

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
January 24, 2018
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Board President Hansen and the following members were present: Schuchardt, Wallace, Simmons, Coen, Clay, Hogg, and Hansen.

Motion was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Simmons to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Motion was made by Clay and seconded by Hogg to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 12/19/2017 and 12/26/2017; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Approve destruction of Closed Session Meeting CDs more than 18 months old. After some discussion regarding bills, roll call vote: all yeas.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) We are in the process of completing the Aimsweb testing for the winter benchmark; 2) Progress Reports for the 3rd quarter are scheduled to go out on February 12th; 3) Jr. High Basketball: both the boys and girls have finished their Jr. High season; 4) Dental Safari is re-scheduled for February 9th for dental exams; 5) 5th and 6th

grade Girls Basketball team is scheduled for a shootout in Mayfield on February 3rd and March 3rd; 6) The boy's 5th and 6th grade team will start playing in February (First game to be played on February 5th); 7) I will be going with 4 teachers to the Every Student Succeeds Act Conference in Chicago on February 12th and 13th; 8) Current Enrollment is 403 as of January 24th.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) We have five PCHS students participating in an Advanced Placement course through the Illinois Virtual School. This is through a partnership with IVS, College Board, and the Illinois Lt. Governor's office; 2) Boys basketball Conference Tournament at SIC January 22nd-27th; 3) Girls basketball Conference Tournament at Home on January 29th and February 1st; 4) Scholar Bowl Team finished 2nd place in the GEC Tournament; 5) Enrollment: Freshmen – 36, Sophomores – 43, Juniors – 31, Seniors – 31, Total 141.

Dr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) I am happy to report that we once again received the State Farm computer grant. The District was awarded 25 HP EliteBook 840's. The value of the laptops is around \$10,000. The computers will be placed in the high school computer lab which will free up the Lenovo laptops to be used on carts in the classrooms. This will be a major upgrade to our technology capacity and improve access for the students. I want to thank State Farm for the generous grant; 2) On Wednesday of last week, Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti visited the District to promote the Illinois Virtual School and its'

relation to students taking Advanced Placement courses in rural schools.; 3)
The State Superintendent has now declared that any new funding that is tied to the Evidence Based Model will not be delivered until March. However, since Governor Rauner vetoed the education funding bill last week, public schools may not see any new money this year. We have received some funds but still waiting on over \$300,000.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing closed session minutes, personnel employment, and personnel was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Clay. Roll call vote: all yeas. Board entered executive session at 7:20 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Clay and seconded by Coen. Roll call vote: all yeas. Board returned at 8:13 pm.

Motion to approve closed session minutes and recommendations of minutes to become public record was made by Hogg and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Motion to hire Heath Bremer was made by Clay and seconded by Hogg. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Motion to approve Heather Thompson as bus driver pending proper certification was made by Hogg and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Motion to approve Tracy Wallace as volunteer high school cheerleading coach pending completion of the ASEP certification was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Motion to approve Denise Lewis as volunteer high school cheerleading coach pending completion of the ASEP certification was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all; all yeas.

Motion to approve out-of-state field trip to Louisville, KY for the FFA members to attend the National Farm Machinery Show on February 14, 2018 pending the addition of a chaperone was made by Wallace and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all yeas.

President Hansen discussed with the Board the proposal of a Board Goal Committee to prioritize goals and meet with Dr. Bleyer regarding costs.

President Hansen appointed Members Wallace, Simmons, and Hogg to this committee.

President Hansen added he would like to incorporate a Wall of Fame in the high school of alumni that are successful in the world today, whether it is a lawyer,

doctor, engineer, or a business owner. The students of PCHS need to see that you can make it big with a successful career even by graduating from a small rural school. Nothing can hold them back if they strive to succeed. There was also discussion on tracking the number of seniors who have plans to attend college, join the military, or have jobs waiting on them after graduation. The Board would like to see the percentage of these students and make it a goal of the Board to have seniors college ready or work ready upon graduation.

All Members asked several question in relation to the ability of the schools and personnel to respond in the case of an active shooter were on campus. Dr. Bleyer and the principals explained procedures and expressed that the District is prepared for any emergency. Additionally, Dr. Bleyer stated that he, Pope County Sheriff Suits, and the state police are continuing discussions to better collaborate on emergency situations.

Under Old Business, President Hansen asked for an update on the softball dugouts. Dr. Bleyer stated the work started today and are scheduled to pour concrete tomorrow.

President Hansen asked about the acoustic panels for the high school gym. Dr. Bleyer stated they have been ordered and he is waiting on color sample panels to make sure to get the right color. Member Wallace asked if these panels were something the students could make in shop class. Dr. Bleyer stated they could

look into it. Member Hogg also added that the speakers will need to be repositioned once the panels are in place.

Under Other School Business, Member Coen asked how the counseling services were going with the Family Counseling Center. Mr. Blankenship reported they are working on the waiting list and making progress. The FCC was overwhelmed with the number of students needing services. Mr. Fritch reported they had a case load before FCC even got started but they are working on it. Mrs. Potts has finished her degree and will work on getting her in place for next year as a guidance counselor. The principals both added they look at students' grades, behavior, and attitude when determining a problem with that student. The teachers also keep an eye on students and can notice changes within a student in their classroom. President Hansen stated it is in our favor that we have good teachers that watch out for our children and are willing to help that child; one of the pros of being in a small school.

Dr. Bleyer distributed a packet including superintendent evaluation form and district information to each Board member. He instructed the members to complete the evaluation and mail to President Hansen in the enclosed addressed envelope by the deadline.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Schuchardt to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting to

be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted yea.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm.

**Michael Hansen, President
Board of Education**

**Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education**