

W-E-M BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, 6 p.m.

The WEM Board of Education held their annual Organizational Meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at the Waterville Building in the Board Room. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Jon Velishek at 6 p.m.

Board Members Velishek, Jay Schneider, Jeff Stangler, Travis Bowman, and Gary Michael participated in the meeting. Also present were Superintendent Joel Whitehurst, Principals Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Bobbie Jo Bastian.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bowman to approve the agenda. Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Velishek started the meeting by administering the Oath of Office to newly elected board member June Rezac.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Bowman to nominate Michael as Board Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Michael took over as Board Chairperson for the meeting.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Bowman to nominate Velishek as Board Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Velishek and seconded by Michael to nominate Schneider as Board Clerk. There were no other nominations. Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Schneider to nominate Bowman for Board Treasurer. Bowman nominated Rezac but she declined the nomination. Rezac nominated Stangler and he declined the nomination. Five members voted by roll call vote for Bowman as Board Treasurer - Bowman abstained - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Rezac to set the meeting dates and times. Currently the fourth Monday of each month with the 3rd Monday as alternate if 4th Monday is a holiday. Meeting time is 6 p.m. December meeting is on the 3rd Monday. If at all possible

special meetings will be conducted the second Thursday of the month. Corresponding dates: January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 23, November 22, December 20, January 24, 2022 regular and organizational (tentative).

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to designate the official bank(s) depository. It is necessary to designate an official bank(s) depository for school district funds. Currently the Frandsen Bank in Waterville, The Elysian Bank, Lake Country Community Bank of Morristown, and Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund are named depositories, with Frandsen Bank processing the checking accounts. The superintendent and business manager have the discretion to distribute the funds, electronically as needed and invest in short term CDs on the board's behalf.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Schneider to authorize the chairperson and the clerk to issue order upon the treasurer in payment of salaries when they come due.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Rezac to designate the LifeEnterprise as the official district newspaper.

Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - Schneider abstained - motion declared passed.

Motion by Stangler and seconded by Velishek to set the board member compensation at \$60 per month, \$60 each special meeting, study session, or committee meeting, \$100 per day for workshops, officers receive an additional \$200 a year (except the clerk receives \$400 additional a year), and IRS approved rate for school district approved mileage, which has been set at 56 cents per mile.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Stangler to set the compensation for negotiating team. The current rate is \$50 for a meeting, \$100 per day, mediation/arbitration; chief negotiator receives \$500 in addition to other compensation. After some discussion, Bowman motioned and Stangler seconded to change the meeting compensation to \$60 per meeting which coincides with regular meeting compensation.

Five members voted in favor by roll call vote - Bowman

abstains - motion declared passed.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Rezac to designate legal counsel and who may contact legal counsel. Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A. is legal counsel and the board chair, superintendent, and business manager may contact legal counsel.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Motion by Bowman and seconded by Schneider to approve Committee Appointments.

The following committee assignments were selected by board members: Minnesota State High School League Athletic Council (Michael and Schneider), Negotiations (Bowman and Stangler), Meet and Confer who meet with all employee groups relating to PELRA (superintendent and building administrator), Community Service (Schneider), Ag Education (Stangler and Bowman), Student Attendance and Truancy Issues (Bowman, Stangler, and Rezac), Impartial Hearer for Student Expulsions (Michael and Bowman), Legislation (Michael), Finance (Bowman and Michael), World's Best Workforce/Staff Development (Velishek), Facilities/Strategic Planning (Bowman, Velishek, and Schneider), Calendar (Michael and Rezac), Policy (Bowman and Stangler), Personnel (Schneider), Communications Committee (Rezac, Velishek, and Schneider), and Grievance Committee (All 7 board members).

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

Bowman recognized the losses of family members in the Van Houdt family and Michael family and wanted to provide sympathy to both families.

Motion by Schneider and seconded by Velishek to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Six members voted in favor by roll call vote - motion declared passed.

ATTEST:

Gary Michael, Board Chair

Jay Schneider, Board Clerk