

STEM Action Center Board Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2017 • 2:00pm

STEM Action Center: 60 East South Temple, 3rd Floor, Salt Lake City

Members Present:	Bert VanderHeiden, Val Hale, Rich Nelson, Blair Carruth, Sydnee Dickson, Jon Pierpont
Members Absent:	Kathleen Riebe, Dave Woolstenhulme, Tami Pyfer
Staff:	Tami Goetz, Sue Redington, Kaitlin Felsted, Jackie Moynihan, Kellie Yates, Lynn Purdin, Abby Dowd, Chuck Keeler, Lolly Bowler, Yeganeh Lari, Alli Moore
Visitors:	Brent Petersen, Kimberlee Carlile, Michael Sullivan, Joleigh Honey, Joseph Demma, Brian Parker, Angie Tymofichuck, Cari VandeVeegaete, Joseph Spence, Justin Lee, Jennifer Graviet

I. Welcome and Related Business

Val Hale and Tami Goetz welcomed everyone to the meeting and called it to order. The new STEM Foundation board members were present, and went around the table to introduce themselves. Val asked if anyone would like to make a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Jon Pierpont moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Sydnee Dickson.

APPROVE NOVEMBER MINUTES

MOTION: JON PIERPONT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, SECONDED BY SYDNEE DICKSON. THE MOTION WAS UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.

II. Board Discussion

Val Hale mentioned the fact that GOED is looking to streamline their programs, and that will potentially include moving the STEM Action Center out of GOED. The possibility of moving the STEM AC to the Department of Workforce Services has been discussed. Val reiterated that this is not a final decision, everything is still in the discussion phase, but he wanted the board to be aware of potential future changes. Syd Dickson asked that it be discussed why DWS would be a good option. Tami Goetz spoke to the reasons that the STEM AC is a large invoicing and contracting burden and DWS has a large finance department that could accommodate that, and that it aligns with the STEM AC's projects regarding talent development in the workforce. Jon Pierpont seconded the point made that DWS has large financial and administrative teams, but mentioned that they are definitely open to whatever the legislature decides. Sydnee Dickson brought forth the point that the math software programs align well with USBE and that it can be frustrating when outlying projects land in the STEM AC when perhaps they align better with USBE's mission.

Val Hale brought the discussion around to the topic of the selection of new board members. He and Tami had discussed the option of creating a sub-committee to review the names and more thoroughly vet them before bringing them before the board to vote on. It was decided to postpone the voting until the next meeting. The board members that volunteered to be on the sub-committee include Kathleen Riebe, Rich Nelson and Tami Pyfer.

Tami Goetz pointed out that Val Hale has been shouldering the responsibility of chair and vice-chair for quite some time, and it would be ideal to get an individual for the chair position

submitted and appointed as soon as possible to share the burden. Vance Checketts with Dell/EMC has been discussed as a candidate and he has agreed to accept the position if offered. Val asked if a board member would like to make a motion to approve Vance as a candidate for chair. Bert VanderHeiden made the motion, Blair Carruth seconded.

Tami Goetz then gave a brief presentation about the STEM AC's recent audit report. She explained that the STEM AC was recommended for a limited scope audit and review and the team was open and willing to aid the auditing team in their report. The report has been submitted for audit review. There were a few main concerns going into the audit, including effective reporting, mixing of private and public funds and vendor control. Tami went over the recommendations that were given of how STEM AC can improve, including focusing on and reporting performance measures/goals. It was verified that over half of the STEM AC funding went to student programs and nearly 30% went to teachers, which addresses the concern that funding is going mainly to administration. Previous concerns about financial reporting were resolved. Overall, it was a positive experience and will help the STEM AC continue to make improvements in effectiveness and performance reporting in the future.

Michael Sullivan introduced the STEM Action Center Strategic Plan. Each board member received a hard copy and was encouraged to look through it. Michael explained that it is broken down in program specific strategies and each one relates back to the appropriate legislation to show how our programs are lining up with statute. Tami thanked Michael for his help in creating this strategic plan. With all of the expansion and added programs, it was important to define a detailed strategic plan.

Kellie Yates, STEM Liaison, then talked briefly about the Professional Learning and STEM Endorsement programs, speaking to what improvements are being made to make them the most effective. Rich Nelson opened up discussion about what other sources of funding there are in the state for teacher professional learning and asked how that is being tracked.

Sue Redington, Program Director, took a moment to talk about the K-12 Math Personalized Learning program. The applications have been opened up to LEA's and the program will be discussed in further depth at the next meeting. Tami Goetz also talked about the K-16 Computing Initiative and how lots of new teachers are getting endorsed and trained to teach Computer Science. However, there needs to be an effective way to follow up and see if they really are teaching the courses. A list of potential ways that industry can get involved in the classroom was sent out to key industry members. It was asked what the board members can do to help the STEM AC, and Tami asked that everyone work to get industry more involved with teachers and students.

Kaitlin Felsted, Marketing and Communications, took a moment to talk about the successes of the STEM Best Practices conference that was held June 20, 2017. There were over 550 people in attendance. Tami Goetz explained the STEM School Designation awards that were presented at the conference. Val Hale mentioned some upcoming events and wrapped up the meeting.

III. Adjournment

MOTION: VAL HALE MOVED TO CLOSE THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.