

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

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

June 19, 2024

The Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on June 19, 2024, at the River Bend District Office.

President Portz called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:30pm. Member Simmons was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem, the following board members were present: Member Orman-Luker, Member Portz, Member Ritchie, and Member Simmons; Absent: Member Falls, Member Fish, and Member Meyers; Others Present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Jennifer Griser, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Ray Borgman, Steven Olson, Emily Phillips, and Rick Viskocil, Principals: Jeffrey Hoese and Jeff Parsons, and Assistant Principal: Kelli Parsons.

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

There being no further discussion it was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to adjourn the Budget Hearing at 6:33pm. Roll Call Vote:

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:33pm. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem, the following board members were present: Member Orman-Luker, Member Portz, Member Ritchie, and Member Simmons; Absent: Member Falls, Member Fish, and Member Meyers; Others Present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Jennifer Griser, Recording Secretary.

Additions to the agenda. Dr. Hogue added Insurance Committee Update under the Board Communications and Transportation Fund Update under Superintendent Report.

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.

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

Principal Reports. Mr. Hoese shared the elementary school is happy with testing scores as every grade level has shown growth in both Math and ELA. Mrs. Parsons shared that the Preschool For All grant amendment has been submitted for next school year. She also shared there are funds left from this school year that the district is hoping to spend so we do not lose them.

Mr. Parsons shared that the State of Illinois has made the decision to switch back to the ACT test instead of the SAT for students. Mr. Parsons also shared that although there were three students unable to walk at graduation, due to not having met graduation requirements, as of the board meeting they had all made up the missing credits through credit recovery options and received their diplomas.

Dr. Hogue informed board members that registration for the Joint Annual Conference in Chicago is open. Conference will be held on November 22nd through the 24th. Members Portz, Orman-Luker, Simmons, and Falls as well as Dr. Hogue and Mrs. Parsons have been registered for the conference. Member Portz was awarded a scholarship that covers the conference fee, hotel room, and meal money.

Dr. Hogue shared the FFA delegates were unable to attend the meeting and will be present at the August Board Meeting to share details from the state conference.

Dr. Hogue shared with the board the insurance committee met to discuss insurance options, as renewal costs for the current plan are over 20% higher than what the district currently pays. The insurance broker provided three additional options that have higher out of pocket costs and different network levels. The insurance committee felt the option that was best overall was an option that gives three network levels for members to choose from. The district will ensure the higher out of pocket costs and the different levels of network providers is communicated to insurance members.

Dr. Hogue shared enrollment ended at the same number we started the school year with, 923 students.

Steve and Rick with Veregy shared that construction is still moving right along with excavation of the hill for the new parking area slated to begin by the end of the week. They shared some graphics and pricing for the installation of safety bollards and boulders along the sidewalk area at the elementary school.

Dr. Hogue shared with the board members that the administration team met with Dr. Brownlow to start the discussion of a strategic plan update. Dr. Brownlow is the superintendent for Palos 128 and recently went through a similar process in her district. The administration team is looking at a three-year timeline to design and implement. The committee will consist of staff, parents, former parents, board members, and community members.

Dr. Hogue and Emily Phillips provided the board members with an update on the district's Student Information System (SIS) search. The district researched and had presentations from Alma, Lumen, Infinite Campus, and the current SIS, PowerSchool. The district is going to do a deep dive into PowerSchool with some upgraded programming and training for staff members throughout the year. Emily has an opportunity to attend a three day PowerSchool conference this summer to receive training to better assist the district.

Dr. Hogue would like to have a student liaison representative join the board meetings. Multiple board members have attended sessions on this at the fall conference and have also expressed interest. The board will need to establish a job description and expectations for the student liaison such as bringing ideas to the meeting from fellow students and reporting back to the student body. Dr. Hogue shared there is a high school student that has demonstrated they would be a good candidate for this

position. He and Mr. Parsons will discuss this opportunity with the student and report back to the board members.

Dr. Hogue informed the board that the district will deposit funds from one of the remaining Evidenced Based Funding payments into the Transportation Fund to ensure it ends the year in the positive.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the consent agenda including the May 15, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes; May Treasurers Report; and June Bills Recommended for Payment in the amount of \$539,461.80 subject to audit. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the 2023-2024 Amended Budget.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the 2023-24 Amended Budget with revenues in the amount of \$12,571,186.00 and expenditures in the amount of \$13,474,048.00. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of school district expenditures for FY25 until which time the annual budget of the district is adopted.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve School District expenditures for funds to defray necessary and proper expenses and liabilities of the School District incurred for education, operations, maintenance, transportation, site and construction purposes of the District for FY25, until which time the Annual Budget of the District is adopted in conformity with applicable sections of the Illinois School Code. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended authorization of a Board Member to review, accept, and sign FY24 audit reports.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to name Daniel Portz as the designated person to review, accept, and sign-off on the financial statements of the District which includes the audit report, the annual financial report to the State, and the Data Collection Form on behalf of River Bend CUSD #2. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended authorizing Member Portz and Member Orman-Luker to approve July Bills Recommended for payment, when prepared by the business office, as there is no July Board of Education Meeting.

It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Ritchie, to authorize Member Portz and Member Orman-Luker to approve July Bills Recommended for Payment, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion carried.

The policy committee recommended approval of the second reading of select policy updates and adopt as policy.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the second reading of select policy updates and adopt as policy: 2:40, 2:60, 2:140, 2:250-E1, 2:260, 2:265, 2:270, 4:20, 4:165, 4:190, 5:10, 5:20, 5:100, 5:120, 5:300, 6:60, 6:185, 7:10, 7:20, 7:180, 7:185. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the board that official action is needed on the unopposed candidates for two-year terms for the Northwest Illinois Association (NIA) Sub Region III Executive Board. The candidates are Matt Zilm, Ogle County, as Director of Special Education and Corena Steinmeyer, Lee County, as Member-at-Large.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to cast one vote for Matt Zilm and one vote for Corena Steinmeyer to serve a two-year term on the NIA Executive Board. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the updated Fulton High School Counselor job description. The description has been updated to reflect changes within the job requirements as well as relevant language.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the updated Fulton High School Counselor job description as presented. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Fulton and River Bend CUSD #2 for the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Fulton and River Bend CUSD #2 for the School Resource Officer Program as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the resolution to abate the working cash funds of the district. This allows the district to move funds once bond dollars are received.

It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the resolution abating the working cash fund of the district. Roll Call Vote.

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the board the district received \$1,000 from James Proud for the High School Hall of Fame, \$1,000 Spark Good Local Grant for BLIND, and \$4,000 Compeer Financial Fund for Rural America for the gardens at the high school.

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

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

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

- *Approve the resignation of Carolyn Meurs as Junior Class Sponsor at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the resignation of Emma Jacobs as Assistant Track Coach at River Bend Middle School.*
- *Approve the resignation of Anthony Tenboer as Special Education Teacher at Fulton Elementary School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the resignation of Monique Harris as 8th Grade Volleyball coach, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Sarah Powell as River Bend Middle School Girls Track coach for the 2023-24 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Val Pestka as Junior Class Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Jennifer Smith as Paraprofessional at Fulton High School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Colleen Temple as 8th Grade Volleyball coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Haylee Mussman as Sophomore Class Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2024-25 school year.*

- *Approve the transfer of Allison Grant from 4.5-hour Night Custodian position to 6.5-hour Night Custodian position at Fulton High School.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Shelby Rolston as 7th Grade Math Teacher at River Bend Middle School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Shawn Price as Head Wrestling Coach at Fulton High School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the six-week maternity leave request of Christine Hanson, August 19, 2024 through September 30, 2024.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Sydney Schutte as Media Pub Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Abbey Vandendooren as Special Education Teacher at Fulton Elementary School for the 2024-25 school year.*
- *Approve the following volunteer volleyball coaches for the 2024-25 school year: Jean Wilkin, Marilyn Harrison, Delaney Reed, Andrea Weller, and Teegan Germann.*
- *Approve the following volunteer golf coaches for the 2024-25 school year: Ryan Voss and Andrew Meyers.*
- *Approve the following volunteer football coaches for the 2024-25 school year: Dave Curley, Aaron Kuebel, and Kole Schipper.*
- *Approve resolution for dismissal of Educational Support Personnel Employee for reasons other than reduction-in-force.*
- *Approve the Superintendent salary increase of \$5,800 for FY25*
- *Approve the Fulton High School Principal salary increase of \$3,500 for FY25*
- *Approve the River Bend Middle School Principal salary increase of \$3,200 for FY25*
- *Approve the Fulton Elementary School Principal salary increase of \$3,300 for FY25*
- *Approve the Fulton Elementary School Assistant Principal salary increase of \$2,900 for FY25*
- *Approve the Learning Loss/Curriculum Director salary increase of \$3,000 for FY25*
- *Approve the Maintenance and Grounds Director salary increase of \$2,600 for FY25*
- *Approve the Transportation Director salary increase of \$2,500 for FY25*
- *Approve the Cafeteria Manager salary increase of \$1,100 for FY25*
- *Approve the Technology Director salary increase of \$2,400 for FY25*
- *Approve the Business Manager salary increase of \$3,500 for FY25*
- *Approve the District Executive Assistant salary increase of \$2,000 for FY25*
- *Offer early tenure to the following teachers, starting the 2024-2025 school year:*
 - *Dawna Kurtz, Preschool / PreK*
 - *Sarah Long, Art / FES*
 - *Elizabeth Roos, 2nd Grade / FES*
 - *Jaime Pflederer, Reading Interventionist / FES*
 - *Tara Rhoades, 5th Grade / FES*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire the following coaches and sponsors for the 2024-25 school year:*
 - Level 1**
 - Varsity Track (B) - Mike Ankrom*
 - Varsity Track (G) - Lynn Schipper*
 - Varsity Baseball - Brent Dykstra*
 - Varsity Softball - Derek Germann*
 - Strength & Conditioning - Jared Wessels*

Level 2

- Band Director - Shawn Anton*
- Choir Director - Shawn Anton*
- Asst Track (HS) - Kyle McLuckie*
- Fresh/Soph Baseball - Thomas Eden*
- Fresh/Soph Softball - Jenna Jones*

Level 3

- District Webmaster - Emily Phillips*
- Middle School Track (B) - Chris Ketelsen*
- Middle School Track (G) – Elizabeth Mote*
- Middle School Band - Shawn Anton*
- Middle School Chorus - Shawn Anton*
- 7th Grade Basketball (G) – Elizabeth Mote*
- High School Scholastic Bowl - Joe Bacidore*
- High School Student Council - Stacy Gates*

Level 4

- Costume Coordinator - Cam Simmons*
- High School Yearbook - Christy Hackett*
- Senior Class Sponsor - Mike Ankrom*
- Middle School Scholastic Bowl – Elizabeth Mote*
- Middle School Pep Club - Megan Facio*
- Middle School Student Council - Adrien Loncar/Ashley Huizenga*

Level 5

- National Honor Society - Emily Phillips/Emilee Droegmiller*
- Key Club - Mike Ankrom*

Roll Call Vote.

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| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Portz, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |

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, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors or volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body at 8:22 pm. Roll Call Vote.

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| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Portz, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |

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, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors or volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body at 8:46 pm. Roll Call Vote.

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| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Portz, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |

Motion carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 6:30pm, at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Ritchie, to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

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

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