

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
1110 3RD STREET
FULTON, IL 61252
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

September 17, 2018

The Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, were held on September 17, 2018, at the Fulton High School.

Mary Simmons was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem.

President Portz called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:30 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Nick Crosthwaite, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Eric Fish. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President welcomed all visitors including: David Baisden, Karrie Kenny, Amanda Leitzen, and Jeremy Leitzen. Principals: Elizabeth Clark, Robert Gosch, and Kathleen Schipper. Assistant Principal/AD: Patrick Henrekin. Media: Jake Mosbach, Clinton Herald and Antony Corelis, Fulton Journal. Paula Ensinger, RBEA.

President Portz asked for questions and comments from the public or the Board regarding the budget. Mr. Hogue indicated the changes to the budget since August are due to the Activity Funds that were either closed or combined as recommended by the auditor. The Estimated Equalized Assessed Valuation is predicted to increase from \$116 million to \$118 million. Mr. Hogue reviewed the budget summary and administration cost worksheet.

There being no further discussion it was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to adjourn the FY 2019 budget hearing at 6:38 P.M. Roll Call:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:38 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Nick Crosthwaite, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Eric Fish. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

Additions to the agenda. Jeremy Leitzen would like to address the board.

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

RBEA had nothing to report.

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

(Member Fish arrived at 6:40 P.M.)

Principal's reports. Mr. Gosch introduced David Baisden, new Guidance Counselor at Fulton High School. Mrs. Clark indicated the volunteer appreciation lunch was well attended and Grandparents Day was once again a huge success. Mrs. Schipper informed the Board the district has entered a voting contest sponsored by UnityPoint Health. The winner will receive \$25,000. Mr. Gosch explained what is being done regarding weighted grades. The elimination of weighted grades was not properly communicated to students and parents, therefore, weighted grades will be restored for the class of 2020.

Mr. Hogue reminded the Board of the Fall Northwest Division Dinner meeting on October 29, 2018, at Stillman Valley. The topic is school safety, therefore, Mr. Hogue will be inviting Officer Leitzen to attend.

Mr. Hogue reported on the Annual Safety meeting held on August 30, 2018. There was good discussion on items that have been implemented the past few months. A presentation by Crisis Go was watched. A table top drill was scheduled for January. Doors and buildings will be numbered as suggested by emergency personnel. The drug dog will be more accessible since Fulton now has their own dog. The fire department has sent personnel to be trained to do the building fire inspections. Procedures for bus accidents was reviewed and the SRO was well received.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the River Bend Educational Foundation. Mr. Hogue requested funds from the Martin Estate for the New Teacher Induction Program again this year in the amount of \$4,850. The Treasurer's report was reviewed in detail since this is the beginning of a new year. The Foundation will begin its fund raising appeal in November.

Mr. Hogue reported on the September 17, 2018, Building and Grounds Committee Meeting. Chris Barnett, Bob Gosch, Jay Ritchie, Mari Sanders (RBEA), Gary Wolfe, and Darryl Hogue were in attendance. Mr. Hogue informed the group the storm shelter for the preschool will be arriving on Wednesday. Mr. Hogue would like to make the shelter available to the City of Fulton when it is not in use by the preschool. The welding space is up and running and is asking for donations of metal for projects. The summer projects list was reviewed with lockers at the high school still needing to be completed and another AC unit needs replaced at the elementary school. Mr. Hogue discussed the solar energy proposal. At this point more information is needed before proceeding. Mr. Hogue would like Rock River Energy to meet with the committee and CTS to provide their view on solar energy. Gary is obtaining bids to cool another section of the high school.

Mr. Hogue reported on the September 17, 2018, Finance Committee Meeting. Nick Crosthwaite, Paula Ensinger, Jane Orman-Luker, Rachel Snyder, and Darryl Hogue were in attendance. Mr. Hogue has completed the ESSA spending plan. The district is required to inform the state how the ESSA funds will be spent. The FY 19 budget was reviewed. The Fund Balances Board policy indicates the district seek to maintain 15-20 percent of the annual expenditures in each fund. The district meets this requirement when including early tax money. Mr. Hogue reviewed the current treasurer's report. The County Assessor informed Mr. Hogue that the Estimated Assessed Valuation is expected to increase from \$116 million to \$118. Mr. Hogue reviewed the activity accounts that will be moved or combined with district accounts per the auditor's recommendation.

Officer Leitzen thanked the Board for the opportunity to be the School Resource Officer. He loves working with the staff and students and is looking forward to keeping everyone safe in the schools. President Portz commented that he is glad to see Officer Leitzen out in the public, his face is known already. President Portz is appreciative of his goal to keep everyone safe as well as help students choose the right life path.

Mr. Hogue reported enrollment is down from 914 to 910 from May. This is fairly good since the high school lost a big class and kindergarten going in is small.

Karrie Kenny from Central Bank presented a check for \$5,000 for professional development. The bank had donated \$20,000 to the school district over the past four year. The Board was very appreciative of this donation because budget cuts has depleted funds available for teacher professional development.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the Preschool for All program achieved in ExceleRate Illinois a Gold rating. Mr. Hogue is still hopeful the state will open up the preschool competitive grant process again next year.

Mr. Hogue reviewed the ballot for the April 2, 2019, school board election. Members Barnett, Crosthwaite, Ritchie, and Simmons terms are expiring in April 2019.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the consent agenda including the August 13, 2018, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; August Treasurer's Report; and September Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$107,700.35, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue presented the FY 19 budget. The overall projected difference in revenues and expenses is a positive \$21,320.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Crosthwaite, to approve the FY 19 budget with total revenues in the amount of \$10,029,857 and total expenditures in the amount of \$10,008,578. Roll Call:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue is not comfortable approving the letter of Understanding with CTS to begin a Solar Project Engineering Study until more information is provided. Mr. Hogue will set up a meeting with CTS and Rock River Energy to gain more information and have questions answered. Any Board members that are available to attend this meeting are welcome to attend. Approval of the letter of understanding was tabled in order to gain more information.

Mr. Hogue is recommending approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Morrison Community Hospital and River Bend Board of Education to provide on-site Mental Health Services at the schools. This will allow River Bend Schools to provide mental health support for students who are currently

being seen through the Morrison Hospital Clinic. The schools will provide a meeting place for the social worker and the student.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Morrison Community Hospital and the River Bend Board of Education to provide on-site Mental Health Services at the schools. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended approval of a resolution authorizing and directing an abatement of a portion of taxes levied on certain property located in the Whiteside Carroll Enterprise Zone. The school district participated in a previous Whiteside Carroll Enterprise Zone that expired on December 31, 2017. The state granted this Enterprise Zone, through application, a new zone that went into effect on January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2032. The loss of revenue this represents is \$6,700 but the support from local businesses is much greater.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the resolution authorizing and directing an abatement of a portion of taxes levied on certain property located in the Whiteside Carroll Enterprise Zone. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue indicated the Policy Committee recommends approval of the first reading of select policy updates.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the first reading of select policy updates: 2:105, 2:170, 4:20, 4:80, 4:140, 6:10, 6:30, 6:60, 6:120, 6:135, 6:190, 6:220, 6:230, 6:240, 6:250, 6:250-E, 7:50, 7:185-E, 7:330, 7:340, 7:340-AP1, and 8:25. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended changing the criteria for the Employee Activity Pass to allow the Employee's spouse to attend activities at no charge at any building. The current policy only allows the spouse to attend activities at no charge at the building where their spouse is an employee. This process would be more equitable to all employees. The Board had some reservations about reducing the potential for revenue when funds are tight.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Simmons, to change the criteria for an employee's spouse to attend school activities at no charge to all buildings. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the annual posting of salary information on the web page requires board action.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve posting the 2018-19 projected administrative compensation report and the 2017-18 Teacher and Educational Support Compensation report on the webpage. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the auditor recommended closing activity accounts that do not directly impact student (list of activity accounts closed and adjustments made are attached). Roll Call Vote:

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Fish, to approve closing activity accounts that do not directly impact the students per the recommendation by the auditor, as presented. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the board only one bid for snow plowing was received from Jody Bielema and recommends approval of the bid. Mr. Bielema has done snow removal for the schools the past several years.

It was moved by Member Crosthwaite, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the bid for snow plowing submitted by Jody Bielema at a rate of \$550 per plow and \$650 per plow if eight (8) inches of snow or more. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue recommended declaring the old pretzel warmer as surplus goods and dispose of in an appropriate manner. The concession stand no longer uses this piece of equipment.

It was moved by Member Ritchie, seconded by Member Simmons, to declare the old pretzel warmer as surplus goods, dispose of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Mr. Hogue informed the Board the district received gifts from the Athletic Boosters in the amount of \$2,799 for Hudl Sideline and \$3,750 for Krossover. Friends for Charity donated \$1,000 for milk for Elementary students. The First Reformed Church donated \$1,765 to the preschool.

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

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

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Simmons, 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; 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 9:00 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Crosthwaite, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, 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 matters 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 9:45 P.M. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

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

- Approved the resignation of Justin Knott, Sophomore Girls' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School, effective immediately.*
- Approved the resignation of Ty Tiesman, 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.*
- Hired Courtney Boonstra as Van Driver for the district effective immediately.*
- Hired Miyesca Brondyke as Cook's Helper at Fulton Elementary School effective August 24, 2018.*
- Approved Jim Prombo as Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- Approved Ryan Voss as Sophomore Boys' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- Approved Mike Gazo as Freshman Girls' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- Approved Darwin Johnson as Sophomore Girls' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- Approved Justin Knott as Volunteer Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- Approved Elizabeth Mote as Volunteer Assistant Volleyball Coach at Fulton High School and River Bend Middle School for the 2018-19 school year.*

- *Approved Breanna Kastelic as Scholastic Bowl Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- *Approved Regina Dixon as Student Council Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- *Approved Emilee Droegmiller as Sophomore Class Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- *Approved the resignation of Mike Ankrom, 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.*
- *Approved Mike Ankrom as 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- *Approved Jim Prombo as 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2018-19 school year.*
- *Approved Brent Dykstra as Fr/Soph Baseball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2018-19 school year.*

Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Crosthwaite, yea

Member Portz, yea

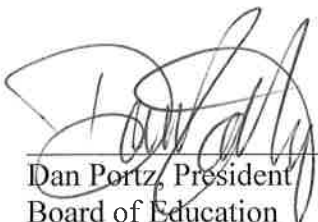
Member Fish, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

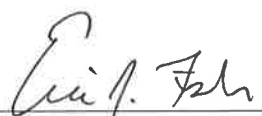
Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, October 15, 2018, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Fish, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 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