

Northern Plains Insurance Pool

Minutes

March 23, 2016

Chairman Dean Christensen called the meeting to order 10:03 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23 2016, in Huron, South Dakota at the Crossroads Hotel and Event Center.

Present: Please see attached attendance list for those that were present.

A motion was made by Garretson and seconded by Montrose to approve the agenda. All aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Rosholt to approve the minutes from the 2015 Annual Membership Meeting.

Chairman Christensen gave a report from the board. The board has been doing a lot of background work that the schools do not see. The opportunity to grow to a larger pool is not going to happen at this time. Chairman Christensen and a few other board members have had a meeting with Associated School Boards to discuss the possibility of combining into one group. Right now, that is not a feasible option. There has also been a lot of question if Sanford is the best company for us. Sanford represents the best value that the pool can get right now. The size of our pool helped with the negotiation process because if we were not the size we are now, our rates would have been a lot different. Self-funding could, in the future, have an enhanced network of multiple providers and deductibles for those different providers. The board feels like there should be a third party administrator to help the bid process and have discussions with two different third party administrators about our future needs. The board perspective for many years has been to be a pool and stay as a pool.

Sanford Health and Great Plains Brokerage joined the meeting at 10:33 a.m. Chairmen Christensen thanked Sanford and GPB for the renewal rates that we ended up with. It was a very difficult year but wanted to thank them for all the work they have done.

Agent Merle Krull will be retiring effective June 30, 2016. The board presented Merle with a plaque that states the quote "Today was good, Today was fun, Tomorrow is another one". Chairmen Christensen thought this quote summed up Merle's everyday work perfectly. The board and member schools thanked Merle for a job well done! Merle also thanked the board and Dean for the hard work that they have put into keeping the pool going. He also thanked Jason Hubers and staff for having their hearts in the right place. Merle also expressed thanks to the superintendents and business managers of the member schools for welcoming him into their schools.

Kristi Lewis reported that there is a new website started for the insurance pool. The website address is npinspool.org. If anyone has any suggestions, please get the suggestions to Kristi so the website can be finished.

Sanford and Great Plains Brokerage showed a formula for how our renewal was calculated.

Change in PPACA Fees	-1.4%
+ Trend	7.2%
+Experience Adjustment	9.1%
+Partnership Credit	-5.0%
Renewal Rate for 2016-2017	9.9%

Discussion was held on Mid Central Educational Cooperative still being the fiscal agent. Chairmen Christensen stated that he has had and still has complete confidence in Dan Guericke but in light of everything happening he feels we need to look at the pools options for fiscal agent. The board has made a decision to move fiscal agent but Chairman Christensen would like the full membership to make the final decision. Motion by Hamlin and seconded by Montrose to approve Northeast Area Cooperative as the new fiscal agent for the pool. All aye. Motion carried.

Board terms that are up this year are Joel Jorgenson, Angela Arlt, and Gary Leighton. Joel Jorgenson will not be running for his term again because he has accepted a new position in Madison. Other people that are interested in running for positions on the board are Thomas Cameron, White River Superintendent; Angela Arlt, Lennox Business Manager; Nancy Meyer, Milbank Business Manager; and Gary Leighton, Florence Superintendent. There are two superintendent seats open and one business manager seat open. A ballot was in the voting members packet. Election was held with Gary Leighton, Thomas Cameron, and Angela Arlt being elected for a three-year term.

Chairmen Christensen presented the formula for renewing the insurance that the board recommended. Formula A was the formula that was presented and the overall increase is 9.9%. A motion was made by Parker and seconded by Marion to approve the renewal rate. All aye. Motion carried.

A vote was also held on if the member schools would like to see the pool go self-funded in 2017 or stay fully insured. A voting card was placed in the voting member packets. Seven schools were not able to make the meeting and they will be contacted on how they would like to vote. The schools that were able to vote at the meeting, supported 100% in moving to a self-funded pool. All aye. Motion carried.

Cindy Christensen from Montrose expressed appreciation for the work that the Insurance Pool board does. She also thanked Sanford and GPB for moving the rate to a more manageable rate.

Motion was made by Vermillion and seconded by Hamlin to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.