

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

1110 3RD STREET

FULTON, IL 61252

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR JUNE BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

June 22, 2020

The Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on June 22, 2020, at the Fulton High School.

President Portz called the Public Hearing to order at 6:32 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Andy Meyers and Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary. Also in attendance were those listed below under introduction of guests.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz asked for questions and comments from the public or the Board regarding the FY 2020 Amended Budget. Dr. Hogue indicated an amended budget is necessary due to the transfers to the transportation fund, expenditures for heating and air conditioning work at the high school from Health Life Safety, and the early bond payment from Bond and Interest.

There being no further discussion it was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Simmons, to adjourn the public hearing at 6:34 P.M. Roll Call:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Motion Carried.

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

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Principals: Robert Gosch, Jeffrey Hoese, and Kathleen Schipper. Assistant Principal/AD: Patrick Henrekin. Media: Eric Ingles, Sauk Valley Media.

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

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the agenda as presented. 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 public comment.

Principal's reports.

Mr. Gosch indicated the high school had ten students attend summer school with assistance of three teachers which helped an additional two students graduate. Mr. Gosch reviewed the pros and cons of removing the final exam mandated 20% requirement of the semester grade. Mr. Gosch will have a final recommendation at the next board meeting. Mr. Gosch reviewed the results of the graduation ceremony options survey results from parents. 90% of the parents who responded were satisfied with the way the students were honored and did not require an in-person graduation ceremony. The Board agreed that with the families being satisfied and COVID-19 still a very real threat, an in-person graduation ceremony will not take place.

Mrs. Schipper reported all students were able to make-up missed work and will be promoted to the next grade.

Mr. Hoese reported all but one student was able to make-up missed work. Fulton Elementary School had a reverse parade the last scheduled day of school. It was very well attended and lasted almost two hours.

Dr. Hogue indicated that the district may not be able to transport students to MIT and dual credit classes in Morrison this fall due to shortage of vehicles and drivers. Dr. Hogue will keep parents updated on the situation and provide options available to students attending these classes.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment for 2020-21 is estimated to be around 895 which is up ten students.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board COVID-19 return to school planning is well underway. The administrative team met on June 17 and developed a preliminary plan. There is much more to do and a committee called The Learning Team has been formed consisting of the administrators, Breanna Kastilic, and two people from each building. A survey will be sent to parents to choose out of five choices the option they prefer to return to learn.

Dr. Hogue presented the board a brief financial update. The third categorical transportation payment has been received. Early taxes are expected to arrive on June 24, 2020, estimated at fifty-percent. The ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant was received in the amount of \$50,000. The CD's were cashed in and the investment income received totaled \$43,000. Interest rates for CD's is only 0.6% right now so money will not be reinvested at this time. Health insurance premium increase is expected to be 14% which equates to an \$110,000 to \$120,000 increase.

Dr. Hogue sent a letter to staff regarding education's role in improving race relations in communities and the region. School's play an important part in promoting positive race relations.

Dr. Hogue informed the board he just received the estimates from CTS for the alternative revenue bonds construction projects. Dr. Hogue will review with Gary Wolfe and invite CTS to a board meeting to give more details on the projects.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the Northwest Upstate Illini Conference (NUIC) has reached out to River Bend to see if the district is interested in joining this athletic conference. Mr. Henrekin recommends

joining this conference primarily because of the enrollments of the participating schools. It takes two years to leave the current conference so this will not happen for two years.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the consent agenda including the May 18, 2020, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; May Treasurer’s Report; and June Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$229,915.36, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the FY 20 amended budget. According to ISBE code when the projected budget expenses is 10% different than approved, the budget must be amended. Due to the volume of Health Life Safety (HLS) heating/AC work completed at FHS and FES for the current fiscal year the expenditures have increased over 10%. This was a planned expense in spending down reserves in the HLS fund. The heating and cooling work qualified the district for a matching \$50,000 grant from the state. Additionally, the Transportation fund has been functioning with a deficit, our auditors recommended ending the year with positive fund balance. Transferring \$150,000 from other funds will accomplish this. Finally, the bond and interest fund is loaning \$28,000 dollars to cover the cost of an early interest payment made to reduce the overall interest rate on last year’s bond sale.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the 2019-20 amended budget with revenues in the amount of \$16,144,698 and expenditures in the amount of \$16,383,700. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of minor changes to the River Bend Middle School Parent/Student Handbook as presented.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the River Bend Middle School 2020-21 Parent/Student Handbook changes as presented. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Treasurer’s Bond and Activity Fund Bond as presented.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve Nixon Insurance Agency, Inc., for the Treasurer’s Bond for Virginia Petersen with an annual premium of \$1,846 with a limit of \$2,000,000 and Activity Fund Bond for Rachel Snyder with an annual premium of \$125.00 with a limit of \$100,000 effective July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval the second reading of select policy updates and adopt as policy.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the second reading of select policy updates and approve as policy 2:125, 2:160, 4:50, 5:35, 5:50, 5:60, 5:150, 5:210, 5:280, 6:135, 6:235, 6:280, 7:70, 7:90, 7:130, 7:325, 8:10, 8:30, 8:30-E1, 8:80, and 8:110. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Interlocal Participation agreement between the National Purchasing Cooperative and the River Bend CUSD #2 which provides the district an opportunity to purchase supplies through governmental cooperative agreements.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Fish to approve the Interlocal Participation agreement between the National Purchasing Cooperative and the River Bend CUSD #2. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Schools of Illinois Public Cooperative and River Bend CUSD #2 as presented. Roll Call Vote.

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

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that the Board needs to authorize the Superintendent to utilize district funds until a final budget is approve.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the District’s expenditures of funds to defray necessary and proper expenses and Liabilities of the School District incurred for educational or operations or maintenance of transportation or site and construction purposes of the District for Fiscal Year 2021, until which time the Annual Budget of the District is adopted in conformity with applicable sections of the Illinois School Code. Roll call Vote.

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, 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 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 Barnett, to name Daniel Portz as the designated person to review, accept, and sign-off on the 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.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended seeking bids for fuel for the 2020-2021 school year.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to direct the Superintendent to seek fuel bids for the 2020-2021 school year and accept the low bid. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended one-hundred (100) Chromebooks be declared as surplus goods and dispose of in an appropriate manner.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Meyers, to declare one-hundred (100) Chromebooks as surplus goods, and dispose of in an appropriate manner. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Regular Board meeting schedule for FY 21. Dr. Hogue recommended eliminating the July Board meeting because of the late June meeting the early August meeting. The January and February meetings will be on a Wednesday due to the holidays.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the Regular Board Meeting schedule for FY 21 as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that since there will be no July Board meeting Dan and Jane need to have board approval to authorize payment of the July Bills.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to authorize Dan Portz and Jane Orman-Luker to approve the July bills recommended for payment, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

The district received \$500 from Central Bank-Fulton, NelsonCorp Wealth Management, First Wealth Financial Group for the summer lunch program and \$3,500 from the Eric Ottens Foundation to offset the cost of participation fees for middle school students

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

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

There was no closed session.

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

- *Approved Jack Lemke as Paraprofessional at Fulton Elementary School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Approved Jarek Leonhardt as Technology Support Specialist at River Bend Middle School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Accepted the resignation of Amanda Stillings as Assistant Cook at River Bend Middle School, pending approval as Head Cook at River Bend Middle School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Approved Amanda Stillings as Head Cook at River Bend Middle School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Accepted the resignation of Ashley Tomman as Lunch Cashier at River Bend Middle school, pending approval as Assistant Head Cook at River Bend Middle School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Approved Ashley Tomman as Assistant Head Cook at River Bend Middle School beginning the 2020-21 school year.*
- *Accepted the resignation of Anna Huizenga, Night Custodian at Fulton High School, effective June 2, 2020.*
- *Accepted the resignation of Amanda Smither as Para Professional at Fulton Elementary School effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved Fulton Elementary School Principal salary increase of \$1,300 for FY 21.*
- *Approved River Bend Middle School Principal’s 2020-2025 contract.*
- *Approved Fulton High School Principal salary increase of \$1,500 for FY 21.*
- *Approved Fulton High School Assistant Principal/District Activities and Athletic Director salary increase of \$1,200 for FY 21.*
- *Approved Transportation Director salary increase of .35 per hour for FY 21.*
- *Approved Superintendent’s Secretary salary increase of .50 per hour for FY 21.*
- *Approved Maintenance and Grounds Director salary increase of \$1,000 for FY 21.*
- *Approved Business Manager salary increase of \$1,000 for FY 21.*

Roll Call Vote.

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, August 10, 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 8:20 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