

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting  
Pope County CUSD #1  
Board of Education  
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library  
November 15, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 8:41 pm by Board President Clay and the following members were present: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Richerson, Collier, and Clay. Simmons was absent.

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

Motion to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 10/20/2016; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Accept Resignation of Mrs. Betty Hughes. All members present voted yea.

At this time the Board recognized Mrs. Rhonda Jenkins, teacher, to discuss the parent/teacher conference schedule and asked that the Board consider a different schedule for next year. She distributed a handout with suggested schedule changes, surveys from twenty one teachers in the union, and schedules from other schools.

The Board recognized Cathy Jackson and Tresa Hargrove at this time. Mrs. Jackson asked if they could meet with the Board in closed session.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) Progress reports for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter are planned to go out November 17<sup>th</sup>; 2) Parent/Teacher conferences went well. We had 394 parent contacts involving 249 students; 3) Veterans Day program involving grades 3-4-5 took place on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm; 4) Picture re-takes and clubs/sports pictures will be done on November 16<sup>th</sup>; 5) The Elementary Christmas program is planned for grades 3-4-5 on December 20<sup>th</sup> and for grades K-1-2 on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Both programs will start at 1:30 pm and will be in the Elementary gym. The Winter Choir Program will take place in the High School gym on December 15<sup>th</sup>; 6) Spelling Bee will take place on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm; and 7) Current enrollment is 384 as of November 4<sup>th</sup>, up 12 students from last year.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) FFA Trap team has been in competition- Individuals have done very well. One team placed 4<sup>th</sup> at a competition; 2) Boys basketball begins the season on November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Crab Orchard Turkey Tournament; 3) Girls basketball begins the season on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Meridian Lady Bobcat Classic. The girls won the first game; 4) Christmas Concert is December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the high school gym; 5) November 30<sup>th</sup> is the Concert Choir and Madrigal Cast has been selected by WSIL Channel 3 to participate in recording Sounds of the Season; 6) Madrigal performance will be

December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and December 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm; 7) Scholar Bowl season has begun; 8) I would like to thank Mrs. Jessica Wagner for taking the high school Shrimp fest volunteers to Grover Webb's Farm; 9) Progress report go out on November 17<sup>th</sup>; 10) Picture retakes and sport pictures will be on November 17<sup>th</sup>; and 11) Enrollment is currently: Freshmen- 45, Sophomores- 40, Juniors- 36, and Seniors- 39; totaling 160.

Mr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) The saga of the election 2016 cycle has conclude. We will see how the political landscape will affect public education in our state. One thing that persists is the delinquency of payments from the state. At this point, the Comptroller has \$110,546 in vouchers awaiting processing for Pope County CSD #1; 2) The District has developed its' Concussion 'Return to Play / Return to Learn' Protocol Team. The Team will follow Board and State policy on this matter. This new statewide policy is fleshing itself out and is still confusing to all parties. It will remain the priority of our Team to handle all situations with the best intentions for the student; and 3) I would like to add that the two new hires for janitor are doing a great job.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel performance, employment, procedures, and student issues was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 8:59 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Richerson and seconded by Hogg. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 10:06 pm.

Mr. Bleyer distributed and discussed the tentative 2015 Tax Levy. He explained the numbers reflected 4.99% levy which is under the 5% that requires a public hearing. After some questions from the Board, a motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Hansen to post the tentative 2015 Tax Levy. All members present voted yea.

A motion to adjust the job descriptions of the bookkeeper and unit secretary from 7 hours a day to 7.5 hours a day was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

Mr. Bleyer reported that an inventory has been done of all the out of use items; uniforms, band instruments, trophies, pictures, etc. and proposed selling or donating these items to the Historical Society and/or class reunions. Mr. Forthman has inventoried the old basketball uniforms and would like to sell them at ball games. The Board discussed the matter and a motion was made by Collier to approve the sale of the sports uniforms with the funds returning to the athletic fund. Richerson amended the motion for the funds to be used for the replacement of the banners in the high school gym. The motion was seconded by Hansen and members voted as followed: Hansen, Hogg, Richerson, Collier, and Clay; yea, Coen; nay.

**Motion to approve Holly Comer as volunteer girls' junior high school basketball coach was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.**

**Motion to post for a full-time cook position was made by Hogg and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.**

**Motion to approve Sherri Flatt as FCCLA sponsor in the absence of Ashley Payne was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.**

**Mr. Bleyer explained to the Board the need for the special meeting for a public hearing concerning the District reapplying for a waiver/modification to the Illinois School Code. This was done five years ago and is on a 5 year cycle. This renewal will allow District personnel who reside in another school district to enroll their children in our district, tuition free.**

**Mr. Bleyer added an informational letter will be sent home to parents regarding the gym roof project. The project is on schedule to start December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library with a special meeting on the same date at 6:45 pm for the**

**purpose of a public hearing concerning the District reapplying for a waiver/modification to the Illinois School Code. All members present voted yea.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:27 pm.**

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**Allen Clay, President  
Board of Education**

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**Paula Baker, Secretary  
Board of Education**