

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
Thursday, August 20, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order by President Clay at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Hansen, Hogg, Simmons, Coen, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen to approve the agenda. All members present voted yea.

A motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons to approve the consent agenda including the following items; 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meeting on 7/16/15; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Accept Resignation- Cathy Broadway (Music). After some discussion regarding the bills, all members present voted yea.

At this time the Board recognized Jennifer Ibata and Farrah Hobbs. Mrs. Ibata addressed the Board to discuss being 8th grade parent sponsors and the plans they have for fundraising. They also asked if they could open a checking account for the 8th grade class under the school.

Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) Softball and baseball seasons are underway; 2) Pre-School Fall Screenings will take place on September 11th; 3) We have received some donations of school supplies from area churches, banks, and individuals; 4) Melissa Corbit and Jennifer Broadway will both be on maternity leave for the beginning of school; 5) Dewayne Hill has done a great job preparing the building for start of school; 6) Most of the desktop computers have been switched out with laptops; 7) The WeatherBug station has been installed and online. You can get to the information by going to the WeatherBug site as www.weatherbug.com or the direct link to our weather station page at <http://weather.weatherbug.com/weather-safety/online-weather-center/OnlineWeatherCenter.aspx?aid=6510>; and 8) We received a \$1200.00 donation from the All School Reunion to be used in Music, Art, Student Council, and the treasure chest.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) School Pictures will take place on September 11th. Retakes, clubs, and sports picture will take place November 18th; 2) New curriculum for this year: Zoology, World Literature, Accounting, Proofs, and (Spring Semester we will partnering with SIC for distance learning); 3) Cross Country begins September 2nd at Murphysboro Invitational; 4) Boys Fall Baseball begins September 10th at Meridian; 5) Painting project finished in the community room and adjoining rooms. Thank you to Jason Wilson for doing a great job; 6) Enrollment numbers at this time is 154 but could have 4 more enrolling; 7) I would like to thank custodians Kevin Jennings and Jason Wilson for their work in getting the school ready for the first day of attendance. I would also like to thank our student worker Kyle Stafford for his work as well; 8) I would also like to thank Mary Johnson for volunteering her time and service during registration to help schedule students; and 9) The high school also received a \$1200.00 donation from

the All School Reunion to be used in Student Council (\$500), Art (\$400), and Drama (\$300).

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) I have met with representatives from the Golconda Job Corp about having workers from the Corp help with projects at the District. Kevin and Dwayne met with two workers that will be stationed at the schools for three weeks. We will evaluate the benefit of this program as it progresses; 2) On August 3rd, the governor signed into law SB007 “Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act.” This act is to mandate our school to implement a concussion oversight team that will comply with Return-to-Play and Return-to-Learn protocols. This is to be fully implemented by September 1, 2016; 3) On August 3rd, the governor signed into law HB1498 (now PA 99-0235). This act will allow school boards to discuss “school building safety and security” in closed session. This was added to the existing exception to discuss “security procedures 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. 5 ILCS 120/2.02(c)(8); 4) As far as the state financial situation occurs, it is a daily soap opera that affects the lives of every Illinoisan. There is still no budget in place. The good news for the District is that we did receive our first state aid payment. There is a significant bill being developed and debated in Springfield called SB0316. This bill would put into place a statewide property tax freeze for two years and would establish PTELL in all counties. It would require Illinois to contribute \$200,000,000 to the Chicago teacher pension fund, and would sunset the General State Aid formula in 2017 while establishing a General State Aid Committee to rewrite the funding formula; 5) On August 3rd, 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 of the school code was amended to change the requirements for religious exemptions for

health, dental, or eye examinations, vision and hearing screening tests, and school immunizations. Under the amendment, parents or legal guardians who object to their child being immunized or medically examined for religious reasons must submit a Certificate of Religious Exemption. This requirement is effective beginning October 16, 2015; and 6) The auditors from Donahoo McCalley & Associates performed the yearly audit of the district financial books which indicated the district was fully compliant. I want to thank Margie for her great work in keeping the books orderly and precise.

A motion was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson to enter closed session for the purpose of personnel employment. All members present voted yea. Board entered closed session at 7:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons to return to regular session. All members present vote yea. Board returned at 9:10 p.m.

A motion to approve change date of September meeting to 24th was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Mr. Bleyer distributed copies of the tentative budget and pointed out key areas of importance. After some discussion, a motion to approve the Tentative FY 2015-2016 Budget was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

A motion to set the date for the Public Hearing for adoption of FY 2015-2016 Budget to September 24, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

A motion to approve the Lease Agreement with Southern Seven Head Start was made by Richerson and seconded by Collier. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Nicole Pochay, Chelsea Jennings, Shannon Markus, Rebecca Elder, James Forthman, and Kathryn Jolly as individual aides for the 2015-16 SY was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Tyler Presser as Assistant High School Boys' Basketball Coach was made by Simmons and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Kelly Hille was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Motion to post for elementary teacher was made by Hansen and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to post for Part-time Elementary Teacher, Part-time Music Teacher, and Part-time General Education Teacher/Part-time Music Teacher was made by Hogg and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to approve Farrah Hobbs and Jennifer Ibata as 8th grade parent sponsors and to open a checking account for the 8th grade class was made by Simmons and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Under Old Business, a motion to adopt the PRESS updates to the Board Policy and Administrative Procedures Manuals was made by Coen and seconded by Collier. After some discussion regarding the FOIA policy, all members present voted as follows; Hansen, Coen, Simmons, Collier, Clay; yea; Hogg and Richerson abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Bleyer reported he has checked with other districts regarding vacation compensation for 12-month employees. All other districts have the same policy as we currently have, use it or lose it. He made no recommendation for compensation of vacation days. No action taken.

Under Other School Business, a motion to approve Resolution 15-08-20A regarding the interfund transfer from the Working Cash Fund to the Transportation Fund in the

amount of \$84,000.00 for the FY 2016 was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Member Richerson stated he still has a set of keys to all the building and will turn them over to newly appointed President Clay.

Member Hogg asked about the doors at the grade school and if they had been fixed. Mr. Blankenship stated they had worked on them this summer and is in better shape but still have some problems with them sticking. Some discussion took place regarding the need for replacement of doors and windows and will look in to some options in the future.

Member Collier added that the door on the baseball/softball hitting barn is about to fall out and is in desperate need of replacement. Some ideas were thrown around and will be discussing further in the future.

Member Coen invited everyone to the Hunter Safety Seminar that will be held in the Community Room Friday from 6 pm to 9 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 3 pm.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the J.H. Hobbs

Memorial Library with a Public Hearing at 6:45 pm was made by Coen and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

**Allen Clay, President
Board of Education**

**Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education**