



## **RSAI Leadership Group Minutes**

**May 14, 2025 at 12 pm**

Via Zoom or at ISFIS 1201 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50311

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

**Leadership Group Attendees:** Caleb Bonjour (Chair), Scott Williamson (Vice-Chair), Paul Croghan, Justin Daggett, Brent Jorth,

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

### **I Call to Order by Chair Bonjour**

*Bonjour called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm. A quorum of the board was present.*

### **II Action on Agenda**

*Croghan moved and Williamson seconded approval of the agenda. Approved unanimously.*

### **III Action on Meeting Minutes**

- Leadership Group Meeting from April 9, 2025
- SE Regional Meeting from May 7, 2025

*Williamson moved and Croghan seconded approval of the meeting minutes as presented. Approved unanimously.*

### **IV Review Membership Report**

*Albers shared the YTD membership report for FY 2025. Discussion ensued.*

### **V Action on Monthly Financials**

*Albers reviewed the financial statements through April 30, 2025 and bill pay listing. Discussion ensued. Croghan moved and Williamson seconded approval of the financial statements and bill pay list as presented. Approved unanimously.*

### **VI Mission Critical Actions/Updates**

- Action on Membership & Affiliate Dues for 2025-26

*Albers and Buckton shared the proposed membership fee schedule for FY 2026 with no changes in rates, as well as copies of the final draft materials that will be accompanying the dues renewals. Discussion ensued. The group also discussed affiliate membership dues for FY 2026. Croghan moved approval of the RSAI Membership Fee Schedule with no changes for FY 2026. Second by Williamson. Approved unanimously. Renewal packets will be mailed out by mid-May.*

- Action on Budget 2025-26

*Albers and Buckton shared the proposed FY 2026 budget and reviewed line items with variances from the prior year. Discussion ensued. Daggett moved approval of the FY 2026 Budget as presented, with second by Croghan. Approved unanimously.*

- Discussion of RSAI Regional Meetings

- Reflections from Previous Meetings

- **SE – May 7** (Maeder & Williamson) – Great Prairie AEA in Fairfield (12pm lunch, meeting at 12:30pm)

- **Results of Leadership Group & Legislative Committee Elections**
- Upcoming Meeting
  - **NE – May 30** (Barb Schwamman for Trenkamp) - Waverly Area Veterans Post (WAVP) in Waverly at 11am

*Buckton and those in attendance shared feedback from the SE Regional Meeting that took place in May and the recommendations around the priorities for FY 2026 Session. Buckton updated the group on the plans for the NE Regional Meeting which has been scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup>.*

*Buckton also shared results of the leadership group and legislative committee elections. A complete list will be circulated after the meetings are concluded. The group expressed their heartfelt thanks to Paul Croghan and Dan Maeder, both of whom are retiring effective June 30, 2025, for their dedicated service to the RSAI Leadership Group over the years and their advocacy efforts on behalf of rural school students across Iowa.*

- Discussion of RSAI Legislative Committee 2025-26 – Members, Legislative Issues Survey, Meeting

*Buckton shared that the Legislative Committee will meet during August to review the Regional Meeting feedback in detail, as well as review responses to the Legislative Issues Survey that will go out to members this summer. Once the NE Regional Meeting takes place, if appointments are required due to vacancies, those will be made at the July Leadership Group meeting.*

- Update on 2025 Legislative Priorities & Bill Actions

*Buckton and Daughton reviewed the status of various legislative bills and actions from the Statehouse. Discussion ensued around items still pending before the end of the session, specifically supplemental pay for hourly staff, nonpublic schools and athletics; grooming; childcare; property taxes; and appropriations bills. Discussion also took place about bills that have been passed and still pending the Governor's signature.*

- Update on TPRA Grant

*Albers shared the latest on the TPRA Grant Program including that the consortium is awaiting approval on the July-Dec 2024 funding.*

- Updates from Leadership Group Members (anything to share with the group?)  
*Leadership group members shared updates from their local area including a discussion of the contract terms in the AEA Flow-Through Agreements circulated by the AEAs.*

## **VII Other Business**

*No other business was brought up for discussion.*

**VIII Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

- May 30, 2025 – NE Regional Meeting
- July 9, 2025
- August 13, 2025
- August TBD 2025 - Bylaws Committee)
- August TBD 2025 – Legislative Committee
- September 10, 2025
- October TBD 2025 – RSAI Annual Meeting
- October 13-16, 2025 – NREA Annual Meeting

**IX. Adjourn**

*The meeting concluded by unanimous consent at 12:45pm.*

*Minutes respectfully submitted*

*Margaret Buckton, RSAI Professional Advocate, As of 5/14/2025*