

META Board Web Meeting DRAFT Minutes

February 17, 2021

1:00 – 2:00 PM



In attendance: Everett Holm, Mindy Obert, Carol Phillips, Robert Parker, Brad Somers, Brian Norwood, Scott Baldwin, Paul Kozlowitz, Darlene Hess, Kirk Miller, Kim Scofield, Gary Wagner

Not in attendance: Travis Baumann, James Krippes, Rich Lawrence, Adam Toombs, Branson Rogers, Detlef Schlieper, Jeredene Mayfield

Presiding – *Everett Holm*, META President

AGENDA

Call Meeting to order and Introductions

President Holm called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

1. **Approval of [META Board Leadership Web Meeting 1-6-21 DRAFT Minutes \[Action\]Mindy](#)**

Carol Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes; Brian Norwood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **META Business**

1. [2021 METAtchED Virtual Spring Conference](#) Update – *Carol Phillips*

Carol reported that Save the Date postcards have been sent for the virtual conference. The conference will be held for two half days, from 8:00 to noon on Monday, March 22, and Tuesday, March 23rd. The conference theme is *The ABCs of Student Safety and Cyber Security* with ABC standing for Assets, Backups, Communication. The Board meeting will be held on March 22nd at 1:00 PM and the META Business Meeting is scheduled for March 23rd at 1:00 PM. All of the vendors are offering prizes for raffles and the drawings will be held during the META Business Meeting. Attendees are eligible to win prizes by entering each vendor's Zoom room. She stated that she has discussions with each of the vendors who are presenting that attendees do not want the sessions to be too product specific. Carol suggested that no other presentations be scheduled at the same time as the Google presentation. She will also try to schedule an ADA Compliance session during the conference.

Carol mentioned that TROX paid \$5000 to be a platinum sponsor and four or five speaker sponsors have paid \$1500. No expenditures are expected for META.

The registration form will be posted and sent out to all META members once the registration fee has been decided. All sessions will be recorded allowing attendees to access all sessions after the conference. Carol stated that the registration fee has been \$75 in the past. Mindy suggested keeping the registration fee at \$75. Everett agreed.

Brian Norwood made a motion to set the registration fee at \$75; Mindy Obert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Everett stated the non-member registration fee is \$125.

2. **Cybersecurity Project Update - MT K-12 CERT** – *Carol Phillips, Mindy Obert, James Krippes*

Mindy reported that the information has been sent from OPI.

3. [COVID-19 Information for Schools](#) Update – *Kirk Miller*

Kirk reviewed the resources available on the SAM website. Everett urged board members to encourage their health department officials to allow educators to receive vaccinations as soon as possible.

4. META Awards Update – *Kim Scofield*

Kim reported that the award nominations are open until March 1st. The SAM office will send a reminder next week. The notification has also been included in the recent SAM Bulletin and in SAM Friday Updates. A presentation will be created to honor the award winners.

5. Filling Vacant META Board of Director Seat – NE Region

Brad stated that the Technology Director in Glendive may be interested. Brad will email him and introduce him to Everett.

6. META New Board Member Virtual Orientation

The New Board Member Virtual Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th at 1:00 PM. An invitation will be sent to participating board members.

7. Discussion of META Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative - Appointment recommendation to the SAM Board for Consideration by June 10, 2021

Everett provided background information on SAM Delegate Assembly. Kirk stated that Rich Lawrence was appointed two years ago as the META Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative. This position should be held by the META board member who is most knowledgeable on advocacy. The META board will provide a recommendation to the SAM Board before June 10th. The SAM Board will make the appointment. Kirk suggested that Everett reach out to Rich to see if he would like to continue in this position. Everett will contact Rich. He asked if any board members are interested in serving in this position. Carol expressed interest. Kirk stated that the commitment for the Delegate Assembly Steering Committee representatives is significant. Everett also encouraged board members to consider serving on the SAM Delegate Assembly in June.

3. **Reports**

1. President Report – *Everett Holm*

Everett reported that he has been busy with technology support to his district and hopes that his district school board votes to allow students to engage in onsite learning. He is looking forward to the conference.

2. President Elect Report – *Carol Phillips*

Carol reported that she has spent much of her time planning the conference. She stated that she has enjoyed listening to Kirk's SAM Legislative Network podcasts.

3. Past President and CoSN State Chapter – *Brian Norwood*

Brian reported that CoSN has been navigating the new administration. He will be attending the ConSN conference in March. Most students in his district are participating in onsite learning.

4. South East – *Branson Rogers*

No report.

5. South Central – *Darlene Hess*

No report.

6. Central – *Adam Toombs & Scott Baldwin*

Scott reported that they have been working on new phone systems. Most students are participating in onsite learning in the area districts.

7. 4 Rivers – *Mindy Obert & Brad Somers*

Mindy reported that a meeting was held last week. The agenda allowed time for member discussion. Mindy stated that Gary Meyers, new technology director in Helena, attended the meeting. She stated that Mitch Irvine from Belgrade would like to take Mindy's place on the META Board and serve as 4 Rivers co-director next year.

8. Western – *Paul Kozlowitz*

Paul stated that he is interested to continue to hear what is happening legislatively. He thanked Carol for all of her work to plan the conference.

9. Northwest – *Detlef Schlieper*

No report.

10. North Central – *Jeredene Mayfield & James Krippes*

No report.

11. Hi Line – *Robert Parker & Travis Baumann*

Robert reported that the region members have been discussing devices, internet access, and filters. He stated that most schools on the hi-line are providing blended learning for students. Many educators on the hi-line have received vaccinations.

12. North East – *TBD*

4. **Advocacy Update** – *Rich Lawrence & Kirk Miller*

1. [2021 Legislative Session](#) Update Including the Technology related bills

Kirk reviewed the resources on the SAM website. He reviewed the [current bills followed by SAM](#) stating that technology bills are prioritized under "5 IT". He stated that testimony was provided recently for HB 10 (Long-Range Information technology Appropriations) and HB 181 (Reauthorizing the e-rate broadband program). Kirk reviewed the [SAM Legislative Update 7 2-12-21](#). He stated that HB 2 is currently being heard in the House Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education that includes the allocation of federal ESSER II funds that will be distributed to Montana school districts. Once this bill passes out of committee, the funds would then be put in HB 4. The fear is that the legislature will use these funds to balance the budget instead of allocating it to education. Kirk thanked those members who are serving on the SAM Legislative Network 2021 (SAMLN21) which meets each Monday at noon for the SAMLN21 Lunch and Legislate webinar.

2. [Federal Issues](#) Update

Kirk stated that information will be coming soon about the Biden Coronavirus Response that will include ESSER III funds. This information will be posted on the COVID Information for Schools webpage when it is available.

5. **Executive Director Report** – *Kirk Miller*

The items in the report were discussed earlier in the meeting.

6. **Open Discussion** - Items brought to the Board by Regional Directors

Carol stated that TROX, the METAtchED platinum sponsor, has many different offerings such as an e-sports specialist team, Google team, Go Guardian team. TROX would like to host a free conference for all technologists in the state of Montana. They asked if META would like to have their name on the conference. TROX would like to also be the METAtchED platinum sponsor next year. Everett suggested that Carol works with the SAM office to discuss this possible opportunity. Kirk recommended that Carol with Gary discuss the possibility of TROX becoming a SAM Business Partnership.

7. **Adjourn**

Carol Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Brad Somers seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 PM

META CALENDAR [SAM and Affiliates Schedule of Conferences and Board Meetings](#) [SAM Web Calendar](#)

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Scofield
Director of Member Services and Professional Learning