REGULAR MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE
President McMahon called the meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 3:03 PM with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Thom McMahon, Loretta Eckenrode, Mary Scott, Sheila Rocker Heppe, Robert Siekmann (via Zoom)
ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Michael Davies-Hughes, Colby Smart, Corey Weber, Katie Cavanagh, Jenny Bowen, Natalie Carrigan, Tanya Trump, Felicia Doherty

2.0 ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA
There were no adjustments to the agenda.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments.

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA
The Board is asked to receive/approve these routine items.

It was moved/seconded by Scott/Eckenrode to approve the consent agenda. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

Action was taken on the following consent items.

(4.1) Approve Minutes – September 7 Special Meeting, September 14 Special and Regular Meeting
(4.2) Approve Monthly Remuneration
5.0 ACTION ITEMS
The Board is asked to receive/discuss/take action on the following items.

(5.1) Receive and File 2021-2022 Unaudited Actuals Annual Financial Statement

Assistant Superintendent Weber reminded the Board that this is the year-end financial statement for the Humboldt County Office of Education, that is unaudited. Due to extra COVID funding, HCOE’s ending fund balance increased over prior years, leaving the county office in a place to spend additional one-time funds. Weber further stated that the county office has a plan in place to spend the additional funds through 2024.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/Scott to receive and file the 2021-2022 Unaudited Actuals Annual Financial Statement. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(5.2) Approve 2021-2022 Final Education Protection Account (EPA) Expenditures

Weber explained to the Board that HCOE reports out on actual expenditures of EPA funds annually. EPA funds were provided as a result of the passage of Proposition 30. Each year, as a public entity HCOE must report out how the funds were spent to voters for passing Proposition 30.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/Scott to approve the 2021-2022 final Education Protection Account (EPA) Expenditures. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(5.3) Approval of Intent to Apply for the Strong Workforce Program Grant

Tanya Trump of Career and College Readiness, shared that this is the fifth round of the SWP grant. Funds will be used to support Technology Exploration Summer Institute (TESI) for 2 years. Trump further stated there is a plan to introduce Medical Exploration Summer Institute (MESI) in partnership with College of the Redwoods.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/Rocker Heppe to approve the intent to apply for the Strong Workforce Program Grant. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(5.4) Approval of Intent to Apply for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG)
Trump explained this grant is funded by the California Department of Education to enhance schools having high quality Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. The grant renewal will serve students at Court and Community Schools.

It was moved/seconded by Rocker Heppe/Eckenrode to approve the intent to apply for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(5.5) Review and Possible Revisions of Board Exhibit 9270 - Conflict of Interest Code

Superintendent Davies-Hughes shared that every 2 years local agencies need to review their Conflict of Interest Codes to ensure compliance with the law. HCOE met the September 6, 2022 deadline to the Humboldt County Office of Elections. HCOE does not recommend any changes to the current Conflict of Interest Code. No action required on this item.

(5.6) Review and Possible Approval of Updated Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6158 (a) - Independent Study

Assistant Superintendent Colby Smart explained to the Board the changes to Independent Study, including clarification around students in Independent Study and IEPs, changes in instructional minutes, and what constitutes distance learning. Additionally, it reduces from 5 to 3 days of when Independent can start. Independent Study is no longer required to be offered.

It was moved/seconded by Scott/Eckenrode to approve updated Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6158. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(5.7) Review and Possible Approval of Updated Board Exhibit 5111.1 - Students with Disabilities Enrolled in Juvenile Court School

Grammatical updates and outlines the responsibilities of HCOE and districts. Principal Felicia Doherty shared the grammatical updates made the the board policy, and that the updates outline the responsibilities of HCOE and districts. Doherty further explained that because placement in Juvenile Court School it is not a voluntary placement, HCOE staff work with the districts on receiving the IEP to ensure they can continue offering services.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/Rocker Heppe to approve updated Board Exhibit 5111.1. Ayes 5, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

6.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

The Board is asked to receive/discuss; however, the Board may decide to take action at their discretion.

(6.1) Superintendent’s Report
(6.1.1) Receive Approved 2022-2023 Humboldt County Office of Education Budget

Superintendent Davies-Hughes shared that the HCOE budget was approved and expressed appreciation for the fiscal department for bringing forward a sound budget.

Davies-Hughes highlighted the heavy lift administrators have had due to the disruption in learning during the pandemic. Humboldt County has seen many changes in administrators and HCOE continues to look for opportunities to bring people together and provide support.

Davies-Hughes shared with an increase in revenue to HCOE, the Administration office has solicited feedback from districts and charter schools via a survey to assist in determining how to spend those funds to support districts and charters. Results will be used by Cabinet to make decisions on how to be good stewards of the funds to support students.

Davies-Hughes shared with the Board that all districts LCAPs and budgets have been approved.

Davies-Hughes discussed two recent incidents in Humboldt County schools where students have made poor choices in the form of school threats. HCOE staff provided supports to students and staff at the affected schools through counselors. Additionally, HCOE hired a new School Safety Director, Klark Swan.

Davies-Hughes acknowledged trustees McMahon, Rocker Heppe, and Eckenrode for their continued presence as Interim Board members at Big Lagoon School District, alongside Rosie Slentz, serving as Interim Superintendent/Principal.

(6.2) Receive and File Quote for Community School Fence Project

Weber explained that in order to eliminate foot traffic through the Community School via Myrtle Avenue, a decorative fence will be installed. The fence installation project went out for bid and the timeline closed without any bids received. HCOE obtained a quote from Humboldt Fencing Company, received legal counsel and can move forward with the quote.

Davies-Hughes acknowledged the HCOE maintenance staff for being hands on and working with partners on the clean out of the green belt. Davies-Hughes acknowledged the remaining work to be done and further stated that HCOE is looking at long term solutions for keeping the space clear and future use of the space, while keeping students and staff safe. Davies-Hughes explained that homelessness is a community issue, and HCOE wants to be partners for a long-term plan.

7.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS

Trustee Siekmann called attention to the ongoing matter of children’s health and drew attention of the importance of the Proclamation in support of the Great American Smokeout.
8.0 **ADJOURNMENT**
President McMahon adjourned the regular meeting at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Davies, Superintendent
MDH:nc