

**Minutes of Board of Education  
Special Meeting  
March 2, 2022  
Zoom**

***Board of Education members in attendance – all via Zoom***

Kristin Adams, Jeannie Davis, Dick Running, James Merryman, John Sarna, SherylIn Dahl, and Tony Lapiz

***Staff and Representatives in attendance – all via Zoom***

Lisa Avery, Ann Buchele, Sheldon Flom, Hathai Sangsupan, Karelia Stetz-Waters, Kimberly Kopplien, Hannah Briggs, and Elizabeth Droscher

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**The special meeting was called to order at 6:08pm**

**Technical difficulties were experienced with the Livestream of this meeting. A Zoom video link will be placed on the Linn-Benton website with any questions to be directed to the President's office.**

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – None

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** – None

**INTRODUCTIONS** – None

**BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF EIDE BAILLY CONTRACT** – Mr. Flom presented information on the of potential eligibility for the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) program made possible through an extension of the CARES Act. Eide Bailly is a certified public accounting and business advisory/consulting firm. The credit could be up to \$7.7 million. Eide Bailey has proposed a fee of 10% of gross ERC credits. Services from Eide Bailey include preparation assistance with documents needed for the IRS for the refund. The IRS can take up to 9-10 months to process and then send a paper check (electronic deposit not an option for this refund).

A proposal is being discussed on how to use funds once received. This includes delay in budget cuts for the current year, potential funding for programs – an academic strategic plan is in development, review of tuition rate adjustments, and meeting with student leadership to review needs.

The updated budget proposal will be shared at the March Board meeting. The community budget members will be invited to that meeting.

The Board discussed the proposal as well as potential use of funds. The Board expressed a focus on tuition being of top priority.

**Motion:** Mr. Merryman moved to approve RES 21-22, to approve the Eide Bailly contract. Mr. Running seconded. Motion to approve RES 21-22, to approve the Eide Bailly contract was approved unanimously. (7,0)

President Avery noted that strategic cuts may still need to be made. More information will be presented at the March Board meeting.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

No Comments

**Adjourned Special Session at 6:26pm**

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Board Chair

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Clerk of the Board