



**Minutes of the March 28th, 2023, EASTCONN Board of Directors' Meeting
ZOOM MEETING**

Roll Call of Board Members:

Rod Perry, Scotland
Maryellen Donnelly, Hampton
Herb Arico, Willington - ZOOM
Terry Cote, Eastford - ZOOM
Sonia Greene, Woodstock
Justin Phaiah, Brooklyn
Michael Morris, Region #8
Amy Blank - Union

EASTCONN Staff Present: Eric Protulis, Carol Klemyk, Kim Bush, Kim Mansfield, Sharlene Edwards, Amy Margelony, Diane Dugas, Dona Prindle, Shawn Brodeur – ZOOM, Heather Plourde – ZOOM, Larisa Carr - ZOOM

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Board Chair, Justin Phaiah

Pledge of Allegiance

Changes to the Agenda:

**Add Executive Session to the Agenda
Remove Change in Scope for Head Start from the Agenda**

MOTION: Maryellen Donnelly motioned to add Executive Session and Remove Change in Scope for Head Start
SECOND: Michael Morrill
VOTE: Unanimous
ABSENTIONS: None

The Board of Directors voted to go into Executive Session with Carol Klemyk and Eric Protulis at 5:37 pm

MOTION: Michael Morris motioned to go into Executive Session
SECOND: Michael Morrill
VOTE: Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS: None

Carol Klemyk left Executive Session at 5:42 pm

The Board Of Directors came out of Executive Session at 5:49 pm

Audience with Citizens – None

Updates from Andy DePalma and Diane Dugas on the EASTCONN Mobile Learning Lab

Approval of minutes – one motion to approve all minutes as presented on the motion document:

MOTION: Michael Morris motioned to approve the minutes of the following meetings:
February 2023 Board of Directors' Meeting, March 9th, 2023 Policy Sub
Committee Meeting, March 9th 2023, Facilities Sub Committee Meeting, and
the March 16th, 2023 Board of Directors Special Meeting

SECOND: Sonia Greene

VOTE: Unanimous

ABSTENTIONS: None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy:

- Policies ready for approval with today's agenda
- Reviewing policies from CREC and comparing with CABA

Finance:

Finance Updates from Eric Protulis and Patricia Proctor:

- Budget Overview Power Point
- Building a RESC budget
- Expenses and Revenue – constant state of evolution
- Capital budget
- Not enough staff to increase enrollment
- Locked in the fuel rates for next year
- Grants are based on merit
- Districts paying full costs up front – reimbursements
- Some districts are slow to pay for services
- Discussion around the line of credit and looking at other banking sources
- Waiting on FY22 audit
- Budget and Board Approval

Facilities:

- The committee met at Transportation last month
- Updates on the GPS system and tracking of vehicles

- RFP's for districts – most districts are asking that the buses be no more than 5 years old
- Discussion around a new facility for Transportation

Head Start Updates:

- Board Chair, Justin Phaiah attended Policy Council
- Repurpose funds due to the Change in Scope – next month's Board Meeting
- Quality Enhancement and Improvement dollars are due
- Hired a Health Manager
- Enrollment is steady

NEW BUSINESS:

Enrollment Report:

- Holding steady right now
- Magnets have started enrollment for next school year
- Placement exams

Division Director's Report and Updates and Executive Director's Updates:

- Good News Minute discussion
- Positive feedback
- Highlights people and the good things that are happening at EASTCONN

HR Report:

- Still struggling to find individuals to fill positions
- Hired two new special ed teachers for next year

Additional Updates on Finance:

- Discussion and overview of three documents
- Fixed expenses through June 30th
- Balloon payments in June
- Overview of Aging Report

Executive Director Protulis led a short discussion on the Legislative updates.

Consent Agenda:

Approve the items on the Motion Document:

- **Approve the Resolution Authorization with DMHAS as presented**
- **Approve Updated Policies as presented**
- **Approve the First Read of the Updated Policies as presented**
- **Approve the QMC Field Trip to Sturbridge Village as presented**

MOTION: Michael Morrill made a motion with an amendment to remove the change of scope from the motion document; he motioned to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda as presented above

SECOND: Michael Morris

VOTE: Unanimous

ABSTENTIONS: None

Approve the Healthy Food Certification as presented for 2023-2024 – all language was read by Michael Morris as follows:

Required Language for Option to Combine Food and Beverage Exemptions BOEs that vote “yes” to participate in the healthy food option may choose to combine the two separate food and beverage exemptions into one motion by using the exact motion language below.

Required motion language for combined food and beverage exemptions: The (insert name of the board of education or governing authority) will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events, but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

MOTION: Michael Morris motioned to approve the Healthy Food Certification for 2023-2024 as read and presented

SECOND: Amy Blank

VOTE: Unanimous

ABSTENTIONS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Carol Klemyk