RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

1110 3RD STREET FULTON, IL 61252 BOARD OF EDUCATION <u>MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JULY BOARD MEETING</u>

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

July 30, 2020

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on July 30, 2020, at the Fulton High School.

Member Barrnett was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem and Member Orman-Luker ran the meeting since President Portz attended the meeting via Zoom.

Vice President Orman-Luker called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary Pro-Tem the following members were present: Chris Barnett (in-person), Andy Meyers (in-person), Jane Orman-Luker (in-person), Dan Portz (remote), and Mary Simmons (remote). Absent: Eric Fish and Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

Vice President Orman-Luker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Orman-Luker welcomed all visitors including: Principals: Robert Gosch, Jeffrey Hoese, and Kathleen Schipper. Joining remotely included: Cheryl Lee, Whiteside County Health Department; Craig Hafner, RBEA; and Marie Brzezinski. Media: Jerry Lindsey, Shaw Media and Winona Whitaker, Clinton Herald.

Vice President Orman-Luker asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public forum. There was no public comment.

Dr. Hogue introduced Cheryl Lee from the Whiteside County Health Department. Ms. Lee indicated that there are 302 Covid 19 confirmed cases in Whiteside County and 74 cases are in the River Bend School District which equates to 25%. The county is not seeing an increase in hospitalizations or deaths. They are seeing more cases in younger peoples which they believe is because the bars and restaurants were allowed to reopen. They are not seeing much child to child spread but more spreading within households. Ms. Lee reviewed the recommendations from the Health Department which include students and staff wear masks or face shields. For those that cannot wear a mask, accommodations may be made provided a note from the person's health care provider is received.

Dr. Hogue indicated the principals met today and determined the best course of action for Covid 19 fall return to learn plans. The recommendation is to stay with A and B days for a longer period of time instead of everyone returning after Labor Day. Since cases of high school students has increased, the high school will start school entirely remotely with exceptions for special needs student they may require one-on-one instruction on site. As soon as the number of cases decrease, High School students will start the A and B schedule. A permanent sub may be hired for each school to cover staff illness or quarantines. Aides will be hired to take temperatures of students boarding buses. If cases increase, the district may be pushed into totally remote learning. The Board is award the administration may have to change plans if circumstances change.

Board of Education

July 30, 2020

Dr. Hogue provide an overview of the final 2019-20 budget. Every fund received more money than what was budgeted. All funds except the Education Fund spent less money than what was budgeted. The district ended with \$167,000 more than last year and early taxes were received in June. Experts are saying the effect of Covid 19 may affect the budget for two to three years.

Dr. Hogue presented the Board meeting schedule which reflects the meetings being changed to Wednesday evenings.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the Regular Board meeting revised schedule for FY 21 as presented. Roll Call Vote. Member Barnett, vea Member Portz, vea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the Public School calendar had to be amended due to recent law changes. Schools are required to be closed on November 3, 2020, for the national, state and local elections. The parent/teacher conferences that were scheduled for November 5th and 6th will be moved to Monday, November 2nd. This will provide attendance continuity Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of that week. Further discussion will take place regarding the use of early release days since currently the release time is 1:00 P.M. to accommodate Covid 19 remote learning.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the amended Public School Calendar as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Motion Carried. Member Portz, yea Member Simmons, yea

Mr. Gosch indicated all of his teachers are in favor of removing the Final Exam mandate of 20% of semester grade and eliminating the final exam exemptions for high school students.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Simmons, to remove the Final Exam mandate of 20% of the semester grade and eliminate the final exam exemption for high school students. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Carried. Member Portz, yea Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the attorneys recommended School Districts adopt a Face Covering Policy.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Portz, to approve the Face Covering Policy 4:170-AP7 as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yeaMember Portz, yeaMember Meyers, yeaMember Simmons, yeaMember Orman-Luker, yeaMotion Carried.

Dr. Hogue presented the Resolution Affirming Transition to School Plan for the 2020-21 school year. The resolution basically states that the District has a plan for blended remote learning with the ultimate goal to transition back to in-person instruction when possible.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Resolution Affirming Transition to School Plan for 2020-21 school year as presented. Roll call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Motion Carried. Member Portz, yea Member Simmons, yea

Dr. Hogue recommended twenty-five (25) Chromebooks be declared as surplus goods and dispose of in an appropriate manner.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Portz, to declare twenty-five (25) Chromebooks as surplus goods, and dispose of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote. Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Motion Carried.

There was no closed session.

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

- Approved the transfer of Aimee Marten from 5th Grade to Kindergarten at Fulton Elementary School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Approved Jamie Snyder as 5th Grade Teacher at Fulton Elementary School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Approved Kenny Temple as Van Driver for the Camelot route beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Approved Marvin Starzak as Night Custodian at Fulton High School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Kim Gooch as Paraprofessional at River Bend Middle School, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Renee Kuehl as Cook's Helper at Fulton High School, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Jamie Huennekens, Freshman Volleyball Coach at Fulton High School, effective June 23, 2020.
- Approved Andrea Weller as Freshman Volleyball Coach beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Approved the following Volunteer Assistant Volleyball Coaches for the 2020-21 school year: Collen Temple at Fulton High School and River Bend Middle School, Jamie Huennekens and Camerin Huizenga at Fulton High School.

Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea Member Meyers, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Motion Carried. Member Portz, yea Member Simmons, yea The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Barnett, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 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