

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
Thursday, May 18, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

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

Motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Simmons to approve the agenda. All members present voted yea.

Motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve minutes of Board meeting on 4/20/17; 2) Approve closed session minutes; 3) Approve bills for payment; 4) Accept Financial Report; and 4) Accept resignations. After some questions regarding bills and Hansen stated there are no resignations at this time, all members present voted yea.

President Hansen recognized Mrs. Tammy Buttrum and let her know the Board would hear her during closed session.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) PTO Spring Fling took place on Tuesday, May 9th. This event was moved from Friday

to Tuesday because of the weather; 2) The 8th grade will be going on their class trip on Tuesday, May 23rd; 3) The janitors have started on Summer cleaning and repairs; 4) Cheerleading try-outs are complete and the next year's squad has been announced. The Cheerleaders will be selling trash bags at a fund raiser during the summer; 5) Tiffany Jones and Melissa Light has requested to be the 8th grade class sponsors; and 6) Current enrollment is 382 as of May 10th.

Hansen added that graduation went well.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) Baseball Regionals are at Gallatin County; 2) Softball Regionals are at Pope County. Our team advanced to the championship but lost to Hardin County; 3) Boys and Girls basketball teams have several things scheduled for the summer; 4) We had two students receive level three: honorable mention in the Illinois Letters About Literature contest. Those students were Trenton Huston and Matt Sherrod; 5) Janitors are set to begin summer work; 6) Shout out to Mrs. Johnson for writing and receiving a Consumer Ed Grant. We will receive free textbooks and teaching materials for the classroom; 7) Enrollment: Freshmen – 44, Sophomores – 36, Juniors – 34; and Seniors – 38 with the total being 152. Hansen also congratulated Mrs. Graves for receiving the Charles and Eleanor Schweizer History Teacher Award from the Illinois Society Sons of The American Revolution. Hansen added that graduation went well.

Dr. Bleyer reported on the following: 1) On May 10th, I attended the Egyptian Trust Board meeting in Carlyle. We voted to approve moving our health plan to a reference based pricing model. This will change service providers to HST for referenced based pricing, HealthSCOPE for TPA and customer service and MedWatch for precertification and utilization management services. There is a lot of new information that we will be getting out to those who take insurance as soon as possible; 2) There are still no improvements on the state budget. Votes did come out today so there is movement but they are getting ready to recess; 3) We have installed four new BrightLink projectors in classrooms. They are working fantastically and are impressive. These projectors are far more stable than the ceiling mounted ones that are in a lot of the classrooms. Additionally, they do not need to calibrate with the white board; 4) On April 21 & 22, our students had their art on display at the History Museum. There was a large turnout. We hope to make this a yearly tradition. I want to thank the Historical Society for their generosity and support for the children of Pope County; 5) On April 24, we had the Rotary Honor's Banquet in Dutton Gymnasium. There was a large turnout and the event went smoothly. I want to thank the Rotary for continued support for the children of the District; and 6) On May 9, the two school choirs performed for the Spring Concert. There was also a large crowd and the performers were great. I want to thank Laura Hosfeldt and Lisa Reed for their tireless efforts to prepare the students and put on a good show.

Coen entered the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Motion to enter closed session for the purpose of personnel performance, procedures, and employment was made by Hogg and seconded by Clay. All members present voted yea. Board entered at 7:10 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Coen and seconded by Hogg. Board returned at 8:45 pm. All members present voted yea.

Dr. Bleyer highlighted some changes made to the budget and discussed the amendments. He also pointed out the State and Federal line items that have not been funded which are all mandated programs. After all the Board members had a chance to view the amended budget a motion to approve tentative amended budget for FY 2016-17 was made by Clay and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Dr. Bleyer distributed the PRESS update regarding employee reimbursement for travel. This is a mandate from the State that the Board needs to consider. The Board will set the rate for reimbursement. This policy will go on display for 30 days and will need Board approval at the next meeting. No action is needed at this time.

A motion to hire Phillip Hosfeldt for a High School Social Science teacher for the 2017-2018 SY was made by Simmons and seconded by Coen. Roll call vote: all yeas.

A motion to hire Joshua Mieldezis for an Elementary/Jr. High Physical Education teacher for the 2017-2018 SY was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Hansen discussed the establishment of a stipend for assistant coaches for the Jr. High and the rest of the high school in order to establish better athletic programs in all sports. After much discussion, the Board tabled this item wanting more information on cost to the District. Dr. Bleyer stated he would have some numbers to report at the next meeting.

A motion to approve Mr. Chris Walker as an assistant FFA Trap Team Coach as requested by Mr. Wade Swinford was made by Clay and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all yeas.

President Hansen began the discussion regarding a stipend or bonus consideration for the Elementary/Jr. High and high school secretaries. A motion was made by Clay and seconded by Simmons to give a \$500 stipend and a cell phone to each secretary for after hours sub calling. Roll call vote: all yeas.

Under Other School Business, Dr. Bleyer distributed a letter from the lawyer for the Millstone Water Department. The letter stated it was the District's responsibility to locate the fiber optic line running under State Highway 146 connecting the two schools. President Hansen stated we need to have the line located and asked that Dr. Bleyer contact a company such as Soft Dig to come in and mark the line.

Dr. Bleyer stated Millstone also suggested that we replace the water reducers since they are replacing the water line and it will be much easier to replace these at the same time. The Board asked for an estimate of cost before moving forward.

Member Coen stated the discussion on the purchasing of a tarp or resurfacing the infield on the baseball field was still open. He asked if it would be more feasible to resurface the infield and put in tile to help the drainage of the field. Dr. Bleyer added that the field maintenance could be put in the budget. He also added he has secured the Job Corp for the softball field dugouts, storage, and concession stand improvements. Member Clay asked if the Job Corp could build a press box while we have them. Dr. Bleyer stated he would ask and have more information at the next meeting. Member Coen volunteered to help oversee the baseball field project.

President Hansen discussed with the Board that the Youth League wants to purchase a pitching machine if the District will pay half the cost. The Youth League will have cost information to share at a later date.

Member Coen also recognized Mrs. Graves for receiving Teacher of the Year and Dr. Bleyer for receiving his doctorate degree.

President Hansen also thanked Ms. Clayton for her years of service and wished her well in her retirement.

Member Hogg requested that the Board members get prior notice of items on the agenda, such as the calendar and job candidates, that they will be voting on at the meeting. Dr. Bleyer stated he would notify as soon as possible on these items and include in the Board packet.

A motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. The Public Hearing for Amended Budget will be held at 6:45 pm and the Public Hearing for the Resolution will be held at 6:30 pm. All members present voted yea.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.

**Michael Hansen, President
Board of Education**

**Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education**