

**RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2**  
**1110 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET**  
**FULTON, IL 61252**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MARCH BOARD MEETING**

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

March 19, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on March 19, 2018, at the River Bend District Office.

Mary Simmons was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Mary Simmons, and Jay Ritchie. Absent: Chris Barnett, Nick Crosthwaite, and Eric Fish. 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: Cheryl Piercy, Bob Sondgeroth, Neal Trainor, Abby Willging, Diane Willging, and Paul Willging. Principals: Elizabeth Clark, Kathleen Schipper, and Chris Tennyson. Jeff Hoese: RBEA. Media: Jaqueline Covey, Clinton Herald and Olivia Vanderbleek, Fulton Journal.

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

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

There was no communication from the RBEA.

Mr. Tennyson introduced Steamer of the Month, Abby Willging. One of the teachers who nominated Abby said this, "Although Abby does not take classes at FHS, she has been very successful in the inaugural Sauk Academy. Abby is very ambitious to get her college career started and has big goals for her post high school career. Abby still participates in a variety of FHS activities like Thespians, basketball, and softball. She has good character and is a good role model and leader."

Neal Trainor, Illinois Principal Association Regional Director, presented Mrs. Schipper with the Northwest Region Principal of the Year Award. Bob Sondgeroth also congratulated Mrs. Schipper for her award and stated, "This is what a Principal should be." Mrs. Schipper was very appreciative and grateful for the receipt of this award and thanked Mr. Tennyson for nominating her.

Mr. Hogue congratulated Mr. Tennyson for being selected as a member of the Northern Illinois University Marguerite F. Key Fellows inaugural class of 2018. The Marguerite F. Key Fellows Program was created in 2017 to honor and reflect the commitments of Ms. Key, a lifelong advocate of K-12 education in northern Illinois. The program's purpose is to "identify and reward preschool, elementary and secondary school administrators who have implemented new and inventive strategies focusing our energy on the future of our children and communities."

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

Principal's reports. Mrs. Clark added the renewed focus on safety has been a good process with the staff looking at what is presently being done and how it can be improved. Mr. Tennyson added the Envirothon Team went to state for the second time. Also, a high school student wrote and produced his own one act play. Mr. Luker is encouraging the student to have the play published.

Mr. Hogue reported on the March 19, 2018, Citizen's Advisory meeting. Liz Clark, Chris Mahoney, Craig Tack (new member), and Chris Tennyson were in attendance. Also in attendance was Darryl Hogue, Superintendent, Olivia VanderBleek, Fulton Journal, and Kim Gooch, RBEA. Mr. Tennyson updated the committee on weighted grades and dual credit. Mr. Hogue continued discussion regarding moving away from the valedictorian and salutatorian status and looking at more of a Cum Lada status instead. He also shared the summer expansion of the Community Involvement program. School safety was discussed. An electronic version of the parent/student handbook would reduce the cost of registration by \$5.00. Mr. Hogue also discussed technology leasing.

Mr. Hogue reported on the March 19, 2018, Finance Committee meeting. Jeff Hoese, Jane Orman-Luker, Rachel Snyder and Olivia VanderBleek were in attendance. Mr. Hogue reviewed the Evidence Based Funding and ESSA Laws, the current treasurer's report, financial projections, Chromebook lease, and the forecasted cost of the pension shift.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the Educational Foundation. The group met on March 13, 2018. At the Academic Excellence Dinner 175 dinners were served and 19 seniors were honored. The Foundation also approved a mini grant for a distracted driving assembly at the high school in the amount of \$1,000.

Mr. Hogue reported on the Northwest Division Dinner meeting held on March 7, 2018, in Forreston. The topic was College, Career, and Life Ready. One interesting piece of information they learned was that dual credit can now be obtained in Physical Education.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment is 915, which is up one from last month. This year there has not been any gain throughout the year as there has been in previous years.

Cheryl Piercy presented the eRate plan for 2018-19. The lowest cost for 300 mbps Internet access was provide by Syndeo for \$6,600, with a cost to the district after eRate discount of \$1,980. This is a significate saving in cost in comparison to iFiber which is the current carrier. The only choice for Fiber Circuit is iFiber. Cheryl recommends Syndeo for internet access and iFiber for fiber circuit. Cheryl is also researching Syndeo for phone service as well.

Mr. Hogue presented a draft plan to offer Community Involvement during the summer for credit. Mr. Hogue will bring the final recommendation to the Board in April.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the District is looking into joining a Food Cooperative. Currently eleven schools participate in the Iowa Illinois School Food Cooperative. The Food Cooperative will be considering allowing River Bend to join at their March meeting in Geneseo. Joining the Cooperative would save the district over \$7,000 in food costs. If River Bend is approved by the Cooperative the joint agreement will be presented at the April Board meeting for consideration.

Mr. Hogue has narrowed his selection for a storm shelter at the Pre-School building to two types of shelters. One is a metal frame and the other a concrete pre-cast shelter. Mr. Hogue is leaning towards the concrete pre-cast shelter which costs \$28,000 and the Pre-School grant will be able to fund \$15,000 toward the cost with 1% funds to be used for the remaining amount. Mr. Hogue will bring his final recommendation to the April Board meeting.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board approximately fifty community members attended the Safety Meeting that took place on March 8, 2018, in the Fulton High School Cafeteria. Area first responders were at the meeting and answered questions from the community members. Mr. Hogue, administrators and department heads met with Clinton County Emergency Response Providers on March 12, 2018. They presented ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) and Run, Hide, and Fight techniques for use in an active shooter event. Clinton County Emergency Response Providers will meet with staff in April and the staff will undergo a simulation exercise on the Teacher Institute Day in May. Mr. Hogue will invite Clinton County to the April Board meeting for an overview of the training.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that a FIOA request was received and a response sent to SmartProcure asking for information on vendors the District uses for purchases.

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the consent agenda including the February 21, 2018, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; February Treasurer’s Report; and March Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$134,460.82, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:*

- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*
- Member Ritchie, yea*

*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 Simmons, to approve the first reading of select policy updates 2:260, 4:40, 5:20, 5:20-E, 5:170-API, 5:170-AP2, and 5:170-AP3. Roll Call Vote:*

- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*
- Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that the new Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) requires School Districts to have a fraud protection policy/procedure if government funds are collected. Mr. Hogue created a fraud policy/procedure and attached it to the current Cash Receipts/Purchasing Procedures in the Employee Handbook.

*It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the Fraud Protection Policy and Cash Receipt/Purchasing Procedures with corrections and include in the Employee’s Handbook. Roll Call Vote:*

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

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

Mr. Hogue recommended approving membership to IHSA for the 2018-19 school year at no cost to the district.

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve IHSA Membership for the 2018-19 school year as presented. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of the Risk Management Plan for school year 2018-19 with the addition of emergency response technology (item 5 and 13 on page 5 of the Risk Management Plan).

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Risk Management Plan for school year 2018-19 as presented. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

Mr. Hogue informed the Board that IMRF now requires the Board to pass a resolution to include cash payments related to Health Insurance as IMRF earnings which the district currently reports.

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the resolution to include cash payments related to Health Insurance as IMRF Earnings. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

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

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to authorize the superintendent to advertise for bids for lawn care. Voice Vote, all yea, motion carried.*

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the attached list of Industrial Arts equipment is in need of repair or no longer needed for the current curriculum and recommends declaring the equipment as surplus goods.

*It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Ritchie, to declare Industrial Arts equipment in need of repair or no longer needed for the current curriculum content as surplus goods and dispose of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

*It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to move into closed session for the purpose of discussing matters 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 security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property at 8:18 P.M. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to come out of closed session for the purpose of discussing matters 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 security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, student, staff, the public, or public property at 9:27 P.M. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve February 21, 2018, Regular Closed Session Minutes, as presented. Roll Call Vote:*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea*

*Member Portz, yea*

*Member Simmons, yea*

*Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

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

- Accepted the resignation of Kassandra McKay, Math Teacher at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2017-2018 school year.*
- Accepted the resignation of Julie Acker, Guidance Counselor at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2017-18 school year.*
- Approved Amanda Smith as Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.*
- Approved Rachel Snyder as Business Manager beginning July 1, 2018.*

- *Approved Benji Grant as Assistant Track Coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2017-18 school year.*
- *Approved contracts to first, second, third, and fourth year teachers as follows:*

**FOURTH YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Tenure beginning 2018-2019**

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

**THIRD YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Fourth Year contract beginning 2018-2019**

FROHLING	MIRANDA	Cross Categorical / HS
STREHLOW	AMY	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade / E

**SECOND YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Third Year contract beginning 2018-2019**

FRENCH	KATIE	English / HS
JOHNSTON	TIM	Science / HS

**FIRST YEAR NON-TENURE TEACHERS – Offer Second Year contract beginning 2018-2019**

BRZEZINSKI	MARIE	English / HS
CLANIN	JAMES	Math / HS
DROEGMILLER	EMILEE	English / HS
GUERRERO	MEGAN	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade / E
LONCAR	ADRIEN	Language Arts / M
VEGTER	ASHLEY	Cross Categorical / M
WILKENS	SHELBY	Intervention 2017-18 / Pre School Teacher 2018-19

**PART-TIME TEACHERS**

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

*Roll Call Vote:*

- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Simmons, yea*
- Member Ritchie, yea*

*Motion Carried.*

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, April 16, 2018, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

*It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 P.M. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.*

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

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Eric Fish, Secretary  
Board of Education  
River Bend Unit District #2  
Whiteside County