Minutes of the MACSS Fall Conference Business Meeting

September 26, 2017

Rock Creek Inn, Red Lodge

Call to order: President Linda Marsh called the meeting to order.


Kathy Pfister was appointed the parliamentarian by the chairperson, Linda Marsh.

Approve Agenda for Business Meeting: Cathy Sessions moved to approve the agenda. Mary Yarnell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes from Spring 2017 Meeting in Helena: Cathy Maloney moved to approve the minutes. Jack Eggensperger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Rhonda Long presented the Treasurer’s Report and the Proposed Budget for 2018. It was noted that only two counties did not pay their dues this year, which is down from 13 last year.

Committee Reports:

a. MACO: Susan Beley was not in attendance, so there was no report.

b. Teacher of the Year: Susan Metcalf reported that the application will be posted on the SAM website and emailed out to each County Superintendent. The deadline for applications will be March 15, 2018, since our conference is not until April this year.

c. Sunshine: Pam Birkeland has received no communications, so members were urged to contact her if they become aware of “sunshine” needs.

d. Delegate Assembly Steering Committee: Jessica, Rhonda, Molly, Jack, and Cathy S. are on this committee. Jack reported that the concerns voiced at the June meeting will be posted on the SAM Positions and Resolutions page, which must go before the steering committee by April 1, 2018. He encouraged our members to check the SAM website to stay current on these issues.

e. MSSA: Jules and Linda are our representatives, and Linda reported that they had a meeting at Harrison, MT, which included an interesting school tour. MSSA has hired
Dean Phillips to do workshops to free up Dan Rask for other duties. There is an open
trustee position available on this Board.

f. NREA/NREA: Jules will continue to keep us updated through emails, and he will be
attending the NREA Executive Committee team meeting in Columbus, Ohio during the
National NREA Convention in October. Jules missed the NREAC (National Rural
Education Advocacy Coalition) meeting held in Washington D.C., but he praised Senator
Tester for his diligence in championing rural education in Washington D.C.

g. SAM: Alyssa Cubello will be present at our conference in the afternoon to discuss the
Education Superhighway Project/E-Rate. There was no other SAM report.

h. Legislative Bill Summary: Under the new OPI website Leadership tab is where you can
find information under Finance and Grants and Bills tabs. As this is a non-legislative
year, there was nothing to report.

i. Historian: Cathy Sessions urged members that if they find information of historical
importance to our organization in their offices to please pass it along to her.

j. By-laws: Susan B., Kathy P, Jules, and Cathy M. are on this committee, which has not
met.

k. Strategic Plan: Cathy S. reported that our link on the SAM website has our strategic plan
posted.

l. Hearings: Jack, Kathy P., Jessica, Rhonda, and Pam are members of this committee,
which has not yet met. The discussion centered around developing a “pool” of
experienced hearing officers that a County Superintendent could draw upon if he/she
ever faces a hearing. Kathy volunteered to chair this committee.

m. Handbook: Susan B., Jessica, Rhonda, Pam, Jo, Kathy P., Cathy M., and Linda served on
the committee that updated the MACSS handbook. They brought 38 copies of their
updates to the meeting, which will be distributed during “newbie” training at this
conference.

n. Other: Members were reminded that Kirk Miller has posted his Executive Director’s
Report on the SAM website.

Unfinished Business:
a. Spring Conference 2018: After much discussion regarding the possibility of moving the conference from Libby to another location, Molly Lloyd moved that the decision of venue and dates for the Spring Conference would be decided by the e-board. Kathy P seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Some ideas for Spring Conference programs included the Montana Preservation Alliance, ESSA, Cyber Security, ACES training, trauma informed care, Montana Regional Service Centers, Sped laws, Section 504’s, and discussion regarding flexing Title IV into Title I or IIA.

b. Regarding the Combined Offices Survey, members agreed that Jeff’s presentation and our establishment of the Hearing Committee have addressed the primary concerns of this issue.

New Business:

a. Fall Conference 2018: Since Steve resigned his position, there was much discussion regarding moving the venue from Glendive to another location. Patty moved that again we allow the e-board to make the determination. Kathy P seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. SAM Delegate Assembly will be June 14-15, 2018. Call for statements are due April 1, 2018. Jules shared that he has a statement regarding lunch shaming. Delegates to the assembly will be chosen at our spring conference.

c. Legislative Chair Vacancy: Cathy Maloney was appointed to fill the vacancy to serve as our legislative committee chairperson.

d. Other: Late registration and late payments for conferences was discussed. Both of these issues create problems for the e-board in planning and paying the venues. No action was taken, but the membership is reminded to please register on time and pay on time to avoid this problem in the future. County Superintendents were also reminded to publish cash balances according to 20-3-205.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Linda Marsh.