

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
1110 3RD STREET
FULTON, IL 61252
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND
REGULAR JUNE BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

June 19, 2023

The Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on June 19, 2023, at the River Bend District Office.

President Portz called the Budget Hearing to order at 6:32pm. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary, the following members were Present: Elizabeth Falls, Eric Fish, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons, Absent: Andrew Meyers; Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Jennifer Griser, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Michelle James, Jeremy Leitzen, and Kelli Parsons, Principals: Bob Gosch, Patrick Henrekin, Jeffrey Hoese, and Assistant Principal: Jeffrey Parsons.

President Portz asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public forum on the budget. There was no public comment.

There being no further discussion it was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to adjourn the Budget Hearing at 6:33pm. Roll Call Vote:

Member Falls, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion carried.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:33pm. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary, the following members were present: Elizabeth Falls, Eric Fish, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons, Absent: Andrew Meyers; Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent, and Jennifer Griser, Recording Secretary.

(Member Meyers entered the meeting at 7:09 pm)

Additions to the agenda. Dr. Hogue added to the superintendent's report an update on PMA financing.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the agenda as amended. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

There was no communication from the RBEA.

President Portz asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public forum. There was no one wishing to speak during public forum.

Principal Reports. Mr. Hoese invited everyone to the playground build day at the preschool on this coming Friday, June 23rd. Mr. Hoese also shared with the Board he had received a few phone calls and emails regarding preschool students that had or had not been admitted for the upcoming school year. Mr. Hoese sent out a Q and A type letter to explain the screening process and address any concerns parents had.

Mr. Henrekin shared that summer cleaning is going well and Hartz Lock has started working on the secured entrance at the middle school. Mr. Henrekin also shared that the summer enrichment classes held at the middle school went well. He enjoyed seeing the students excited to be at school and be engaged and involved in the different classes.

Mr. Gosch informed the Board the high school will have a female exchange student from Thailand in the fall.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the district received a ballot for the Northwestern Illinois Association Executive Board. There were only two candidates running unopposed for the two positions.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that enrollment has stayed consistent throughout the year, ending at a few students different from where the year started.

Dr. Hogue provided a year end food service update. The total negative lunch account balances for the district at the end of the school year was \$5,936.65. The district will be switching from PushCoin to the Titan Program for student payment of lunches and registration fees. The switch over process has been going well and the Titan program will be ready to start accepting payments from families when registration opens in July.

Mr. Parsons presented adding a coffee bar at the high school. Mr. Parsons, Stacey Collachia, and Trish Glazier all visited Galesburg High School who currently has a coffee bar in their cafeteria. This would be open in the mornings and at lunch time. The coffee bar would be a student lead project with an adult staff member supervising. Mr. Parsons feels this would help reduce the number of student tardies in the morning as they would not need to visit coffee shops on their way to school.

Michelle James with Veregy provided an update on the construction projects at the elementary and middle schools. Michelle presented the board with designs for additional classrooms at the elementary school, a conference room at the middle school, three gymnasium options at the middle school, and additional parking at the elementary school.

Dr. Hogue provided an update to the Board on the price increase from Benning Group. The Benning Group is increasing their hourly rate from \$81 to \$130, this equates to an approximate \$8,500 increase for the district. The Board asked Dr. Hogue to seek bids for a new audit company.

Dr. Hogue provided an update on financing options from PMA. One of the options included passing a levy to increase district bonding options. The impact to residents would be around \$50 for a \$100,000 home and \$171 for a \$300,00 home in additional taxes. The Board preferred bonding a smaller amount, \$3-\$4 million, and going with a shorter repayment cycle to keep the levy flat.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the consent agenda including the May 16, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes; May Treasurer’s report; and June Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$613,405.50 subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Member Falls, yea</i> | <i>Member Portz, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the 2022-23 Amended Budget.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker to approve the 2022-23 Amended Budget with revenues in the amount of \$12,646,165.00 and expenditures in the amount of \$12,922,800.27. Roll Call Vote:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Member Falls, yea</i> | <i>Member Portz, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of School District expenditures for FY 24 until which time the annual budget of the District is adopted. Dr. Hogue also recommended approving Member Portz and Member Orman-Luker be authorized to approved July bills for payment subject to audit.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Portz, to approve School District expenditures for funds to defray necessary and proper expenses and liabilities of the School District incurred for education, operations, maintenance, transportation, site and construction purposes of the District for Fiscal Year 24, until which time the Annual Budget of the District is adopted in conformity with applicable sections of the Illinois School Code and authorize Member Portz and Member Orman-Luker to approve July bills for payment, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Member Falls, yea</i> | <i>Member Portz, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that the auditor directs the district to designate a person to review, accept, and sign-off on the FY 23 financial statement of the district which includes the audit report, the annual financial report to the state, and the Data Collection Form on behalf of the school district.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to name Daniel Portz as the designated person to review, accept, and sign-off on the FY 23 financial statement of the district which includes the audit report, the annual financial report to the state, and the Data Collection Form on behalf of the school district. Roll Call Vote:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Member Falls, yea</i> | <i>Member Portz, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended seeking bids for fuel for the 2023-2024 school year.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to direct the superintendent to seek fuel bids for the 2023-2024 school year. Voice Vote, all yea, motion carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approving the Three Rivers Cafeteria Cooperative’s recommendation of Enyeart Distributing for milk products for the 2023-24 school year.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve Enyeart Distributing as apparent low bidder for milk products recommended by the Three Rivers Cafeteria Cooperative for the 2023-24 school year.

Member Falls, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of Fulton Elementary School’s agreement with the Scholastic Book Fair for sale of books, with expected revenue of over \$1,000.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve Fulton Elementary School’s agreement with Scholastic Book Fair for the sale of books with an anticipated revenue of more than \$1,000. Roll Call Vote:

Member Falls, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of Health, Life, Safety Amendment #23 to use funds for the secured entrance remodel at River Bend Middle School.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the Health, Life, Safety Amendment #23 for River Bend Middle School secured entrance in the amount of \$35,000. Roll Call Vote:

Member Falls, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of a new activity account at Fulton High School for the FFA Student Activity Group.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the new FFA High School Activity Account. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Falls, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the waiver for Introduction to Computers and College and Career Readiness at Fulton High School to allow students to take an approved alternative course. Students will be earning these credits on their own time so that they may enroll in band and choir.

It was moved by Member Falls, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the graduation requirement waiver for Introduction to Computers and College and Career Readiness at Fulton High School and allow students to take an approved alternate course. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Falls, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Activity Fund Bond.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Nixon Insurance Agency, Inc. proposal for a one-year Activity Bond with a premium of \$100 with a limit of \$50,000 for Stacy Bueno. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Falls, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the District received \$1,460 from the Shawn Price Memorial for the high school football program, \$8,751 from ADM for the Robotics team, \$3,000 from Brad Stuart for the PBIS and House System at the elementary school, and \$11,925.49 from the River Bend Athletic Boosters for weight room flooring, football guardian caps, a fire pit, pavilion supplies, and MatBos Wrestling Software.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to accept gifts to the District as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Falls, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the following personnel items:

- *Approve the resignation of Thomas Eden as paraprofessional at River Bend Middle School, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Thomas Eden as History Teacher at River Bend Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year only.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Debora Courtade as One-on-One Aide at River Bend Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Heidi Williams as Science Teacher at Fulton High School for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Amy Strehlow as PK-8 Technology and STEAM Integration Specialist for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Sheila Alexander as River Bend Middle School Scholastic Bowl coach for the 2023-2024 school year only.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Corinne Leonhardt as paraprofessional at River Bend Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the following volunteer wrestling coaches for the 2023-24 school year: Cole Grant, Tony Heinitz, Evan McCallister, Becky Duncan, Rich Pannell, and Jeremy Fosdick.*
- *Approve the resignation of Lydia Schaver as 8th Grade Volleyball Coach at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Monique Harris as River Bend Middle School 8th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the resignation of Jarek Leonhardt as River Bend Middle School Tech Aide, effective June 13, 2023.*
- *Approve the resignation of Aaron Kuebel as Fresh/Soph Baseball Coach at Fulton High School, effective immediately.*
- *Approve the internal transfer of Alanna Ganzer from Night Cleaner to Head Night Custodian at Fulton High School, effective August 7, 2023.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Neal Luker, as part-time teacher at Fulton High School for Community Involvement for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Alysha Adams as paraprofessional at Fulton Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the recommendation to hire Bailee Spencer as paraprofessional at Fulton Elementary School for the 2023-2024 school year.*
- *Approve the following extra duty positions for the 2023-2024 school year:*
 - **Level I**
 - *Varsity Boys Track - Mike Ankrom*
 - *Varsity Girls Track - Lynn Schipper*
 - *Varsity Baseball - Brent Dykstra*
 - *Varsity Softball - Derek Germann*
 - *Strength and Conditioning - Jared Wessels*
 - **Level II**
 - *Play Director - Neal Luker*
 - *Director of Bands - Shawn Anton*
 - *Director of Chorus - Shawn Anton*
 - *Assistant HS Track - Kyle McLuckie*
 - *Fresh/Soph Softball - Jenna Jones*
 - **Level III**
 - *Robotics - Chris Seesser*
 - *District Webmaster - Emily Johnson*
 - *Middle School Track - Boys - Chris Ketelsen*
 - *Middle School Band - Shawn Anton*

- *Middle School Chorus - Shawn Anton*
- *Junior Class Sponsor - Carolyn Meurs*
- *Media Pub - Ryan Dail*

Level IV

- *High School Yearbook - Christy Hackett*
- *HS Costume Coordinator - Camryn Simmons*
- *Middle School Assistant Track - Emma Jacobs*
- *Middle School Assistant Track - Kearston Norman*
- *Senior Class Sponsor - Mike Ankrom*
- *Thespians - Neal Luker*
- *Sophomore Class Sponsor - Emilee Droegmiller*
- *Freshman Class Sponsor - Haylee Mussman*
- *Middle School Pep Club - Megan Facio*
- *RBMS Student Council - Adrien Loncar & Ashley Huizenga*

Level V

- *National Honor Society - Emily Johnson and Emilee Droegmiller*
- *Key Club - Mike Ankrom*

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at 6:30pm, at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Falls, to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

Dan Portz, President
 Board of Education
 River Bend Unit District #2
 Whiteside County

Eric Fish, Secretary
 Board of Education
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