Minutes in Review

Attendance:
Pete Bastian, Valley Center USD 262 – President
Mike Berblinger, Buhler USD 313 - KSSA
Cory Gibson, Valley Center UDD 262 – KSSA
Eric Hansen, Bonner Springs USD 204, KASBO
Kristin Magette, Eudora USD 491 – KanSPRA
Dennis Peerenboom, Seaman USD 345 – KASPA
Joe Ryan, Smoky Hill Ed. Service Center - KCCTEA
Steve Splichal, Eudora USD 491 – KASCD
Glen Suppes, Smoky Valley USD 400 - KSSA
Donna Zerr, Augusta USD 402 – Past President
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas

Guest: Bret Church

The meeting was called to order by President Pete Bastian at 10:03 a.m.

1. Welcome
   - President Pete Bastian welcomed board members. The end of the school year has arrived. Many seniors’ last day is today.

2. Consent Agenda
   - Cory Gibson moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda, minutes from the March Board Meeting, and financials from February & March be approved. Seconded by Donna Zerr. Approved unanimously.

3. President’s Report
   - President Pete Bastian discussed the Executive Director’s evaluation. He said we can all agree G.A. does an excellent job. He was given all 5’s on his evaluation. We can’t thank G.A. enough for all he does. The Board recommends to renew G.A’s contract and include a 4% raise.
   - Cory Gibson moved to renew the Executive Director’s contract including a 4% raise. Dennis Peerenboom seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.
4. Executive Director’s Report

- Executive Director G.A. Buie discussed nominees to KSDE Board Committees. There have been multiple requests given for 4 committees. Though we give a recommendation, is still has to be approved by the board. Donna was recommended but hasn’t heard back yet. It can be a lengthy process. We expect to hear back before next board meeting in August or September. Doug Tressler will be representing KASEA on a committee.

- G.A. discussed Dyslexia Task Force Appointments. We have been given 2 appointments. It will be primarily elementary principals, we have also reached out to KASEA. This committee was created by the legislature and governor and will be chaired by Jim Porter. He has reached out to us for recommendations. We still have about a month before those are due. Input is welcome.

- G.A. discussed upcoming 2018-2019 Workshops. We send a survey via email last week. Looking over results, topics included building school and administrative partnerships, staff morale, social/emotional, and current legal topics. Write-ins included trauma-informed, school budgets, and project-based learning. As we prepare the calendar we try to have 5-6 regional topics, and would like to hear board feedback.
  - Joe Ryan – service centers offer some of these topics. Social/emotional are big all over the place, are offered elsewhere, and could create overlap.
  - Steve Splichal – work on building leadership from within.
  - Dennis Peerenboom – bring in outside speakers or from within organization or both. KSU might be able to help, KASB for legal topics. G.A. mentioned we might want to be careful on that, some are better speakers than others. They tend to be willing to help out.
  - Any other topics? Follow up with redesign schools, hear stories. Dr. Watson is pretty confident 5-6 are going to launch and move forward, so we should be able to get some good feedback. Let’s build in these items and look for presenters.
    Send any other recommendations to G.A. KELI Should have their list out soon.

- G.A. discussed the 2018-2019 budget. There were not many changes, just a few subtle changes. We are continuing to do well financially. Membership is up. There are multiple lines for income, which we will continue to grow. This report is accurate through April 1st. Payroll deductions will continue to come in. Dues will all be in one line next year. We budgeted for lower individual dues coming in, but more for PLN. We are currently in great shape. Membership is about half of our income. On convention income we increased the budget by 5k. We are currently at about 100k for this year, doing well there, exhibits are doing great, more than last year. Corporate sponsorships are up. We will leave it the same in the budget, but anticipate a little more. We just went over 25k on conference sponsors this year. A couple former conference sponsors have jumped over to corporate partnerships. We will continue to build our reserves. We are getting closer to being able to make some investments. There will be no changes in our service agreements. We don’t get a lot of money from our affiliates, just the ones we provide services for. As we collect money for associations for their conferences we are carrying the cost of the 2% charge plus transactional charges. We may need to revisit this as a board next year.

- Expenses are about the same. We are trying to keep numbers as close as possible. Travel expenses have been reduced a little. The big change will be seen in budget line 4220, equipment purchases. With Jerry Henn coming on board we will need a computer, etc
for him. 4224, tech maintenance (Wild Apricot, Mailchimp, Adobe, etc.) previously two lines, all in one now. Conference expenses are up a little due to increased participation and increased cost from the hotel, speakers, and convention center. G.A. is recommending an 8% salary increase for Kim, Jessi, and Sara. Bottom line, last year had income of 617k, this year will be closer to 650k. G.A. recommends budgeting 640k for next year, leaving a 10k buffer for other expenses. This year, once all of the bills are paid up, we should have 30-40k to reinvest.

- Cory Gibson moved to approve the 2018-2019 budget as written. Seconded by Glen Suppes. Approved unanimously.

5. Legislative Updates
- G.A. Buie discussed legislative updates. In terms of school finance, it is all in the hands of the Supreme Court. We are not sure whether it will be enough, but we will see in about a week or so. Glen Suppes asked what everyone is doing in terms of negotiations. Dennis said they are working on non-monetary things before they start dealing with salaries. Cory said they will be taking on monetary Monday night, reopen either way. Somewhere around 4% as it sits now on the base. Steve Splichal said they still have another 3 weeks before health insurance renewal. Glen said they are looking at 6%. Mike added more to health insurance. They are meeting tomorrow and looking to bump up the base a little. Glen said his people are being patient. Part of this has to include new positions for extra support. Dennis said they are playing around with leave days, maybe 12 days total rather than sick vs regular leave. They will likely compromise somewhere in the middle.
- Tax cuts have been avoided, at least for the time being. This is a conversation that will continue to be there any time we exceed estimates.
- We have so far been able to avoid a constitutional amendment due to favorable numbers in the house.
- August & November Elections – The strength we’ve had the last 2 years happened last August. We need to keep our challenges in the picture to keep pro-education legislators in the mix. Lots of big numbers coming in from outside Kansas to boost conservative numbers. We need to be careful, as gains we’ve made can flip.

6. Conference Updates
- G.A. gave a registration update, and the board discussed breakout session introductions. For the gubernatorial Q&A we have 6 candidates. We have reached out to Governor Colyer about speaking before or after Dr. Watson. His aid is excited about this and is getting us with his scheduler. We are still working on getting Greg Orman.
- We have maxed out registration for this 3-day workshop. 108 teachers from Mercury districts will attend. Most expenses are paid for, but USA will be offering some financial support for this event. Participating districts are very grateful for this workshop.

7. New Business
- G.A. asked board members their thoughts on the meeting schedule. They decided the first meeting should be in person, they a mix of in person and zoom meetings would work.
8. Adjourn
   • 10:50