

August 15, 2025

BROWN COUNTY KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION INTERLOCAL #615
301 S. FIRST STREET HIAWATHA, KS 66434
Phone (785) 742-7108

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 15, 2025

(These minutes are not official until approved at the September 3, 2025 board meeting.)

The Board of Education of the Brown County Kansas Special Education Interlocal #615 held its regular August Board of Education meeting at 6:00 p.m. on August 15, 2025 at the Special Education Annex in Hiawatha.

CALL TO ORDER

Shelby Rice called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

John West, Director
Rex Lockwood, USD 430 Board Member
Shelby Rice, USD 430 Board Member
Brooklyn Schuetz, USD 415 Board Member
Jacquie Spihlmann, USD 415 Board Member
Roni Tietjens, USD 415 Board Member
Amy Larson, Board Clerk/Business Manager

Those absent were:

Jon Boller, USD 430 Board Member

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Roni Tietjens moved to approve the agenda. Rex Lockwood seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Brooklyn Schuetz was sworn in at the Brown County Courthouse.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no comments from the president.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Rex Lockwood moved to approve the consent agenda. Brooklyn Schuetz seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero. Included in the consent agenda was:

1. Approval of the minutes of the July 2, 2025 regular board meeting.
2. Approval of the bills for the month of August 2025.
3. Accept the treasurer's report for the month of August 2025.
4. Approve the rehire of Kristina Mowry as Hiawatha Elem Special Ed Para; hires of Brenda Middleton, EMS Special Ed para; Lisa Middleton, HMS Special Ed para; Chasity Arnold, HES Special Ed para.
5. Accept the resignation of Nancy Wahweotten, Horton Elem Special Ed Para.

STATE AUDIT AND FINANCIAL AUDIT UPDATE

Amy Larson stated that the financial audit went well on July 15. The state audit finished on August 14 and the Interlocal estimated slightly higher than actual on the state aid. The interlocal has to estimate state aid in early May for the full year and the goal is to overestimate so that the Interlocal receives all state aid due to them.

REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE 2025-26 BUDGET

Director West and Amy Larson reviewed the 2025-26 budget. After discussion, Jacquie Spihlmann moved to approve the 2025-26 budget and Roni Tietjens seconded. The motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Director West reviewed para staffing concerns with the board members.
- Director West stated that there are three teachers in e-mentoring through Fort Hays State University.
- Director West discussed the caseload for speech providers including teletherapy.
- Director West stated that Everest Middle School will receive a challenging student which will require a para.
- Director West stated that he would like to attend a Greenbush virtual forum on special ed director for \$2,000. This was recommended by his mentor.
- Director West stated that the preschool programs are moving to an integrated model. There was discussion that followed.

Jacquie Spihlmann moved to approve Director West to enroll in the Greenbush special ed director forum for \$2,000. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

Jacquie Spihlmann moved to approve the contract with Motormouth Therapy. Rex Lockwood seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

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Jacquie Spihlmann moved to approve the revised physical therapy contract with RehabVisions as presented. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero.

Shelby Rice left the room at 6:38 pm.

Jacquie Spihlmann moved to approve the occupational therapy contract for Trina Rice as presented. Rex Lockwood seconded the motion passed with a vote of four to zero.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS, AND STUDENT PERSONNEL

There was no executive session.

OTHER

There was no other business.

ADJOURN

Rex Lockwood moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Roni Tietjens seconded and the motion passed with a vote of five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BCK-SEI Board of Education will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at the Special Education Annex in Hiawatha.

_____	Board _____, President	_____	_____, Clerk
_____	_____, Date	_____	_____, Date