**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**OF THE**

**RESA-6 REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**RESA-6 Training Room**

**Wheeling, WV 26003**

**Thursday, October 15, 2015**

**6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Chappell, Shelby Haines, Chad Haught, Michael Hince, Gary Kestner, Kathy Kidder-Wilkerson, Linda Kirk, Beth Phillips, Dianna Vargo, Leatha Williams**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Nick Zervos, Greg Minnich, Marian Kajfez, Joe Paolo**

**CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Hince.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by Ms. Vargo, the Board approved the minutes of the September 10 and September 23, 2015 meetings**.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

 **WVASA Report – Kathy Kidder-Wilkerson – Ms. Kidder reported out information regarding the WVASA September 24, 2015 meeting. Multiple issues were discussed at the meeting including Dr. Martirano comments, the winter and summer conferences, curriculum instruction issues, legislative concerns, WVSSAC issues, WVASA legislative priorities and the WVASA scholarship. Additional information about the meeting is found in the enclosure.**

 **Travel for Board Members Discussion –A question was asked about paying**

**Regional Council Members for their travel to Regional Council meetings. A discussion amongst the Board Members took place regarding this issue and by consensus the County Superintendents implied that their respective counties would compensate Regional Council Members for their travel.**

 **Medicaid Report (Attachment A) - On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by**

**Mr. Kestner, the Board approved the October 1, 2015 Medicaid Report prepared by**

**Ms. Wojcik in the aggregate amount of $661,489.95.**

 **Fall Newsletter (Enclosure) – a copy of the RESA-6 fall newsletter was provided to the Council Members for their review. The Director’s provided the articles for the newsletter and Ms. McConnaughy created the document using her creative talents and artistic abilities. Several positive comments were made regarding the content and appearance of the newsletter.**

 **Requiring CPR and Care for Conscious Choking Instruction in Public (Attach. B) Attachment B (18-29 of the West Virginia Code) defines major provisions of requiring CPR and care for conscious choking instruction in public schools. Mr. Zervos reviewed the major provisions with Council.**

 **State Communication Plan Discussion (Handout) – A lengthy discussion was held concerning the draft Communication and Reporting Structure Plan recently given to the Executive Directors by Donna Peduto's office. The Board stated that this document further erodes the responsibilities of the Regional Council and felt strongly it was unnecessary to have a document which is neither policy nor statute used for governing RESAs. Mr. Hince stated if this document goes to the State Board of Education the Regional Council Members would like to be represented in speaking against its approval. The other Council Members strongly supported Mr. Hince’s statement.**

**Mr. Zervos read his statement to the Board regarding the issuance of this document. He said: I truly believe that a surprise document of this magnitude we received on Friday, Oct 2nd at approximately noon with a request to respond by Wednesday Oct 7 is unrealistic and problematic. We have not had an opportunity to see this before today, have not had a chance to collaborate with the Executive Directors, have not had a chance to speak to those who drafted this complex guidance document for clarification of many of its sections and requirements and not had a chance to share with our staff and Regional councils for their comments. I ask that you reconsider the extremely short timeline until the appropriate communications have taken place. Not to do so could l cause misunderstanding and resentment. The absence of prior knowledge of the reasons for developing this policy, or the intended goals, coupled with RESAs historically being seen negatively causes undo concern for a policy that should be mutually beneficial.  It seems appropriate that a Communication policy should start with shared goals and understanding and be developed from the onset with a spirit of collaboration.  I understand there may be a need to create a document that moves us toward a policy, but I again request that you reconsider the short timeline in order to fully vet a mutually beneficial policy.**

 **PRI Summary, PRI Satisfaction Survey, PRI Evaluation (Attachment C) – Ms. Kajfez summarized the October PRI (Attachment C) reviewing the satisfaction survey results and the PRI evaluation results. She informed the Board that the PRI format of utilizing breakout sessions was highly effective and much appreciated. A social media section of the program was well received by all attending. Many of the comments indicated that it was one of the best PRIs ever provided by RESA.**

 **Summation of Pat Homberg’s Visit – Pat Homberg, Director of Special Education from the WVDE and Debi Harlass, WVDE spent an entire day with the RESA-6 FAST Team. Each FAST Team member reviewed with her programs, services, technical assistance, HQS documentation and satisfaction surveys utilized in providing high quality programming in the northern panhandle. They were highly impressed and most complimentary for the hard work, quality tools and efficient use of Special Education Funding in RESA-6.**

 **Preview of Meeting on October 29th with Michelle Blatt and Clayton Burch (Handout) – The Board was notified that Michelle Blatt and Clayton Burch, both Assistant Superintendents from the WVDE, would be at RESA-6 on October 29, 2015 to review the Instructional programs and services provided by RESA-6.**

 **Co-Teaching Guidance Manual Discussion – Joe Paolo – Mr. Paolo reviewed the very comprehensive Co-Teaching handbook produced by Rick Redd, Cheryl Tuba, Michelle Hogan and himself which offers guidance and tools for implementing Co-Teaching Programs in any school or classroom in RESA-6 or statewide. The Board was impressed with the quality of work by the team and praised them for their effort. A copy of the Guidance document is available at the RESA-6 office.**

 **Tomblin Announces 4% Budget Cut for State Agencies (Attachment D) – Governor Tomblin announced a 4% budget cut which includes RESA-6. RESA-6 budget was cut by $15,324.00. See enclosure. Additional cuts to other programs are expected next week. Further cuts for state agencies are likely to take place this spring.**

 **West Virginia Board of Education Agenda (Attachment E) – The West Virginia Board of Education Agenda was provided to the Board. Dr. Wilson reported that State Board Policy 5310 remains the same except roster verification and tests counting 15% of the evaluation was waived for now. Expect a new approach for next year.**

 **Carryover Budget (Attachment F) – On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by Mr. Kestner, the Carryover Budget as provided by Mr. Minnich and outlined in Attachment F was approved.**

 **Annual Fiscal Close (Attachment G) – On a motion by Ms. Vargo, with a second by Ms. Phillips, the Annual Fiscal Close as provided by Mr. Minnich and outlined in Attachment G was approved.**

 **Supplements/Transfers (Attachment H) - On a motion by Mr. Kestner, with a second by Ms. Vargo, the Supplements/Transfers as provided by Mr. Minnich and outlined in Attachment I were approved.**

 **Budget Status (Attachment I) – On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by Mr. Kestner, the Budget Status Report as provided by Mr. Minnich and outlined in Attachment I was approved.**

 **Checks Issued (Attachment J) - On a motion by Ms. Kestner, with a second by Ms. Vargo, the RESA-6 Checks Issued as provided by Mr. Minnich in Attachment J were approved.**

 **RESA Amicus Curiae (Handout) – A copy of the Amicus Brief written for the 8 RESAs was provided to the Regional Council. The cost of this document will be shared amongst the 8 RESAs. At this time the cost estimates have not been provided.**

**PERSONNEL**

 **On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by Ms. Hohman, the Board approved the following personnel items:**

 **Employment**

 **Kristi Vermillion – Adult Education Instructor – October 16, 2015**

**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

 **On a motion by Ms. Phillips, with a second by Mr. Kestner, the meeting was adjourned.**

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**Co-Chairperson Executive Director/Secretary**

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