

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

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

December 16, 2019

The Truth in Taxation Levy Hearing of the Board of Education of River Bend Unit District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois was held on December 16, 2019, at the River Bend District Office.

Mary Simmons was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem.

President Portz called the Truth In Taxation Levy Hearing to order at 6:30 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie and Mary Simmons. Absent: Eric Fish. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Dr. Hogue indicated he increased the Estimated Assessed Valuation (EAV) figure by 9.9% in order to capture all the dollars the district is entitled to in case the EAV goes up in March from the figure he was given in October. Last year there was a \$700,000 increase in EAV from the amount in October to the final amount in March.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to adjourn the public hearing at 6:33 P.M. Voice Vote, all yea, motion carried.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on December 16, 2019, at the River Bend District Office.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:33 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Eric Fish. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Adelle Mure-Ravaud, Julie Mure-Ravaud, Philippe Mure-Ravaud and Andrew Schrader. Principals: Robert Gosch, and Jeffrey Hoese. RBEA: Craig Hafner.

Additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

There was no communication from the RBEA.

Mr. Gosch introduced November Steamer of the Month Adelle Mure-Ravaud. One of the teachers that nominated Adelle said this, "Since Adelle was a freshman, she has been very involved at FHS and her work ethic has been superior. She makes a positive contribution to the life of FHS and she is one who volunteers to help. She has shown that she is very responsible and can serve as a committee member or a committee chair equally well. She is an excellent choice for Overall Steamer of the Month."

Mr. Gosch introduced Andrew Schrader, Sports Data Analysis student. Andrew provided comments and answered questions regarding this class which was just implemented this school year. He felt the class improved his statistical analysis and writing skills. He thought it was just going to be participating in Fantasy Football but it turned out to be much more. His writing skills were improved because essays are required to explain the reasoning behind the acquired data. Students also are required to do a Pod Cast which has improved his speaking skills as well. The class takes something students are interested in outside of school and makes it now part of learning. He thought the class was a huge success and has spoken to students from other schools who wish they had the same opportunity.

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

Principal's reports. Mr. Hoese indicated the winter concerts went well. He also explained the significance of the orange cow he used in one of his presentations. The orange cow teaches students they do not always have to fit in and it is ok to stand out. Dr. Hogue spoke on behalf of Mrs. Schipper. The Math Marathon raised almost \$5,000 in support of the Dance Marathon. The initial goal was \$1000. The Board asked for more information regarding the discipline report.

Mr. Gosch presented the poster he created entitled "The Journey Starts Here". Mr. Gosch's goal is to have each teacher take one assessment and make it a performance/skills based assessment. In order for teachers to be able to complete this goal they will have to be given the skills to accomplish this successfully.

Dr. Hogue, Member Meyers, Member Orman-Luker, Member Simmons and Rachel Snyder attended the Triple I conference in Chicago on November 21st – 24th. Dr. Hogue enjoyed the keynote speakers and did a lot of networking. Member Orman-Luker attended workshops on the cannabis issue. Member Simmons attended a workshop on eLearning days. Member Meyers attended a financial workshop and learned there are matching funds available for school districts.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment is holding steady. There is usually movement in and out over the winter break.

Dr. Hogue presented the 2020-21 school calendar options. Highlights include:

1. Start date Aug 17th and end May 25th. One suggestion was to start a week later due to the Whiteside County Fair.
2. The holiday break begins at the end of the day on Friday, December 18, 2019, and school resumes on January 5, 2021 with a Teacher's Institute on January 4, 2021,
3. School will be in session on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2020, since it lands in the middle of the week and, and also in session on Casimir Pulaski Day, March 1, 2021.
4. Spring Break will begin after school on Friday, March 26, 2021, and school will resume on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, since Easter is the Sunday before.
5. The last day of students attendance will be May 24, 2021, and teachers May 25, 2021

- 6. Dr. Hogue will put out a survey to staff and parents regarding high school graduation being moved from the Sunday of Memorial Day, May 30, 2021, to either the Saturday or Sunday before, May 22 or 23.
- 7. Make-up days/eLearning days will be assigned to the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, President’s Day and the Monday following Easter, as well as, the end of the school year if needed.
- 8. The teachers like the option of Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, November 5 from 2-7 PM and Friday, November 6 from 8 AM to 1 PM.

Dr. Hogue presented the second half of the year professional development plan. Much of the second half of the year will focus on Competency Based Education at the high school and in the lower grades.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the Transportation Fund is in the negative, largely due to the fact the first quarter and second quarter payments in the amount of \$58,000 each have not been received from the state. The district receives \$122,000 of Evidence Based Funding twice a month and Dr. Hogue would like to put a portion of that money in the Transportation Fund. President Portz would prefer the money be transferred from the Working Cash Fund.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the quote for materials to upgrade to LED lighting in the buildings is \$16,000 with district staff doing the installation. Energy savings will be realized by the retrofit.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the consent agenda including the November 14, 2019, Special Board Meeting Minutes, and the November 18, 2019, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; November Treasurer’s Report; and December Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$363,708.66, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the 2019 Tax Levy with a 9.9% increase. This will allow the district to receive funds if the Estimated Assessed Valuation were to increase from the predicted value given in October.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the 2019 Tax Levy as presented with estimated total levy extension, without bonds, of \$5,370,000 and direct the Board President and Secretary to sign, and authorize the recording secretary to process the required documents with the County Clerk. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended allocating \$40,000 of Facility Tax Funds to the Fulton Elementary Playground project.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the allocation of \$40,000 of Facility Tax Funds to the Fulton Elementary School Playground project. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of an IHSA Bass Fishing Team at Fulton High School. Mr. Henrekin presented information on this event at the November Board meeting.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the implementation of an IHSA Bass Fishing Team at Fulton High School to begin in the 2019-20 school year. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue will be applying for an ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant. Health Life Safety projects will receive a higher approval rating and is work the District was planning on completing. The High School needs to replace the aging heating and cooling system in the office suite. Fulton Elementary will include replacing ten units connected to the library/old office heating and cooling units and four unit ventilators will be replaced.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve Health Life Safety Amendments in the amount of approximately \$40,000 for units connected to the library and old office heating and cooling system and four unit ventilators in classrooms estimated at \$15,000 per unit at Fulton Elementary school; and in the amount of \$20,000 to replace the heating and cooling system in the Fulton High School office suite. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant Application. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

The Policy Committee met on December 13, 2019, and recommends approval of the first reading of select policy updates.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the first reading of select policy updates: 2:20, 2:70, 2:100, 2:105, 2:110, 2:200, 2:220, 2:220-E2, 2:250, 2:260, 3:50, 4:15, 4:30, 4:60, 4:80, 4:110, 4:140, 4:150, 4:170, 4:175, 4:190, 5:10, 5:20, 5:20-E, 5:30, 5:30-AP2, 5:50, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:125, 5:150, 5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:250, 5:260, 5:285, 5:290, 5:330, 6:15, 6:20, 6:60, 6:60-AP, 6:65, 6:150, 6:180, 6:210, 6:270, 6:300, 6:300-E1, 6:310, 6:320, 7:20, 7:50-AP, 7:150, 7:180, 7:190, 7:200, 7:270, 7:290, 7:340, and 7:340-AP1 Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

The Board will meet on January 20, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. for Superintendent’s Evaluation.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the Special meeting date of January 20, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. for Superintendent’s Evaluation. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the District received from the Athletic Boosters \$1,296.89 for iPads with tripods and covers, \$1,203.70 for thirty pairs of shorts, and \$4,235 for VET panels for the west gym. CF Industries donated \$3,512 for teacher requests and the Eric Ottens Memorial donated \$10,993.45 for teacher requests.

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

Member Barnett, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

There was no closed session.

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

- *Recommendation to approve Lynn Schipper as Volunteer Assistant Girls’ Basketball Coach at River Bend Middle School for the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Recommendation to accept the resignation of Ken Carey, Bus/Van Driver, effective December 20, 2019.*
- *Recommendation to approve eight (8) week or twelve (12) week, if medically necessary, Maternity/FMLA leave of absence for Kayla Kampe, Special Education Teacher at Fulton Elementary, beginning approximately May 5, 2020, returning the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Recommendation to approve Stephanie Eversole as Head Custodian at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.*
- *Recommendation to approve Pat Foster as Head Custodian at Fulton Elementary School, effective date determined by current Head Custodian’s last day of work.*

- *Recommendation to hire the following fall coaches for the 2020-21 school year:*

COACHING RECOMMENDATIONS

LEVEL I

VARSITY FOOTBALL Patrick Lower
 VARSITY VOLLEYBALL..... Stacy Germann

LEVEL III

GOLF..... Kevin VerHoeven
 ASSISTANT FOOTBALL Derek Germann
 SOPHOMORE FOOTBALL..... RJ Coffey
 FRESHMEN FOOTBALL Dan Wilkins
 ASSISTANT VOLLEYBALL (Soph)..... Jean Wilkin/Andrea Weller
 ASSISTANT VOLLEYBALL (Freshman) Jamie Huennekens

LEVEL IV

7th GRADE VOLLEYBALL _____
 8th GRADE VOLLEYBALL Lydia Schaver

Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office. The next special meeting will be Monday, January 20, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. at the River Bend District Office for the purpose of the Superintendent’s evaluation.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 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
 River Bend Unit District #2
 Whiteside County