MINUTES – Special Meeting Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:02am by Board Chair Cory Steiner. Present by video conference were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Dustin Hager, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Angela Nagel, Sheila Schlafmann, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. Amber Fridley and Superintendent Kristen Baesler were absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin and Amy Bigelow from ESPB and Allyson Hicks and Mark Openshaw from Office of Attorney General.

Berg, Benjamin – Mr. Berg has been charged with an offense that, if convicted, would require revocation of his license under NDCC 15.1-13-26. At this time his license can be suspended under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c) and (j). A settlement agreement can be offered that would immediately suspend Mr. Berg's license until the outcome of his court case. If he pleads or is found guilty to any offenses based on the underlying facts of the case, his license would be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26.

Patti Stedman made a motion to suspend Mr. Berg's license under NDCC 15.1-13-25(c) and (j). Seconded by Sheila Schlafmann. Patti said with cases like this it's the appropriate thing to do. Sheila agreed. Dustin Hager asked if Mr. Berg is currently working as a teacher. He's not reported as a teacher on the MIS03 anywhere in North Dakota for the current school year. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Dustin Hager, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Angela Nagel, Sheila Schlafmann, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10am.

Secretary/Executive Direct