

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

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

July 20, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on July 20, 2022, at Fulton High School.

Member Meyers was appointed Secretary Pro Tem.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro Tem the following members were present: Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Jay Ritchie. Absent: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, and Mary Simmons Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Elizabeth Falls, Jeremy Leitzen, Sara Pessman, Abra Richards, and Brent Stoecker. Principal: Robert Gosch. Assistant Principal/AD: Jeffrey Parsons. Media: Jerry Lindsey, Cityone.com.

Additions to the agenda. Dr. Hogue added PMA financial options and Return to Learn Plan under informational items.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers 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.

Dr. Hogue updated the Board on the summer building projects. Cleaning in the buildings is 80% complete, the high school bathroom project is underway, the opening for the new entrance has been made and work to remodel the classroom into an office can begin soon, 90% of the door closures have been replaced, DVR and camera work will start Monday, electrical panels that needed replaced have been replaced, and the new furniture has arrived and is being assembled. President Portz reiterated the need for safety in the schools and to remind staff not to prop doors open and ensure entry into the schools is monitored.

Dr. Hogue reviewed the 2021-22 budget. This is the fourth year the district closed in the black without early tax money. The ending balance in the Education Fund without early taxes was \$1,129,849.78 and the increase is due primarily to ESSER funds. It will be hard to continue this upward trend when ESSER funds are no longer available and expenses continue to increase. Comparing to previous years is difficult due to the bond revenue received. Dr. Hogue will continue to monitor the Transportation Fund and the Bond and Interest Fund included an extra interest payment. In the coming year Dr. Hogue will decrease the IMRF/Social Security Fund and increase Bond and Interest in the Levy to make up the difference.

Dr. Hogue reviewed the Committee meeting dates for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Henrekin provided a report updating the board on the Athletic Boosters activities. The Athletic Boosters have provided over \$17,700 to the district for the athletic programs. River Bend greatly appreciates all the boosters do and provide for the schools and athletic programs.

Dr. Hogue has been working with PMA on investing. PMA has proposed a six-month term series that would net 3% for a full year. The agreement had to be finalized by July 22 and this was not enough time to make a decision. Dr. Hogue and Rachel will continue to look at investing options to maximize the reserves and possibly invest in the local banks or PMA.

Dr. Hogue informed that Board that the District is required to do an updated Return to Learn Plan since the district is still receiving ESSER funds. Dr. Hogue will revise the plan and it will be sent home to families and posted on the web page.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the consent agenda including the June 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; June Treasurer’s Report; July Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$556,886.78 subject to audit; and authorization to dispose of the closed session audio tapes for February 19, 2020, and November 18, 2020. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue indicated the Policy Committee recommends approval of the first reading of select policy updates. There were significant changes to the medical policy including the addition of an Anaphylactic Response Policy. Linda Rogis, Nurse, was involved in the review of these policies.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve select policy updates: 2:230, 3:70, 4:10, 4:70, 4:180, 5:40, 5:70, 5:80, 5:110, 5:130-AP, 5:240, 6:70, 6:80, 6:140, 6:290, 6:330, 7:15, 7:60-AP2, 7:270, 7:285, and 7:285-AP. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue presented a revised Physical Restraint, Time Out, and Isolated Time Out Reduction Plan. Dr. Hogue re-wrote the goal since there has only been one occurrence at the elementary and four at the Preschool. The district will look to maintain or reduce the overall number of restraints needed, however, student and staff safety will take precedence over the reduction goal.

It was moved by Member Ritchie, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the Physical Restraint, time Out, and Isolated Time Out Reduction Plan as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, nay

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended tabling the first reading of the Books/Materials Selection and Reconsideration Policy 6:260-AP1 since not all Board Member were in attendance. Member Barnett requested that the sentence about strengths and weaknesses of books be removed. He also requested that a member from the clergy replace one of the two teachers on the Reconsideration Committee. The Board would like to discuss this request when all members are present.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the second reading of Substitute Teachers Policy 5:220 and adopt as policy. This will increase the substitute teacher pay from \$95 per day to \$105 per day. The adjustment is due to the increase in minimum wage and ESP salary increase.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the second reading of Substitute Teachers Policy 5:220 and adopt as policy. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board it is necessary to take official action on the unopposed candidates for two-year terms Northwestern Illinois Association (NIA) Sub Region III Executive Board. The candidates are Matt Zilm, Ogle County Special Education Director; and Corena Steinmeyer, Lee County Special Education Member-at Large.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to cast one vote for Matt Zilm and one vote for Corena Steinmeyer to serve a two-year term on the NIA Executive Board. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board two bids for fuel were received from Gold Star FS for .20 over rack price and Rock Valley Coop for .31 over rack price. Dr. Hogue recommends approval of the apparent low bid from Gold Star FS.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the apparent low bid for fuel submitted by Gold Star FS for .20 over rack price for the 2022-23 school year. Roll Call Vote:

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of a Health Life Safety Surety Bond for Virginia Petersen due to the sale of the new bonds.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve Nixon Insurance Agency, Inc., proposal for Health Lie Safety Surety Bond with an annual premium of \$113 with a limit of \$136,780 for Virginia Petersen. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended one-hundred (100) HP G5 EE Chrombooks and eight-five (85) Chromebooks be declared as surplus goods and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to declare one-hundred (100) HP G5 EE Chromebooks and eighty-five (85) Chromebooks be declared as surplus goods, and disposed of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue and President Portz reviewed the closed session minutes and recommend the minutes dated March 23, 2022, April 11, 2022, April 20, 2022, and June 8, 2022, remain closed.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to retain closed session minutes dated March 23, 2022, April 11, 2022, April 20, 2022, and June 8, 2022, at this time due to the need for confidentiality to still exist to all or part of the minutes. Roll Call Vote.

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the district received from the River Bend Athletic Booster \$500 for Middle School State Track, \$427.23 for graduation stoles, \$675.80 for playoff patches, and \$9,500 for HUDL and from the Whiteside Soil and Water Conservation Bureau \$1063.96 for a Produce Garden Program Grant.

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

Member Meyers, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

There was no closed session

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the following personnel items:

- *Approved the following Volunteer Assistant Volleyball Coaches for the 2022-23 school year: Marilyn Harrison, Annie Weller, Brooke Huizenga, Delaney Reed, Jean Wilkin, Jessica North, Kaitlin Bruggenwirth, Liz Sanquist, and Kearston Norman*
- *Approved the following Volunteer Assistant Football Coaches for the 2022-23 school year: Aaron Kuebel, Dave Curley, and Will Conner*
- *Approved the following Volunteer Assistant Golf Coaches for the 2022-23 school year: Andy Meyers and Ryan Voss*
- *Approved Zach Ryder as the Sophomore Football Coach for the 2022-23 school year.*
- *Approved Richard Criss as School Bus Driver for the 2022-23 school year.*
- *Approved Stacy Bueno as Concession Manager for the 2022-23 school year.*
- *Approved Mara Bilyeu as Volunteer Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Fulton High School for the 2022-23 school year.*
- *Approved the resignation of Shelly Bauscher as Cook’s Helper at Fulton Elementary effective immediately.*

Roll Call Vote.

- Member Meyers, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Ritchie, yea*

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the June 8, 2022, Closed Session Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote.

- Member Meyers, yea*
- Member Orman-Luker, yea*
- Member Portz, yea*
- Member Ritchie, yea*

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 6:30 P.M., at the Fulton High School.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M. 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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