

**Minutes for Regular Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
Thursday, February 16, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by President Clay and the following members were present: Hansen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay. Hogg and Coen were absent.

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

Board member Coen entered the meeting at 7:04 pm.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Collier to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meeting on 1/19/17; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Accept Resignation. Board member Richerson thanked Ms. Clayton for her years of service. After some questions regarding the bills, all members present voted yea.

At this time, the Board recognized Chris Bevis, President of the Pope County Youth League. Mr. Bevis stated the youth league had a \$2,300 bid for an 8 x 12 building with a metal roof, siding, and locking door to be used as a concession

stand for the baseball field. Some finishing touches such as a countertop, window, and picnic tables would be needed but the youth league would cover the total cost. The remaining money would be used toward the softball field concession stand. Mr. Bevis was asking the Board to accept their donation and give them permission to place the building on school grounds.

Under Administrative Reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) The PARCC test will take place between March 6th and the 23rd; 2) The 4-5-6 basketball teams will have home games on the 9th, 15th, and 16th. They will play at Cypress on the 21st and will play in the Cypress Tournament on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th; 3) Pre K spring pictures are scheduled for March 8th (all other grades will be on April 7th); 4) Jennifer Broadway is working on Vision screenings on Kindergarten, 2nd, and 8th grades. She will also be doing Hearing screenings for Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades; 5) The 3rd quarter grading period will end on March 17th and the report cards will go out on March 21st; and 6) Current Enrollment 376 of February 7th.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) Missing PSAT scores have been found. Students have been able to individually access them through the College Board; 2) Students have been practicing/preparing for the upcoming SAT – will be administered in April; 3) Cast List for spring play has been announced. The play will be held in May; 4) Boys basketball team begins regional play Monday 2/20/17 at Hardin County and will play Carrier Mills at 7:30 pm; 5) Girls basketball team

finished the season last week. Madison Murphy advanced in the 3-pt shoot out and is shooting tonight at Woodlawn; 6) Spring is not far off. Baseball and softball begin practice on February 27th; 7) WYSE Team competed at SIC on February 2nd. Pierce Bowman – second place in Chemistry, Charlee Hodson – Second place in Computer Science, and Kyle Kunath – Third place in Engineering Graphics; and 8) Current enrollment is Freshman – 46, Sophomores – 38, Juniors – 34, and Seniors – 40, total – 158.

Mr. Bleyer reported on the following: 1) There are not many developments on the 'Grand Bargain' budget for Illinois. Right now, there is still a lot of negotiating; 2) The gym roof is completed. There is just some trim and debris that needs to be addressed. We should get the punch out list and final paperwork by next week; 3) We are in the process of improving the soil composition of the softball field. There is too much sand and makes the playing surface unplayable. We are adding clay to make the surface more firm. Keith Collier and Chris Walker have been working on this project; and 4) On Thursday, I met with Ralph DiBattista, Ira Young, and Dennis Graham of the Job Corp to discuss an articulation agreement. This is in the initial stages, but it does look promising. We could potentially claim the 16-19 year old students at Job Corp and receive federal funding providing them education services within the Illinois curriculum guidelines. An articulation agreement is being hammered out and will have more information at the next meeting.

A motion to enter closed session for the purpose of personnel performance, procedures, and employment was made by Coen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 7:26 p.m.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons to return to regular session. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 9:15 p.m.

Under New Business, the Statements of Economic Interest were distributed to be completed and returned.

A motion to authorize the Superintendent to solicit bids for services (diesel fuel, bakery products, dairy products, tires, and pest control) was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Mr. Bleyer discussed with the Board that a new scrubber was needed for the K-8 building. The current one is around 13 years old and needs repairs costing around \$800. Two bids were received for a new scrubber, one from Associated Cleaning Equipment and one from SupplyWorks. After discussing the bids, a motion to purchase a new scrubber for the K-8 building from Associated Cleaning Equipment was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

A motion to renew Mr. Blankenship's contract, Elementary Principal, for the 2017-2018 SY as discussed in closed session was made by Simmons and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

A motion to renew Mr. Fritch's contract, High School Principal, for the 2017-2018 SY as discussed in closed session was made by Coen and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

A motion to renew Mr. Bleyer's contract, Superintendent, as discussed in closed session was made by Simmons and seconded by Collier. All members present voted yea.

A motion to hire Alice Shores as full-time bus driver was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

A motion to hire Charlie Poole as part-time office assistant was made by Hansen and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

A motion was made to set 8th Grade Promotion for May 11, 2017 to begin at 7 pm and High School Graduation for May 12, 2017 to begin at 7 pm was made by Simmons and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted as follows: Hansen, Coen, Simmons, Collier, and Clay; yea, Richerson abstained.

A motion to approve six high school student council members to attend a State Convention in Lombard, IL, May 3-6, 2017 as requested by Mrs. Johnson was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

A motion to post for ½ PE and ½ Driver's Education teacher for the 2017-2018 SY was made by Hansen and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted as follows: Hansen, Coen, Simmons, Collier, and Clay; yea, Richerson abstained.

A motion to purchase a full-page ad in the Yearbook was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

Under Old Business, Board member Collier gave an update on the softball field they have been working on all week. They have added 1 ½ tons of clay to the playing surface and it's in pretty good shape. The baseball field is also getting some work done on the playing surface. Both fields will be in good shape and ready to go by the start of the season.

Under Other School Business, Superintendent Bleyer discussed with the Board Policy 2:110 regarding the change of a two-year term for the President and Vice-President. All other officers will remain at a one-year term. This policy will be on display in the Unit Office for 30 days. No action needed at this time.

Board member Coen asked about the baseball field and the storage area getting wet. The Board discussed tiling around the dugout/storage area to drain the water to the ditch to alleviate the drainage issue.

Board member Hansen asked that the acceptance of the Youth League donation be put on next month's agenda.

Board member Hansen stated that since most of the Board members received requests from citizens that the Board minutes be published in the local newspaper, he asked that the Board secretary send the file of the approved minutes to the editor.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn until the next regular scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Allen Clay, President
Board of Education

Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education