



Peaslee Board of Directors Agenda

September 14, 2023, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Peaslee Tech Directors Meeting

In Attendance: Shirley Martin-Smith, Wayne Ricks, Dr. Kevin Kelley, and Kiah O'Quinn, as official minute-taker

In Attendance via Zoom: Bobbie Flory, Dr. Bill DeWitt, and Cynthia Yulich

Not in Attendance: Brittany Hall, Bonnie Lowe, Rick Hird, George Crump, and Andrea Chavez

Shirley called the meeting to order at 3:34pm

1. Meet & Greet of USD 497 Staff – Kevin Bailey

Kevin Kelley introduced the new Auto Tech instructor for the USD 497, Kevin Bailey, who started about 4 weeks ago. Kevin is from Kansas City, Kansas. Before taking this position, he worked for a concrete business for 16 years delivering concrete. Kevin taught in the Olathe area for 8 years prior to the concrete business and needed a change. He googled positions in secondary education and saw that USD 497 had an opening in Auto Tech. Kevin Bailey has been working to make the auto shop feel more like a dealership by adding a service desk so it operates more like a service shop.

2. Approval of August 10, 2023, Minutes/Agenda – Vote

Shirley entertained a motion to approve the minutes and the agenda. Cindy moved to approve the minutes/agenda. Motion was seconded by Bobbie. The motion of the minutes/agenda was unanimously approved.

3. Updates/Discussion:

- Apprenticeship Update

The fall Youth Apprenticeships started on 8/28/2023. The students attend Monday-Thursday 12:45-2:45.

- **3 students in Lube and Tire Tech, all from Eudora HS. They are working with Kevin Bailey, USD 497 instructor. They visited 3 shops on Monday 9/11/23 (Kia, Crown, and Subaru McCarthy) and all said they plan to apply for employment.**
- **4 Students in Carpentry, 2 from Eudora HS, 1 Lawrence High, 1 Free State High. They are building the second house in our partnership with Tenants to Homeowners.**
- **5 students in Facilities Maintenance, 2 from Free State High, 1 Baldwin High, 2 Heritage Baptist High. Since August 28th the apprentices have worked a little with carpentry, completed their OSHA, will do an onsite visit with USD 497 facilities maintenance team on 9/14/23, and learned the basic safety in electric, HVAC and plumbing. Kevin Kelley taught and showed them how to change the faucets in the bathrooms. The goal is to get them hired with a property management company.**
- **1 student in CDL from Baldwin High.**
- **We met with the new car dealers on Monday this week and updated them on the process and expectations of the youth apprentice program.**
- **We will be presenting to the Manufacturing Forum next week about the Intro to Manufacturing Youth Apprenticeship opportunity. The school counselors will also attend this, with roughly 30 people coming.**
- **We have completed our goal under the SAEI (State Apprenticeship Expansion Equity Innovation) grant of 108 apprentices in 5 years within 8 months. In total we've signed up about 130 apprentices.**

- **Tenants to Homeowners Update**
Kevin gave an update on the Tenants to Homeowners houses. We delivered the first house off Ward Street, which the lot will have 4 of the tiny homes there in total. The Electrician class has already gone in and finished the wiring of the home, the plumbers went in on 9/12/23 to do all the plumbing, and the HVAC trainees will go in soon. Our new set of Carpentry trainees started the framing of the next home. On this home, the trainees will do it in 3 separate modules for an easier, more flexible, and manageable process and move.
- **Grant Update**
Submitted the Rice Foundation and Everygy Grants for the Utility-Solar lab project. Will be submitting Sunderland grant before the end of this month for the same project.

4. Other Business

- Kevin announced to the board that he and Rick Hird were working on a letter to a company that had swindled roughly \$2200 from Peaslee. The company was originally supposed to wrap our truck with the logos of the car dealerships and has since stopped communicating with Kevin and has not completed the work.
- Kevin has a meeting with Midwest Concrete to see about them becoming a sponsor of our CDL program.
- Lawrence Home Builders Associations had a 5-year commitment to Peaslee Tech and that 5 years has ended but they have decided to extend another year. Bobbie said she does not see the support from the Lawrence Home Builders Association stopping.
- The roof is almost complete. They hit a couple bumps like water leaking into the Workforce Center side, but they estimated just another couple weeks.
- We are looking for a long-term instructor for the HVAC program. The current instructor was just helping us as a favor, so Kevin is going to do some recruiting for the program.
- The Lawrence Workforce Center hosted a job fair at Peaslee on 9/14/23. There were about 30 different employers and a lot of people from Allen Press looking for new jobs. Kevin suspected a lot of people from Allen Press may also come to Peaslee looking for training and a new start on a career.
- We currently have about 19 people studying for their Commercial Driver's License, 34 Electricians, 22 in Facilities Maintenance, and 16 in HVAC and Plumbing.
- Shirley said that the History of Peaslee Tech is almost complete and hoping to give it to the Legislators in a pdf version.
- On October 5th Peaslee will be on the radio program and the Lawrence Business Magazine's September issue is all about Peaslee Tech.
- There is a grant with Notre Dame, KU, University of Hawaii, and a few more for experimental refrigerants that Peaslee is a part of. The grant in total is a hundred million dollars, and Peaslee will get funded for the work we do. Peaslee would work closely with KU if awarded.
- Peaslee has a new batch of leadership instructors: Doris Ricks, Frank Harwood, Michael Machell, and George Crump. They will be instructing at Berry and Amarr. Kevin is talking with Prosoco about doing leadership classes there as well.

5. Executive Session (If needed)

No Executive Session was needed.

6. Adjourn

Shirley entertained a motion to adjourn. Wayne moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Bobbie. The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.