

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
1110 3RD STREET
FULTON, IL 61252
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE E-LEARNING HEARING AND REGULAR OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

October 21, 2019

The e-Learning Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, were held on October 21, 2019, at the River Bend District Office.

President Portz called the e-Learning Hearing to order at 6:36 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Jay Ritchie. 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: Kyle Demus and Dennis Hinkle. Media: Jerry Lindsey, Shaw Media. Craig Hafner, RBEA.

President Portz asked for questions and comments from the public or the Board regarding the e-Learning program. There were no comments from the public. Dr. Hogue indicated he reviewed the e-Learning program with the Citizen's Advisory Committee. They felt the e-Learning program was a worthwhile way to make up emergency days. The Board had concerns regarding required minutes for students with IEP's and are concerned that students will be losing a day of learning. This is a good experience for high school students to prepare them for college but may impact the younger students. Dr. Hogue indicated the e-Learning program adds options for make-up days in the future and the administration will make every attempt possible to be sure all student's needs are met if e-Learning days are used.

There being no further discussion it was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Simmons, to adjourn the e-Learning hearing at 6:43 P.M. Roll Call:

Member Barnett, yea

Member Orman-Luker, yea

Member Fish, yea

Member Portz, yea

Member Meyers, yea

Member Simmons, yea

Motion Carried.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:43 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, and Mary Simmons. Absent: Jay Ritchie. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

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

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

RBEA had nothing to report.

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

(Mrs. Schipper arrived at 6:57 P.M.)

The Board commented on the Principal's reports. President Portz would like to see the walking bus concept be used to practice evacuation drills. Dr. Hogue indicated the administration has been looking at options to fill the positions that will be available next school year. The Business teaching position may include more computer science programming as opposed to Introduction to Computer. The high school would also like to combine this position with a candidate having math skills. The administration will have a recommendation in November.

Member Fish recommended a special meeting to discuss Competency Based Education. The Board has a number of questions regarding this and rather than take up time at a regular meeting have a separate night to gather input from administration, staff and students. Dr. Hogue tentatively set a date of November 14, 2019, for a special meeting.

Dr. Hogue reminded the Board of the Fall Northwest Division Dinner meeting on October 30, 2019, in Winnebago. The topic is the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act and Dr. Hogue will be one of the speakers. Mary Simmons will also be honored as Master Board Member.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the River Bend Educational Foundation. The Foundation approved \$4,121 in mini grants and \$1,600 in Martin Estate requests. The annual fund raising appeal will begin in November.

Dr. Hogue reported on the October 21, 2019, Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. Chris Barnett, Jeff Huisenga, Jeremy Leitzen, Kathleen Schipper, Mary Simmons, and Darryl Hogue were in attendance. Dr. Hogue reviewed the e-Learning program. The Committee felt this was a suitable way to make up emergency days. Dr. Hogue supports the parents speaking out against marijuana sales in the city. Dr. Hogue spoke at a City Council meeting and a Whiteside County Council meeting regarding this topic. Dr. Hogue presented the Fulton Elementary School PTO playground proposal. The Committee is in full support of this project. Officer Leitzen recommended a stop sign be placed at the crosswalk on 12th Street in front of the middle school to provide the daycare students and children being dropped off across the street safer passage. Officer Leitzen also suggested a traffic signal on 14th Avenue and 10th Street. Currently there are flashing lights at this location that are inoperable. Dr. Hogue contacted an electrician who estimated the cost to repair the flashing lights at \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Dr. Hogue reported on the October 21, 2019, Finance Committee Meeting. Craig Hafner, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Rachel Snyder, Kyle Demus (Benning Group) and Darryl Hogue were in attendance. Dr. Hogue reviewed the current treasurer's report. The purchase of the vans and lack of state funding has impacted the transportation fund. Dr. Hogue will continue to monitor this fund. Kyle Demus, Benning Group, reviewed the FY 2019 Audit.

Kyle Demus, Benning Group, reviewed the FY 2019 Audit. The district financial profile score remained at 3.90 with a designation of recognition. Cash on hand improved from 159 to 171 days. All funds were in the black with early tax money. Expenses for benefits (TRS, IMRF, and SS) were \$681,282 which equates to 8% of the budget. Overall the audit went very well with only two comments which included grant expenditure reporting needs to be more precise and Medicare Fee for Service revenue was incorrectly recorded with Medicaid Administrative Outreach revenue.

Lynn Coffey from the Fulton Elementary School PTO Playground Committee presented an overview of the project, funding plan and impact on the community. The wood play set, which was installed in 1991, is failing. The committee’s goals are to provide playground equipment that is all inclusive, sensory thoughtful, provides active play, safe equipment, long lasting, provides shade, and has a poured rubber base. A quote from NuToys in the amount of \$177,437 provides all the mentioned features. The committee is writing grants and has already received \$44,000 from Timken Drives. A fundraising campaign has begun along with other fundraising events scheduled. The Committee is asking the district if 1% funds could be used to help fund the project. Dr. Hogue suggested \$40,000 of 1% funds could be used for this project and will bring a formal recommendation to the board in November. The Board also suggested that the Committee present to the City of Fulton and Albany since the playground can be accessed by all members of the community to see if they would be willing to provide funding for this project.

Dr. Hogue reported enrollment is down 10 students from last school year to 900. This is fairly good since the high school lost a big class and the kindergarten class coming in was small.

Dr. Hogue shared his response to legalized marijuana sales. He agrees with the Citizen’s group of parents speaking against the sale of marijuana in the city limits. Limiting the access will limit the use. This will be a tough decision for City leaders due to the financial impact this could have on the economy. The Board agrees with Dr. Hogue and Citizen’s group view regarding not to allow the sale of legalized marijuana within the city limits.

Dr. Hogue presented levy options of a flat rate, 4.99% increase, and 9.99% increase. The Board recommended the 9.99% increase so that if the Estimated Assessed Valuation changes the district will capture all available funds.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the consent agenda including the September 16, 2019, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; September Treasurer’s Report; and October Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$961,476.59, 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 2019 audit report

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the fiscal year 2019 Financial Audit report as presented. Roll Call:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <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 e-Learning program in order to consider using e-Learning days to make-up emergency days.

It was moved by Member Barnett, seconded by Member Simmons to approve the e-Learning program as presented. Roll Call Vote:

*Member Barnett, yea
Member Fish, yea
Member Meyers, yea*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea
Member Portz, yea
Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue indicated the Policy Committee recommends approval of the second reading of select policy updates.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Fish, to approve the second reading of select policy updates: 2:110, 2:140, 2:230, 2:240, 3:10, 3:60, 4:20, 4:90, 5:35, 5:40, 5:120-E, 5:130, 5:180, 5:310, 6:40, 6:110, 6:300-E1, 6:340, and 7:170 and approve as policy. Roll Call Vote:

*Member Barnett, yea
Member Fish, yea
Member Meyers, yea*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea
Member Portz, yea
Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

Dennis Hinkle, representative of the Clinton Regional Development Corporation Future Focused 2024 initiative presented the plan for development and growth in the Clinton region over the next five years. The group is asking for a pledge of \$500 a year for the next five years to help fund the initiatives which include Workforce Development, Business Attraction, Business Retention and Expansion, and Workforce Attraction.

It was moved by Member Portz, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve a pledge of \$500 per year for a total investment of \$2,500 in the Clinton Regional Development Corporation Future Focused 2024 over the next five years. Roll Call Vote:

*Member Barnett, yea
Member Fish, yea
Member Meyers, yea*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea
Member Portz, yea
Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board the district received a gift from the Walmart Community Grant in the amount of \$500 for the BLIND program.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Barnett, to accept the gifts to the District as presented. Roll Call Vote:

*Member Barnett, yea
Member Fish, yea
Member Meyers, yea*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea
Member Portz, 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 September 16, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote.

*Member Barnett, yea
Member Fish, yea
Member Meyers, yea*

*Member Orman-Luker, yea
Member Portz, yea
Member Simmons, yea*

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Barnett, to approve the following personnel items:

- *Approved the resignation of Jason Foster, Night Cleaner at River Bend Middle School, effective October 11, 2019.*
- *Approved Mitch VanZuiden as Freshman Boys’ Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved Marie Meyers as Freshman Class Sponsor at Fulton High School for the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved Seth Sanderson as Volunteer Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach at Fulton High School for the 2019-20 school year.*
- *Approved the resignation of Adrien Loncar as 7th Grade Volleyball Coach at River Bend Middle School, effective immediately.*

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 Special Meeting will be Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 6:30 P.M. and the next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, November 18, 2019, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Barnett, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 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