SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

The meeting was called to order on 2-18-26 at 8:05 a.m.

Board Members Damisch and Millard were absent and excused. In line with the succession plan Secretary Parks acted as the Interim President.

Approval of Minutes: Board Member Neiss motioned to approve the minutes of 1-14-2026, it was seconded by Board Member Elswick. The motion carried.

Old Business

- Dr. Burns discussed that 9 member districts were given an assignment of Tier 1 while 2 districts were assigned status of Tier 2 within the new IAA-DLM 1% Exception Tier Framework. Dr. Burns mentioned that it was possible to stay with statistical accuracy that one student who moved into a new district and previously took the DLM-IAA in a different district could move the new district from Tier 1 to Tier 2 if no other changes were noted. Dr. Burns discussed the recent C.L.I.C. mandated I.A.C. appraisal and the document was in the board packet. Dr. Burns reviewed the contract with the I.A.S.B. for policy customization services that would be voted on at the Executive Board meeting.

NEW Business

- Dr. Burns discussed the rationale and purpose associated with a forthcoming Interfund Loan Transfer of $90,000 from the O/M Fund to the Education Fund and that this will most likely be voted on at the March Executive Board Meeting.
- Dr. Burns then mentioned a member district request for CPI services and then discussed some of the issues related to providing this training. Dr. Burns mentioned that his specific FTE could potentially obtain the training and be a trainer for the cooperative however this would need to be voted on by the board as a change of the Executive Director job description to justify such time being given to specific districts on demand. This led to a general discussion over the specific FTE of the Executive Director and whether the focus of the continuation of the 2-24-26 Strategic Planning meeting might be better focused on the role of the Executive Director as opposed to cooperative level services. A discussion emerged regarding cooperative level services and the further need to “sell” the cooperative as a vehicle for services to be performed. Dr. Burns mentioned that in order to have conversation related to member districts voluntarily yielding the locus of control for the cooperative to perform such services that he would need to be a full participant in the conversation, and a moderator or consultant would be needed to facilitate the meeting. The board further discussed that having a follow-up meeting with a consultant prior to the close of this year would be preferred to which Dr. Burns mentioned that he would review potential consultants’ ability to provide these services.
- Dr. Burns discussed a document illustrating ISBE’s response to the recently amended 34-54 and 34-57 forms, in addition to the Statement of Economic Interest Forms and the upcoming Governing Board of Directors Meeting. Dr. Burns discussed a cyclical monitoring meeting for member districts and the IAASE Winter Conference.

Financial Reports: Dr. Burns discussed the recent and monthly financial activities and summary of the cooperative and how disbursement report in addition to a bank fee that was associated with the original formation of the current bank account structure when SEDOM had larger amounts of revenue within the banking system.

Disbursement List: Dr. Burns discussed recent expenditures and the current disbursement report.

Facilities- Dr. Burns discussed recent concerns about the long line of vehicles that are dropping students off at MENTA and that meeting times may need to be adjusted if it is proving difficult to get into the parking lot.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.