

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 15, 2019

Member Fish was appointed President Pro Tem and Member Simmons was appointed Secretary Pro Tem.

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

President Pro Tem Fish led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Pro Tem Fish welcomed all visitors including: Stacey Collachia. Principal: Robert Gosch. Assistant Principal/AD: Patrick Henrekin. RBEA Representative: Craig Hafner. Media: Jerry Lindsey, Fulton Journal.

Additions to the agenda: Dr. Hogue added Gaga pit and Volunteer Work Day.

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

Craig Hafner informed the Board that the RBEA had nothing to report.

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

There were no Principal's reports.

Stacey Collachia, Cafeteria Manager, updated the Board on the district food service. Mrs. Collachia indicated that with the increase of entrée selection for breakfast and lunch participation has almost doubled. Healthy food choices are the cheapest ala cart items in an effort to motivate students to eat healthier foods. Negative lunch balances are worse due to the new \$500 law. Unpaid balances are added to Push Coin accounts in an attempt to collect at registration. The salad bar at the high school has had a positive response. This coming year the cafeteria staff will work on increasing breakfast numbers, look at "Breakfast After the Bell" program, and offer salad bar to teachers and staff at the other schools.

Dr. Hogue reviewed the 2018-19 budget. This is the second year in a number of years the district closed in the black without early tax money. The ending balance is \$600,000 more than two years ago. Dr. Hogue estimated the district received 53% of the 2019-20 tax revenue in June. The district's reserves are growing which allowed for the addition of three new staff members in 2019-20.

Dr. Hogue reviewed the 2019-20 Professional Development Plan. Professional Development will concentrate on technology, competency based learning, safety and 20% time for self-exploration. Only the first half of the year has been outlined at this point in time. Dr. Hogue will bring the second half of the year

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

Dr. Hogue updated the Board on the construction projects. The Art Teacher has requested updated storage units and purchasing a Kiln and Pottery Wheel. A local cabinet maker provided a bid of \$10,000 for the storage remodel, the Kiln cost is \$7,000, and the Pottery Wheel cost is \$1,500. Dr. Hogue has engaged the Architect, Regional Office of Education and the Insurance Company regarding these additions. There will be enough bond dollars to cover these expenses. Dr. Hogue indicated the construction projects are on schedule, the track replacement project is almost complete, and the bus garage blacktop is finished.

Mr. Henrekin updated the board on the Athletic Boosters activities. The Boosters brought in \$8,400 and spent \$7,000. Some of the items purchased were video services, wrestling uniforms, wall pads, Bulls tickets, field camera, and signs for the softball field. Items the Boosters are looking at for the future are adjustable basketball hoops at the elementary school and sound baffles for the high school gym. Dr. Hogue suggested the Board discuss at the August board meeting taking back the cost of freshman coaches.

Dr. Hogue indicated the PTO will be purchasing a Gaga pit for the Fulton Elementary playground. The local churches have organized a volunteer day on July 28, 2019, to help with a variety of projects at all three buildings.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve the consent agenda including the June 17, 2019, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as printed; June Treasurer’s Report; July Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$2,035,103.68, subject to audit; and authorize to dispose of the following closed session audio tapes of July 17, 2017, August 21, 2017, September 20, 2017, October 16, 2017, November 20, 2017, and December 18, 2017. Roll Call Vote:

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| <i>Member Barnett, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Mr. Gosch and the school improvement team recommend using the Latin system in conjunction with awarding valedictorian and salutatorian honors. Students with a 3.5 or higher unweighted GPA will be recognized as follows: Summa Cum Laude 4.0, Magna Cum Laude 3.75-3.99, and Cum Laude 3.5-3.74.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Latin system in conjunction with awarding valedictorian and salutatorian honors by recognizing students with 4.0 unweighted GPA as Summa Cum Laude, 3.75-3.99 as Magna Cum Laude, and 3.5-3.74 as Cum Laude. Roll Call Vote:

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| <i>Member Barnett, yea</i> | <i>Member Ritchie, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Fish, yea</i> | <i>Member Simmons, yea</i> |
| <i>Member Meyers, yea</i> | |

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue indicated that Operations and Maintenance Funds cannot be used to purchase furniture, therefore, the funds for the 21st Century classroom updates will need to be transferred from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the Resolution for a permanent transfer of \$20,000 from Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund to cover costs of updating the classrooms throughout the district to be 21st Century ready. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that bond dollars have to be deposited into the Working Cash Fund and expenses dispersed from Fund 60 to cover the costs of the construction projects not covered by Health Life Safety Funds. Dollars will also need to be transferred to the Education Fund to cover the costs related to the construction project that require payment be made from the Education Fund including software renewals, furniture, Chromebooks, Safety communication software, and the pottery wheel and kiln.

It was moved by Member Ritchie, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the Resolution authorizing the abatement of the Working Cash Fund and for a permanent transfer from Working Cash Fund to the Capital Projects Fund 60 in the amount of \$2,195,525. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Resolution authorizing the abatement of the Working Cash Fund and for a permanent transfer from Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund in the amount of \$128,517. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the addition of one hour to the baker position at the high school so that prep work for salad, taco, and nacho bar can be completed daily. Food sales have increased \$26,000 and the cost to add this hour would be approximately \$1,800.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve one hour increase in time to the baker position at the high school. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended revising the Building Use policy to restrict use of the buildings on Wednesday evenings to allow for church activities to be conducted. The Board would like Dr. Hogue to check with the attorneys to be sure this restriction can be set and investigate how this restriction would impact organizations that already struggle for usage time. This item was tabled for further review.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Rock River Energy bid as submitted.

It was move by Member Barnett to approve the Rock River Energy bid for the supplier rate from Mid-American in the amount of .05287. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board three bids for fuel were received from Gold Star FS for .10 over rack price, Mulgrew Oil Company for .149 over rack price, and Rock River Lumber & Grain for .145 over rack price. Mr. Hogue recommends approval of the apparent low bid from Gold Star FS.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the apparent low bid for fuel submitted by Gold Star FS for .10 over rack price for the 2019-20 school year. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended old trophies, old jerseys and apparel, and unused weight room equipment be declared as surplus goods and dispose of in an appropriate manner. One suggestion was to donate any money raised from the sale of these items to the River Bend Athletic Boosters.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Ritchie, to declare old trophies, old jerseys and apparel, and unused weight room equipment as surplus goods, and dispose of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue reviewed the closed session minutes and recommend release of closed session minutes dated January 14, 2019.

It was moved by Member Simmons, seconded by Member Barnett, to retain closed session minutes dated March 18, 2019, April 15, 2019, May 20, 2019, and June 17, 2019, at this time due to the need for confidentiality to still exist to all or part of the minutes and open minutes dated January 14, 2019. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

No closed session.

It was moved by Member Ritchie, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the June 17, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes, as presented. Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

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

- *Approved Courtney Boonstra as Cook’s Helper at Fulton High School beginning the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved Amy Jones-Pepper as Baker at Fulton High School beginning the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved Ryan Dail as Technology Support Specialist at Fulton Elementary School beginning the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved the resignation of Jennifer Pepper as Assistant Track Coach at River Bend Middle School effective the end of the 2018-19 school year.*

Roll Call:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Ritchie, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, August 12, 2019, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Simmons, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 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