

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

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

December 18, 2017

The Truth in Taxation Levy Hearing of the Board of Education of River Bend Unit District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois was held on December 18, 2017, at the River Bend District Office.

Jane Orman-Luker was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem.

President Portz called the Truth In Taxation Levy Hearing to order at 6:32 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Nick Crosthwaite, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Chris Barnett, 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 asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public comment. There was no public comment.

Mr. Hogue indicated he increased the Estimated Assessed Valuation (EAV) figure by 8.53% in order to capture all the dollars the district is entitled to in case the EAV goes up in March from the figure he was given in October. IMRF and Social Security can be reduced since the fund is healthy now and the district should only levy what they need.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to adjourn the public hearing at 6:34 P.M. Voice Vote, all yea, motion carried.

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

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Nick Crosthwaite, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, and Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Emily Daley, Dan Herrig, Thomas Mollet, Julie Mure-Ravaud, Philippe Mure-Ravaud, Pierre Mure-Ravaud, Sara Pessman, and Cheryl Piercy. Principals: Elizabeth Clark, Kathleen Schipper, and Chris Tennyson. RBEA: Jeff Hoese. Media: Jaqueline Covey, Clinton Herald and Olivia Vanderbleek, Fulton Journal.

Additions to the agenda. Mr. Hogue added a Virtual Reality presentation.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, 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, Pierre Mure-Ravaud. One of the teachers who nominated Pierre said this, "Pierre is an outstanding student. He is the President of Key Club and has shown excellent leadership." Another teacher said this, "Pierre is an excellent, responsible student who does well academically. Pierre is also involved in many extracurricular activities. He can be the chairman or a committee member and fulfills either role well. He is very worthy of being Overall Steamer of the Month."

The Fulton High School Employee of the Month was not able to attend.

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

Tom Mollet and Dan Herrig from CF Industries presented a check for \$5,000 to River Bend CUSD #2, winners of the One-millionth grant competition.

Principal's reports. Mrs. Clark added the PBS KIDS Scratch Jr. Project. Between October 10th and November 15th, WQPT brought 30 Kindle Fire tablets to the Fulton Elementary School to deliver a series of five lessons on the PBS KIDS Scratch Jr. App., which is a hands on simplification of coding. Mrs. Schipper added that the 100s for caring presentations will be done at an assembly on Tuesday. The Middle School was also able to go to DeWitt and see the movie Wonder. Mrs. Schipper estimates it will cost approximately \$2,500 to change the school mascot from Bulldogs to Steamers. Mr. Tennyson added preparation for one act plays has begun and the SADA peer group talked to the fourth graders. Mr. Tennyson also added that Mr. Gosch is looking into the number of home wrestling meets to see if the number can be increased.

Ms. Piercy and Mrs. Daley demonstrated the virtual reality technology. Google has over seven hundred expeditions that can be accessed. The hope is to have a set of virtual reality devices for each building.

(Eric Fish entered at 7:17 P.M.)

Mr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment has increased two in November from 913 to 915.

Mr. Hogue presented the 2018-19 school calendar. Highlights include:

1. Start date Aug 20th with students starting on the 22nd.
2. Sept. 12th is the first early release.
3. Since Veteran's Day on November 11, 2017, falls on Sunday, there will not be a scheduled day off for Veteran's Day.
4. The holiday break begins at the end of the day on Friday, December 21, 2018, and school resumes on Thursday, January 3, 2019.
5. School will be in session on Casimir Pulaski Day, March 4, 2019.
6. Spring Break will begin after school on Friday, March 22, 2019, and school will resume on Monday, April 1, 2019. No school April 19 or 22 for Easter.
7. School will end for students on Friday, May 24, 2019, and May 28, 2019, will be a full day teacher institute.
8. Make-up days will be assigned to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, President's Day and the Monday following Easter, as well as, the end of the school year if needed.

Mr. Hogue updated the board on bus lease options. If the district uses a different financial company than with Central States, Central States will not put in writing the buy-back payment at the end of the lease. Using an alternative finance company would save the district \$21,000. Mr. Hogue has not been able to meet with area Superintendents to see if they would be interested in using the same finance company and maybe save even more. Central States verbally agrees to buy back the buses, but will not put this in writing. Mr. Hogue should have a recommendation in January.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that New Generation Chinese Student Exchange Program is seeking to bring 2-10 students to the district again in January. The visiting students will range in grades from second to seventh. The principals and staff are all on board with the visit and the students will be staying at the hotel.

Mr. Hogue presented a draft copy of the memorandum of agreement for a STEAM stipend. The Board would like the criteria and parameters to be more defined. Mr. Hogue will develop a memorandum of agreement for a Media Publishing stipend as well as a STEAM stipend with a broader scope.

Mr. Hogue updated the Board on the Workforce Collaborative. The group met December 7 to continue discussing workforce initiative to help students and employers. Mr. Hogue has met with Mr. Tennyson and Mr. Luker to begin exploring a summer community involvement class. The class would involve approximately sixty hours and may expand to the Quad Cities. Offering the class to juniors and seniors during the summer would free up time in class schedules during the regular school year for other electives.

It was moved by Member Crosthwaite, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the consent agenda including the November 20, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; November Treasurer's Report; and December Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$186,997.67, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the 2017 Tax Levy with an 8.53% increase. This will allow the district to receive funds if the Estimated Assessed Valuation were to increase from the predicted value given in October.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the 2017 Tax Levy as presented with estimated total levy extension, without bonds, of \$5,055,000 and direct the Board President and Secretary to sign, and authorize the recording secretary to process the required documents with the County Clerk. Roll Call Vote:

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue indicated the Policy Committee recommends approval of the second reading of select policy update 8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials by Non-school Entities and adopt as policy.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the second reading of policy revision to policy 8:25 and adopt as policy. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended a weighted grade for the Sauk Valley Community College Course English 160 and Math 230. The English course aligns with the current AP literature class and the math class aligns with the current AP Calculus class.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Portz to approve weighting the grade for Sauk Valley Community College Course English 160 and Math 230. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Crosthwaite, nay</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, nay</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

The Policy Committee recommends approval of the first reading of select policy updates.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to approve the first reading of 2:260, 4:10, 4:15, 4:80, 4:110, 4:150, 4:170, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:200, 5:220, 5:240, 5:250, 5:290, 5:330, 6:20, 6:60, 6:140, 6:150, 6:235-APIE1, 6:280, 6:300, 6:310, 6:340, 7:10, 7:15, 7:20, 7:60AP2, 7:70, 7:150, 7:180, 7:190, 7:250, 7:260, 7:270, 7:275, 7:305, 7:340, and 7:340AP1. Roll Call Vote.

<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that Brinkman Building is requesting payment on the fifteenth (15th) of the month. The Board would like to table this item until Brinkman’s can be contacted to see if they are agreeable to our regular monthly cycle.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that the District received a gift from Central Bank-Fulton in the amount of \$5,000 to be used for professional development, from CF Industries in the amount of \$5,000, and Friends for Charity in the amount of \$1,000 to be used to help with clothing for students.

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

<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, 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; and 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 at 8:45 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

- Member Crosthwaite, yea*
- Member Fish, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*

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; and 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 at 9:57 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

- Member Crosthwaite, yea*
- Member Fish, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve November 20, 2017, Closed Session Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

- Member Crosthwaite, yea*
- Member Fish, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the following personnel items:

- Approved the resignation of Regina Dixon, River Bend Middle School Pep Club Sponsor, effective December 4, 2017.*
- Approved Lynn Schipper as Volunteer Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2017-18 school year.*

Roll Call Vote:

- Member Crosthwaite, yea*
- Member Fish, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office. The next special meeting will be Wednesday, January 31, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. at the River Bend District Office for the purpose of the Superintendent's evaluation.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 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
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