planning...have legislative group lead each issue...focus on membership voices talking about the issues...
  - b) Recruiting Attendance - postcards will be sent to board members, superintendents, and school business officials who ISFIS has an address on record.
  - c) Discussion about recruiting vendors at state and national level. Possible fee of \$500. Possibly offer a \$100 discount on ISFIS policy subscription to RSAI members.
  - d) IASB convention - what presence does RSAI want to have? It was suggested that RSAI platform be forwarded to Lisa Bartusek to put in their legislative platform handbook.

**VIII    Mission Critical Actions**

- Summary of Regional Meeting Results - discussion about how to present and formulate discussion and talking points regarding transportation equity.
- Legislative Group recommendations were shared.
- Larry is working on creating a formula to respond to student density as it applies to transportation, discussion about difference in paved vs. gravel, flat terrain vs. hilly terrain.
- Discussion about creating a service for RSAI schools regarding civic involvement on the part of students and parents. Fiene will report back to the group.

**IX    What else?**

- National Rural Education Association Annual Meeting – October 16-18, 2015 in St. Louis. \$299 registration fee per person.

**X    Adjourn**

- Rodenberg moved to adjourn, Feine second. Carried - meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.
- Next meeting - Wednesday, September 9 at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Gregg Cruickshank, Secretary