

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

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

March 20, 2017

President Portz called the Health Life Safety and Working Cash Bond Hearing to order at 6:32 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Nick Crosthwaite, Eric Fish, Joe Holmbo, Jane Orman-Luker, and Dan Portz. Absent: Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary. Also in attendance were those listed below under introduction of guests.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the River Bend School District's intent to sell \$1,375,000 Health Life Safety and \$200,000 Working Cash Bonds. There being none, President Portz moved the agenda on to adjournment.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to adjourn the Health Life Safety and Working Cash Bond Hearing at 6:34 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.

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, Eric Fish, Joe Holmbo, Jane Orman-Luker, and Dan Portz. Absent: Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Cheryl Piercy, Dougal Nelson, and David Pistorious. Principals: Elizabeth Clark, Kathleen Schipper, and Chris Tennyson. Assistant Principal/AD: Josh Knuth. RBEA: Jeff Hoese. Media: Nick Moffitt, Clinton Herald. Jerry Lindsey, Fulton Journal.

Additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

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

There was no communication from the RBEA.

There was no Steamer or Employee of the Month recognitions.

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

Principal's reports. Mrs. Schipper informed the Board the 6th Grade students will participate in the Wax Career Fair on Thursday, March 23, 2017. On Friday, March 24, 2017, twenty different speakers will

be at the River Bend Middle School to talk to students about their careers. Mr. Tennyson informed the Board Fulton High School had four state wrestling qualifiers and they will be invited to attend the next board meeting. Also, two Envirothon teams from Fulton High School competed on March 7, 2017, in the regional competition. One team placed third and the other team placed first and will compete in the state competition on April 26-27 in Monticello, IL. Mrs. Clark informed the Board the Elementary is continuing to improve maker spaces in the building.

Mr. Hogue reported on the March 20, 2017, Citizens Advisory Meeting. Liz Clark, Chris Mahoney, Chris Tennyson, and Jessica Winkel were in attendance. Mr. Hogue reviewed the Strategic Plan. Parents asked how the student growth information is shared and if it could be made easier for parents to understand. The parents also gave high praise to the dual credit options now available to high school students. Mr. Hogue asked for feedback on the district activity calendars. The usefulness of the calendars varied and improvements can still be made. Mr. Hogue also reviewed Phase II construction projects and technology goals with the group.

Mr. Hogue reported on the March 20, 2017, Finance Committee meeting. Nick Crosthwaite, Joe Holmbo, Jane Orman-Luker, and Brenda Sheckler were in attendance. David Pistorious, First Midstate presented bond sales options. First Midstate can offer bond sales in two ways, Private Placement and Standard Placement. Private Placement usually has lower interest rates, no rating fee (\$10,000), and no disclosure counsel (\$5,000). The issue cost for Private Placement cannot be rolled into the sale of bonds, they must be paid upfront. Mr. Hogue informed the group the district has not received \$223,405 in categorical payments and \$55,155 in Transportation payments from the state. Mr. Hogue also informed the group the state has implemented two more unfunded mandates, harnesses in buses and lead testing in water supplies. The current treasurer's report was reviewed.

Mr. Hogue and Jane Orman-Luker reported on the Northwest Division Dinner meeting on March 2, 2017, in Lanark. The majority of the presentation centered on negotiations and options for salary schedules. Many districts are moving off the standard salary schedule and using options presented at the meeting.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the Foundation. The Foundation approved the spring mini-grant requests at the March meeting. Mini-grants for furniture was not approved, however, the Foundation members saw the usefulness of alternative seating and will be discussing ways to help with the cost of purchasing in the future.

Mr. Hogue reported on the March 15, 2017, District Improvement Team meeting. The group focused on professional development, being more proactive in engaging parents and stakeholders, and identifying what a Steamer Strong 21st Century classroom would look like.

Cheryl Piercy presented a technology report and updated E-Rate plan for 2017-18. Google Apps document link shared file status is 2,431 external link shared files is 330,798. Mrs. Piercy reported that twenty-five Chromebooks have suffered damage or been lost. Nine of the damaged Chromebooks were under warranty. This is not bad considering the number of Chromebooks the district has in its possession. A Canvas update showed 252 courses have been published and 70% of the active courses have content and activities. Internet usage is showing 100 mbits or less so it will not be necessary to increase to 200 mbits. The plans for E-rate funds include upgrading and adding more wireless access points to all buildings, purchase and install battery backup systems in all wiring closets, and re-do the wiring closet at Fulton Elementary School.

David Pistorius updated the Board on Private Placement and Standard Placement in regard to selling bonds as discussed by the Finance Committee. The Board was in agreement to pursue the best interest rate and lower costs as much as possible. Bonds will be sold in June with the District receiving the money in July. Purchasing the bonds for three years will not raise property taxes.

(Jay Ritchie entered at 6:48 P.M.)

Dougal Nelson, Vice President of Development for Junior Achievement updated the Board on the activities going on within the district. Several teachers at Fulton Elementary School have JA volunteers coming into the classroom teaching Financial Literacy, Work-Readiness and Entrepreneurship. The River Bend Middle School also sends sixth graders every year to participate in Biz Town.

Mr. Hogue presented WACC enrollment projections for the 2017-18 school year. For the 2017-18 school year twenty-three high school students are enrolled in a variety of classes offered at WACC. Thirty-one students are enrolled this year.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the WACC cooperative voted to assess the participating schools for the cost of roof replacement and repairs since the State of Illinois has not provided funding for WACC. The loss of revenue requires WACC to conserve current reserves. The assessment will be paid using Health Life Safety funds. If the state pays the categorical payments the assessment may not be necessary.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the WACC Health Life Safety amendment in the amount of \$21,412 to replace and repair the roofs on the vocational school buildings. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue reviewed the cost sharing proposal for students attending Morrison Institute of Technology (MIT) dual credit Engineering program. This past year, the district paid the cost for students to attend this program. Mr. Hogue recommended students that attend MIT pay the same amount as students who receive dual credit from Sauk Valley Community College. MIT charges \$500 for a three hour dual credit course which would mean the family would pay \$300 and the district \$200. Families on reduced lunch would pay \$200 and the district \$300. Families on free lunch would pay \$100 and the district \$400. Prices would double if the student attends the entire year. Mr. Hogue will bring the final proposal for approval in April.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment is increased three from 933 to 936.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the consent agenda including the February 13, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; February Treasurer's Report; and the March Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$248,807.88, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

In order for the Board to sell bonds, it is necessary to approve a resolution declaring the intention to issue Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District. This resolution authorizes the sale of the bonds to pay for CTS construction projects. Not all of the construction projects fall within the scope of Health Life Safety. A small portion of working cash will be necessary to pay for furniture and equipment.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the resolution declaring the intention to issue Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, abstain</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of First Midstate, Inc. as the Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as the bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation School Bonds.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Holmbo, to approve First Midstate, Inc. as the Underwriter/Placement Agent and Chapman and Cutler LLP as the bond/disclosure counsel to the Underwriter/Placement Agent with respect to the District’s General Obligation School Bonds. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, abstain</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that Stacey Collachia, Cafeteria Manager, has been able to reduce hours in a couple positions in order to hire a two-hour a day cafeteria cashier for the Fulton Elementary and River Bend Middle Schools. This will allow the cafeteria manager to oversee each of the buildings during the lunch period as well as provide substitute support when necessary.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve a two (2) hour per day Elementary and Middle School cashier position. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, nay</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Later in the meeting a Member asked to resend this motion.

It was moved by Member Crosthwaite, seconded by Member Fish, to resend the motion to approve a two (2) hour per day Elementary and Middle School cashier position. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, nay</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, nay</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve a two (2) hour per day Elementary and Middle School cashier position. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, nay</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, nay</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approving membership to IHSA for the 2017-18 school year at no cost to the district.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve IHSA Membership for the 2017-18 school year as presented Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the Risk Management Plan for school year 2017-18 with the addition of testing for lead in the water supplies for preK-5 grade buildings.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the Risk Management Plan for the 2017-18 school year as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of FIRST Tech Challenge as a new course at Fulton High School. Mr. Hogue explained when asked about the curriculum content of the course that the course was a project based course. The course will be added as an elective and will not replace any existing courses. The course description was not obtained until after the last board meeting which is why approval is being asked for after registration.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the new course offering, FIRST Tech Challenge at Fulton High School beginning the 2017-18 school year. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, nay</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended advertising for lawn care bids for the upcoming season.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to authorize the superintendent to advertise for bids for lawn care. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the following Gift has been made to the District: River Bend Educational Foundation mini grants in the amount of \$4,868.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Holmbo, to accept the gift to the District as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Holmbo, 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 8:30 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, 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 9:25 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to approve the February 13, 2017, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes, as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Holmbo, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the following personnel items:

- Approved the transfer of Trish Kingery from Cook’s Helper to Baker at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.
- Approved the resignation of Alanna Ganzer, Baker at River Bend Middle School, effective February 28, 2017.

- Approved the recommendation to hire Amanda Stillings as Cook’s Helper at Fulton Elementary School beginning immediately.
- Approved the recommendation to hire Amy Oudekerk as Night Cleaner at Fulton High School beginning immediately.
- Approved the resignation of Tyler Graham, Night Cleaner at Fulton High School, effective February 14, 2017.
- Approved the resignation of Jeff Hoese as Student Council Advisor at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2016-17 school year.
- Approved the resignation of Jessica Arellano, Math Teacher at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2016-17 school year.
- Approved the resignation of Andrew Crause, Special Education Teacher at River Bend Middle School, effective the end of the 2016-17 school year
- Approved the recommendation to offer contracts to first, second, third, and fourth year teachers as follows:

FOURTH YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Tenure beginning 2017-2018

STERN	ERIN	Special Education / Pre-School
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THIRD YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Fourth Year contract beginning 2017-2018

ALEXANDER	SHEILA	Cross Categorical / E
COFFEY	RJ	Social Studies / HS
EVENSEN	STEPHANIE	English / HS
SNYDER	JASON	Industrial Technology / HS

SECOND YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Third Year contract beginning 2017-2018

BURN	MORGAN	Kindergarten / E
FERNANDES	DEVAN	3 rd Grade / E
FROHLING	MIRANDA	Cross Categorical / HS
STREHLOW	AMY	4 th Grade / E

FIRST YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Second Year contract beginning 2017-2018

FRENCH	KATIE	English / HS	
JOHNSTON	TIM	Science / HS	
WHITE	LAUREN	Speech / District	Will be resigning

PART-TIME TEACHERS

LUKER	NEAL	Drama & Community Involvement / HS	
SHAFF	DIXIE	Math / HS	If needed

- Approved the recommendation to employ the following coaches for the 2017-18 school year:

LEVEL II

VARSITY BASEKTBALL (B)RJ Coffey
 VARSITY BASEKTBALL (G)Mike Menchaca
 VARSITY WRESTLINGChris Grant

LEVEL III

SOPHOMORE BOYS’ BASEKTBALL.....Jeff Hoese
 SOPHOMORE GIRLS’ BASKETBALL.....Mike Gazo
 ASSISTANT WRESTLINGDan Mahoney

FRESHMAN BOYS' BASKETBALL.....Ryan Voss (reimbursed by Boosters)
FRESHMAN GIRLS' BASKETBALL.....Justin Knott (reimbursed by Boosters)

LEVEL IV

7TH GRADE BOYS' BASKETBALL.....Kyle Huebner
8TH GRADE BOYS' BASKETBALL.....Ben Baulder
8TH GRADE GIRLS' BASKETBALLJennifer Pepper
MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLINGGeorge Graham

Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Holmbo, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Motion Carried.

Negotiations meeting was scheduled for April 3, 2017, at 6:00 P.M.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Holmbo, seconded by Member Fish, to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 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
River Bend Unit District #2
Whiteside County