

gb-20050113-min
Licking Area Computer Association

Minutes of the LACA Governing Board meeting held January 13, 2005, convening at 9:00 a.m. Nelson McCray called the meeting to order.

The following members answered present to the roll call: Kathy Lowery, Jay Gault, Tom Slater, Forest Yocum, Max Maley representing Doug Spade, Marvin Wourms, Ron Cassidy, Nelson McCray and Sandra Mercer. Doug Heuer, Phil Herman, Janice Streit, Gary Reed, Keith Richards and Jackie Piar were not able to attend. Jon Bowers was also in attendance for the meeting.

05-025 It was moved by Tom Slater and seconded by Kathy Lowery to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2004 meeting. A vote of approval was taken.

The Financial Report for November, 2004, was distributed to each member. The financial status of LACA was presented by Sandra Mercer. LACA ended November 30, 2004, with an unencumbered cash balance of \$273,442.81. FY05 appropriation modifications were also presented and included increases to expenditures of \$256,323.07 and increases to revenues of \$259,323.07 for the required E-Rate flow through. Discussion followed on the process for distributing E-Rate funding beginning in FY06.

05-026 It was moved by Tom Slater and seconded by Ron Cassidy for LACA to issue E-Rate credits beginning in FY06 unless specifically requested by a participating school/district. A vote of approval was taken.

05-027 It was moved by Tom Slater and seconded by Marvin Wourms to approve the following financial recommendations:

1. Financial reports - November
2. FY05 Appropriation Modifications - January

A vote of approval was taken.

In LACA's review of Internet Service requests under the E-Rate program, an ODE Chartered private school, Kairos Academy, has posted a bid request. It was moved by Jay Gault and seconded by Tom Slater to approve LACA service offering and E-Rate bid for Internet services to Kairos Academy. Vote: Gault, no; Slater, no; Lowery, no; Yocum, no; Maley, no; Wourms, no; Cassidy, no; McCray, no. Motion did not pass.

05-028 It was moved by Kathy Lowery and seconded by Tom Slater to approve the revised LACA Web Hosting Services Policies and Procedures effective January 13, 2005. A vote of approval was taken.

The presentation/discussion portion of the meeting included the following highlights:

OREDS Discussion

Rep. Setzer has been working w/ LSC to rewrite HB567. The MCOECN has been approached for suggestions. It appears that EMIS will be removed and in a separate bill, and the number of regions will increase to 16 (aligned to SERRCs) with several branches in each region--- ESC's, Technology, Special Ed. and School Improvement. She has plans to announcement it soon. The LACA Governing Board discussed many concerns with the bill and school funding. Nelson McCray has set up a meeting with Rep. Hood for January 28th and encouraged the Superintendents to bring Board members and attend.

RUS Distance Learning Grant

Jon Bowers presented information on the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) Distance Learning Grant opportunity. One elementary building in each targeted district has been identified to receive up to \$12,000 in video equipment along with an additional \$25,000 in funding for

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distance learning content for all the schools. Each participating district would need to develop a budget of matching funds and provide for the cost of writing the grant. Interested districts are to contact Jon Bowers no later than January 20, 2005.

Data Driven Decision Making - "DM3"

At the request of ODE, LACA recently sent out requests to districts on data needs to support decision making. A matrix for collection of the responses was distributed to each Governing Board meeting. ODE has "hinted" the idea of creating a new "core service" (ie: required and funded) around D3M, including service level agreements between ODE, DASites, and districts. Districts with information gathered at the local level on data collection needs were asked to forward the information to Sandy Mercer by Friday, January 21, 2005.

E-Mail Retention Policy

A packet of information that Kimball Carey (Bricker and Eckler) compiled regarding the need for e-mail retention policies for school districts and consequently DASites was previously e-mailed to each LACA Governing Board member. The packet, reasons and steps were discussed in detail. It was agreed by all members present not to pursue the development of a retention policy and/or procedures at this time.

Personnel

Sandra Mercer will be in contact with the LACA Personnel Committee for a meeting prior to the next regular LACA Governing Board meeting. Staff salaries for FY06 and staff positions will be presented. Current committee members include: Marv Wourms, Nelson McCray, Keith Richards, Tom Slater and Jay Gault.

Special Education Grant

The ODE/Office for Exceptional Children announced the Special Education grant on Jan. 7th with a due date of Feb 18th. LACA will be pursuing the Special Education Student Software Implementation grant on behalf of all LACA districts and will work with the Special Education Directors for the grant content. District Superintendents will be contacted about a commitment letter and other required information. Discussion followed on collaborating and/or providing support services to other regional DASites. The Board left this decision up to Sandy Mercer, the Executive Director.

Third Frontier Network

LACA has not received any new official communication on DASite connectivity to the TFN (Third Frontier Network). LACA has been contacted by the City of Newark, IT department about local fiber connectivity and LACA staff will be meeting with a representative this Friday.

A copy of LACA's January Newsletter was presented to each Governing Board member.

No new or unfinished business was presented.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2005, at 9:00 a.m.

05-029 It was moved by Tom Slater and seconded by Marvin Wourms to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. A vote of approval was taken.

Reported by,
Sandra Mercer