

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
1110 3RD STREET
FULTON, IL 61252
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR JANUARY BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

January 18, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on January 18, 2017, at the River Bend District Office.

Chris Barnett was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:34 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Nick Crosthwaite, Joe Holmbo, Jane Orman-Luker, and Dan Portz. Absent: Eric Fish and Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Faith Cannon, Jaime Frausto, Katie French, Michele James, Abby Lanxon, Kyle Miller, Kayla Newsom, Jordan Niemi, Dawson Saley, and Logan Sipe. Principals: Elizabeth Clark, Kathleen Schipper, and Chris Tennyson. RBEA: Lionel McCallister. Media: Nick Moffitt, Clinton Herald. Jerry Lindsey, Fulton Journal.

Additions to the agenda. Mr. Hogue added discussion of Fulton High School baseball team going to Tennessee over spring break, approval of the use of Health Life Safety Funds for a portion of the Phase II construction projects, and added discussion of negotiation matters during closed session.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Holmbo, to approve the agenda as amended. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

There was no communication from the RBEA.

Mr. Tennyson introduced Steamer of the Month, Logan Sipe. One of the teachers who nominated Logan said this, "Logan has been an outstanding leader in Student Council while excelling in the classroom. He puts in countless hours to make sure the Student Council machine is running flawlessly and acts as a shining example of how a leader should act. Logan does so without seeking recognition, and cares more about others than his own accolades."

Mr. Tennyson introduced Fulton High School Employee of the Month, Katie French. Mrs. French was nominated for going above and beyond in her classroom, caring for all students, and has dedicated time in the classroom to talk to seniors about career choices, college financial aid, and college in general.

President Portz asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public forum. There was no public comment.

Principal's reports. Mr. Tennyson introduced Kyle Miller, Fulton High School Varsity Baseball Coach. Mr. Miller is proposing a trip that would occur over spring break for the baseball team. The benefits include warm weather, quality competition, team building, USA Baseball Complex, and Educational. Mr.

Miller has enough money in his baseball account to cover the cost of the trip for the players. Parents are welcome to attend, but would cover their own expenses. Transportation would include the use of the activity bus and two vans. Mr. Miller will reimburse the district for the use of these vehicles. The Board recommended Mr. Miller have the participants sign a discipline contract. The Board is in favor of the trip.

Mr. Tennyson informed the Board that the High School is looking at offering a college level Chemistry class and Mr. Snyder may be able to teach a college level electricity class. The high school is also looking at offering a dual credit math course.

Mr. Tennyson informed the Board about the Sauk Valley Community College Academy opportunities for students to receive college credit. Students complete an application for the program and if selected would be able to earn 37 to 38 hours of transferable IAI general education credit. Students would be responsible for tuition and fees based on reduced Dual Credit Model and would provide their own transportation to Sauk. Students in the program will also be required to complete the Fulton High School Ramsey curriculum online.

(Mr. Tennyson left at 7:24 P.M.)

Mrs. Clark informed the Board Fulton Elementary School had a Family Reading Night at which 170 people attended and was well received.

President Portz thanked Mrs. Schipper for the leadership conference which received many positive comments. Member Orman-Luker attended the etiquette luncheon at the middle school and said it was a wonderful event.

Control Technology Solutions presented the final Phase II construction projects with associated costs. The final list of Phase II Construction Projects is as follows:

Fulton Elementary school projects:

1. Replace 9 heating and cooling systems in rooms that the systems are aging out of working service.
2. Repair and replace dangerous sidewalks that are currently uneven and cracking.

River Bend Middle School

1. Computer lab upgrade- renovate the technology lab space to make it into a Maker/STEM technology space. This space update requires abating asbestos, removing existing carpet and tile floors, upgrade the lighting and renovate the room.
2. Replace original heating systems and add cooling so that all the classrooms in the school will be cooled.

Fulton High School

1. Address drainage issue on the north side of the HS. Water flows into the cafeteria, gym and hall ways/rooms during periods of heavy rain. Water will be diverted away from the building and into city storm drains.
2. Renovate the library/media center- A collaboration room will be created for both students and staff. Removal of asbestos tile, and replacing existing carpeting, replace lighting, replace old heating and cooling systems and renovate the space so that it is technology and student ready.
3. Renovate the industrial arts space by adding new venting and putting a door that will allow projects to be completed inside and outside the building.
4. Sidewalk work around the HS will also be considered, but final planning has not taken place.

Miscellaneous:

\$170,000 dollars will be set aside for projects that were removed from the original list as well as provide a budget for the middle school, high school and elementary technology/STEM spaces.

The total cost for the above projects is 1.5 million dollars. Financing of the projects will include the sale of 1.5 million dollars of health life safety and working cash bonds and repay over a three-year period. This financing option will not increase the tax rate.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Portz, to approve Health Life Safety amendments for Fulton Elementary School for HVAC and sidewalk improvements in the amount of \$470,000; River Bend Middle School for HVAC and Computer Lab improvements in the amount of \$485,000; and Fulton High School for HVAC, drainage, sidewalk and library improvements in the amount of \$845,000. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Motion Carried

Mr. Hogue reported on the January 18, 2017, Citizen’s Advisory meeting. Mr. Hogue reviewed the Canvas Parent Portal. The group discussed ways to demonstrate and share with parents. Suggestions included demonstrating during open house and at the Freshman night. Mr. Hogue asked for feedback regarding the 2017-18 school calendar. The group appreciated not making up snow days during the scheduled spring break and not resuming school right after the winter holidays. Mr. Hogue shared information regarding dual credit opportunities. The parents appreciate the dual credit opportunities and would like a preview of what is available.

Mr. Hogue reported on the January 18, 2017, Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Hogue presented financial projections from ISBE. Mr. Hogue discussed financing options and length of time for the sale of bonds to finance the Phase II Construction projects. The committee recommended 1.5 million for three years. This will keep the tax rate at its current value. The current treasurer’s report was reviewed.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the Foundation. The Academic Excellence Dinner will be Saturday, March 4, 2017, with David Curley being the speaker. Funds received from memorials will be used to purchase a speaker podium. Spring grants will be reviewed in March, as well as, scholarship applications.

Mr. Hogue presented financial projections prepared by Mark Anderson, ISBE Financial Consultant. Projections were calculated using a variety of salary increases. The impact on the 2017-18 budget was also calculated based on the increase in Estimated Assessed Valuation of \$166,554 and decrease in General State Aid of \$140,000, due to declining enrollment, for a net loss of \$26,500.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment is holding steady at 931. The big shift in enrollment occurs when large classes leave and smaller ones enter.

Mr. Hogue updated the Board on the Athletic Boosters work on the gym foyer. Pictures of athletes and athletic teams will be hung in the foyer. The Steamboat will be painted above the doors on the exterior of the foyer and also etched in the glass doors.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to approve the consent agenda including the December 19, 2016, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; January 9, 2017, Special Meeting Minutes as printed; December Treasurer's Report; January Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$316,119.55, subject to audit; and authorization to dispose of closed session audio tapes: 2/17/15, 3/23/15, 4/20/15, 5/6/15, 5/18/15, and 6/15/15. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the Public School Calendar 2017-18 as presented.

It was moved by Member Holmbo, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the Public School Calendar 2017-18 as presented with emergency days being made up on Martin Luther King Day, Casimir Pulaski Day, the Monday following Easter, and the end of the year if necessary. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the Dual Credit Sauk Valley Academy described earlier in the meeting by Mr. Tennyson.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the Dual Credit Sauk Valley Academy. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the External Support Organization Agreements. External groups work in cooperation with the district and are asked to uphold district policies and agreements.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to approve the External Support Organization Agreements submitted by the Educational Foundation, River Bend Athletic Boosters, River Bend Middle School Kennel Club, River Bend Music Boosters, and Fulton Elementary PTO. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the Eric Ottens Memorial provided \$6,348.39 for teacher initiated projects.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to accept gifts to the district as presented. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended moving the February board meeting to either Monday, February 13, 2017, or Wednesday, February 15, 2017, due to conflicts on the 22nd.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Barnett, to change the February Board meeting to February 13, 2017. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue and President Portz reviewed the past six months of closed session minutes.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Holmbo, to retain the closed session minutes dated September 19, 2016, and October 17, 2016, at this time, due to the need for confidentiality to exist to all or part of the minutes. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to move into closed session for the purpose of discussing matter concerning the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and pending litigation; discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for the purpose of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes, and discuss collective negotiating matters between the Board and its employees or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees at 9:32 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Barnett, to come out of closed session for the purpose of discussing matter concerning the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and pending litigation; discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for the purpose of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes, and discuss collective negotiating matters between the Board and its employees or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees at 10:23 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Holmbo, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the December 19, 2016, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes and the January 9, 2017, Special Meeting Closed Session Minutes, as presented. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, February 13, 2017, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Crosthwaite, seconded by Member Holmbo, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 P.M. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

Dan Portz, President
Board of Education
River Bend Unit District #2
Whiteside County

Eric Fish, Secretary
Board of Education
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