

North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Board of Education
District Office
6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065
Monday, November 24, 2014
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon, Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the Agenda as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Mr. Tom Kinser spoke to clarify his comments from the Town Hall meeting. He stated he has been a resident since 1995 and from 1995-2008, his taxes remained flat, but from 2008-2014 his taxes have increased 29 percent. He encouraged the Board to use 100 percent of the CDB money and interest toward property tax relief and bond abatement. He also said while his children would benefit from better facilities, he'd like to see the sales tax money used for priority projects and property tax relief, and feels that any large capital improvement projects should go to referendum. Mr. Kinser noted that while there are many arguments for a stadium, Rockford, for example, passed a referendum. He feels like the Enterprise Zone is an unfair proposal by giving subsidies to new businesses which will compete with local businesses.

Mr. Mike Farley, owner of Poplar Grove Hardware, said eight years ago he built a 17 storefront building in Poplar Grove, and in the last seven years, they have lost eight of those businesses. He said some businesses cannot afford to do business in this community even though he has never raised the rent. Mr. Farley said property taxes have doubled in the last several years, which have kept businesses out, and noted he paid \$66K in property taxes for his storefront building. He suggested we spend money wisely, and noted the impact is profound, as businesses cannot fight the tax. He would like our community to take care of current area businesses and if we get large companies due to the Enterprise Zone, it will push out these existing businesses.

Mr. Allan Johnson, resident and volunteer noted his large, extended family were all North Boone alumni. He said he really cares about North Boone and feels like the field is a classroom. He said we do not offer what we should for athletic facilities, and noted state-bound athletes that have no place to practice. Mr. Johnson does not feel we are being fair to the students and does

not believe it will cost any more to put a track in a new stadium in comparison to fixing up the old track. Among other current field issues, he mentioned he tried everything to try and improve the soccer field, but it was overwhelming. He feels we really need to do something for the soccer, football and track athletes. Mr. Johnson thanked the Board for their time.

Ms. Brandi Johnson, parent, said she has worked in concessions at the field, and noted that the building is in really bad shape and needs updating. She feels all students would benefit from a stadium and it would be nice to host a track meet. She said when they attend away competitions, students and parents remark they wish they could have similar facilities. She said her family farms and their taxes increase as well, but she is in support of an athletic stadium.

Mrs. Laura Zwart, parent, stated she was passionate about education and sports, and one of her goals is to strengthen the connection between the District and the community. She feels athletics have the ability to raise pride, with the playoffs being an example. She noted the support, energy and commitment during playoffs, which was shown by raising money for coach buses in a half day. She said delaying the expenditure will not reduce the cost. She recalled two light poles that were rotted and snapped during a storm, costing \$80K to replace. She noted this is a one-time investment and recognizes it is an enormous cost, but hopefully will last another 57 years.

Ms. Sammy Boyce, Booster President, said the Boosters have donated \$22K in the past toward athletic complex plans. She noted the bleacher situation was terrible and feels investing in the old bleachers at this point does not make sense. She wondered if the stadium does not get approved now, what the projection would be for when this will take place. She said with better facilities, hopefully we can accommodate more fans and increase the pride. The Boosters have projects ready to go and are ready and willing to kick the fundraising into high gear.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no Treasurer's Report again this month. Mrs. Zwart said fund balances are close and as soon as detailed balance sheets are available, she can get caught up from the last four months. Mr. Ward asked for a timeline and Mrs. Zwart said she is hoping to have a report by next month.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Baule said the students did a great job in the fall play Transylmania, and noted it was extremely well directed and acted. He mentioned it was also broadcast online. He also thanked NBHS parent Kris Zwart for sharing her photos of the NBHS - Chicago Harper playoff game.

He shared the ISLMA Awards Committee selected Jane Lenser and the North Boone Books on Wheels program as the 2014 winner. The awards committee felt that the program was an excellent example of a program that has a positive impact on its participants. At the conference, Mrs. Lenser gave a presentation on working with students of poverty.

Dr. Baule mentioned that Jill Grove received nearly \$1500 worth of new books through the Andy's Books for Kids grant. This is the second year PGE has received this grant.

He noted that the Kishwaukee Division of IPA awarded Jake Hubert, principal of North Boone High School, and Melissa Geyman, Director of Special Education, the Horace Mann / IPA Reaching Out & Building Bridges Award for their partnership with the RAMP.

Dr. Baule said the staff spotlight this year will focus on veterans. He shared the names of the honorees: Ken Washburn, Butch Peters, Clayton Glasper, Jake Hubert, Matt Klett and Francisco Mendez.

He shared that North Boone Middle School and North Boone Upper Elementary hosted the 3rd annual Girls' Night Out. The girls took part in a variety of fun and new activities designed to make new friends, enjoy the company of others in a safe and fun atmosphere, and build connections and better understanding with girls their age. Fifty girls in grades five through eight attended the event, along with over thirty staff, parent, and high school student volunteers.

Dr. Baule mentioned the payroll and annual audits are still in progress.

Dr. Baule said Kelly Holsker sent in another set of documents that the CDB deemed eligible for an additional \$464,582 payment. He mentioned will we make one more attempt to review the archived files and submit any other documentation that may qualify. He also thanked Roger Schroepfer from Wold Architects for his assistance in gathering information.

He said Dr. Belcastro is setting up an ESL Task Force to work to improve the programming for ESL students and their parents. Dr. Belcastro's plan is to meet on a monthly basis.

Dr. Baule provided information about the new Aviation Maintenance Program at RVC. He said ROE and CEANCI would like 20 high school students in the aviation program next year. Mr. Ward asked if the aviation program was dual credit. Dr. Baule confirmed it was and that most of the CEANCI programs are dual credit.

He also mentioned he had seen many positive strides in the Overgrad program. Mr. Hubert said because of Overgrad, some colleges have reached out to sophomore students. Dr. Baule feels the Overgrad program encourages students to be motivated to start thinking about college.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee

The next Policy Committee meeting is to be determined.

Business Services Committee

The next Business Services Committee meeting is to be determined.

Facility/Long Range Planning Committee

The next Facility/Long Range Planning Committee may be scheduled in early 2015.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee

The next Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee meeting is to be determined.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting October 27, 2014

B. Personnel

Site	Person	Position	Salary	Effective/End Date
1. Certified – Leave of Absence				
NBHS	Kristin Miller	English Teacher	N/A	10/30/14 – 04/06/15 Extension of Previous Leave Request
2. Non-Certified – Hire				
NBHS	Julie Antonsen	Head Cook (5.5 hours)	Head Cook, Step 13	11/24/14*
CES	Guadalupe Davila	Bilingual Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	TA30, Step 1	11/12/14
PGE	Corrine DeBruyne	Special Education Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	TA120, Step 5	11/24/14
CES	Tamara Grandt	Special Education Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	TA30, Step 1	11/04/14
CES	Mary Kastning	EC Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	TA120, Step 1	11/05/14
NBUE/MS	Kathleen Kuzia	Nurse (5.75 hours)	Nurse, Step 1	11/17/14
District	James Whitt	Computer Technician	\$40,000 (Incl. IMRF)	11/04/14
3. Non Certified - Resignation				
PGE	Katie Buss	Special Education Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	N/A	11/07/14
PGE	Rhonda Mix Anderson	Special Education Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	N/A	11/25/14
4. Non-Certified – FMLA				
NBMS	Stacey Alvarez	Secretary	N/A	01/14/15 – TBD Using Sick and Personal Days
PGE	Chris McKibben	Nurse	N/A	11/05/14 - TBD
5. Non-Certified – Leave of Absence				
NBHS	Amanda Hathaway	Special Education Teacher Assistant	N/A	02/05/15 – 03/19/15 Using Sick Days
District	Cheryl Magoch	Bus Driver	N/A	10/14/14 – TBD
NBHS	Donna Sremaniak	Special Education Teacher Assistant	N/A	11/21/14 – TBD Extension of Previous Leave Request
6. Extra-Curricular - Hire				
NBHS	Lauren Hyser	Girls Sophomore Basketball Coach	Group II, Step 0	2014-2015 School Year
NBHS	Rodney Taylor	Volunteer – Boys Freshman Basketball Coach	Indemnify	2014-2015 School Year

- C. Group VIII Program Request - NBUE
- D. Set Date for Hearing on the 2014 Tax Levy

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement Resolution

Dr. Baule shared that last month Jarid Funderburg presented information on the Enterprise Zone. He said Ken Terrinoni felt the Enterprise Zone had value in the past and that Mr. Terrinoni had worked with the mayor and village president to determine the shape of the zone. Mr. Ward asked if this was an intergovernmental agreement or if it was a resolution, where the District can change its course. Dr. Baule said it was his understanding that the Board can remove themselves from the Enterprise Zone at any time. Dr. Baule said the application will move forward with or without us, since District 100 voted to participate. Mrs. Balsley asked how this would work with tax caps. Dr. Baule said the EAV will increase, but it will lower everyone's taxes if we get the new growth, but won't have a negative impact on the growth of the EAV.

A motion was made by Mr. Reininger and seconded by Mr. Crull to approve the Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement Resolution.

The motion failed by unanimous roll call.

B. Bond Abatement Resolution

Dr. Baule said that at the Business Committee meeting, a couple of options were presented on how to deal with CDB funds. The outcome from that meeting was basically a directive to look at Option II. Since then, Baird Financial provided another alternative, Option III, which ramps the money up to more of a curve, and locks all the principal into the Bond & Interest fund, while allowing flexibility with the interest. Dr. Baule said we do not need a resolution tonight, just direction. Mr. Ward asked if the Board was to give direction on which fund to invest the principal, and noted they will need to determine amount to abate the levy this year. Ms. Bobert said each year the Board will have to choose to abate a certain amount, since by law, we cannot abate ahead of time. Mr. Ward mentioned PMA was at the Business Committee meeting and they had looked at investments scenarios and will advise on the best yield based on our option selection.

Mrs. Balsley asked Ms. Bobert if the Board were to vote on Option III, and a year from now the Board choose not to abate taxes, what would transpire. Ms. Bobert said they could leave the money in B&I until the bonds matured, and if taking some portion of the money out, the Board would be restricted on how much working cash they would be allowed to sell. Ms. Bobert said Option III seemed like a good compromise, as it's as locked up as you can get it without completely restricting the Board. She said if we were to take money out, there could be a penalty if investments had to be sold early.

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to move to adopt the Bond abatement schedule, Option III, from Baird, to have PMA invest the Capital Development money into long-term investments, and to place the Capital Development principle and interest in the District Bond & Interest fund.
The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

C. Resolution declaring the intention to issue \$4,500,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law

Dr. Baule said after the Business Committee meeting, we were asked to come up with a method of working with PMA and Baird to identify a way to gather about \$4.5M in working cash for limited tax bonds. He said at this time we had no outstanding limited bonds. Mrs. Balsley asked how the money would be used. Dr. Baule said they were asked to present what it would take to build an athletic complex. Mrs. Balsley asked how we would repay the bonds. Dr. Baule said they would be paid via a portion of the sales tax revenue received monthly. Ms. Bobert said the first step for the resolution is an announcement of intent, required by law. She stated bonds would be sold against the debt service extension base, and noted the amount doesn't have to be decided tonight. Mr. Ward asked if the process were to move forward, what the date would be for the first bond payment. Ms. Bobert said it would depend on when the bonds were sold. If we were to sell bonds in January 2015, they could go on tax rolls this levy year or next year and the first payment would be January 1, 2016 or January 1, 2017, depending on the tax roll. Ms. Bobert said either way, we would have at least one year before the payment was due. She said once we decide to do this and the amount to be sold, Baird would work with us. Dr. Baule said if we move forward, the next step would be to meet with the architect identify the exact scope of work and meet with the Boosters to discuss what they would like to add to the process. The Board would then make a decision whether to move forward, and would need to determine the amount it would take to build the project. Ms. Bobert stated the resolution doesn't require us to sell bonds, it is an intent only.

Mr. Ellingson asked why we wouldn't put this to referendum. Mrs. Morris said the project was within the scope of what the sales tax money can be used for, and if we aren't going to do it now, we need to come up with a plan for when we will build a stadium. She suggested we take this opportunity to take care of facilities that desperately need care. Mr. Ward said this was a little different than a lot of referendums in the past in that this is not expected to be funded by property taxes. He said because it is a sales tax that is community generated across the county, including those outside the county, this is a type of project that this is meant for and will benefit families and students in the district. He felt it was a good use of the funds that are available. Mr. Ward said because we are accruing sales tax as we go along, next summer we would have a pool of approximately \$350K of unencumbered money. He noted the Booster Club had invested a lot of time and \$22K into this project, in addition to purchasing bleachers. Dr. Baule said this project was identified as one of the significant facilities issues four years ago. Mrs. Morris said she didn't know how many students we've gained over the years, but knows we lose students because of athletics. She's heard people separate athletics and education, but she feels they coincide, not just for the athletes, but for the community.

She mentioned we have an opportunity to better market our school by building something that will upgrade our entire school district and will hopefully bring new families into our District. Mrs. Morris felt this could inspire incoming families based on the full academic and athletic package and increase community pride. Mr. Ellingson asked if Mrs. Morris felt new families would base their decision more on a football field than their property taxes. Mrs. Morris said she thinks it makes a big impact on families with children. Mrs. Morris said every day she hears first hand parents and students talking about it and she feels athletics make a huge difference in school selection. Mr. Ward said part of receiving the CDB money allows us to cut the bond portion of the property tax by one-third, allowing sales tax to possibly go to a community project. Mr. Ward doesn't feel like we can keep the Booster Club waiting forever, and feels the Board needs to give them an answer. Mr. Ward said we have been accruing money since May, and we still have a sizeable pool of unencumbered funds, which could go to projects or a future levy. Ms. Bobert said they would help us structure the bonds.

Mr. Reininger asked about the term of the bonds. Ms. Bobert said it depends on the amount we decide to sell and the how much is used to retire the debt. She said she would show us different retirement schedules. Mr. Ward asked if the bonds were callable. Ms. Bobert said they are specified to be sold as current interest bonds, with a typical call date of an eight-ten year range. She said sometimes it is more cost effective to call and restructure if interest rates change. Mrs. Balsley asked if it was approved tonight, when the Board could expect to receive information, including different price points, from the architect. Dr. Baule said we would likely receive information between the January and February meetings. Ms. Bobert clarified that the \$4.5M figure came from how much we could borrow from our debt service extension base. This is the figure if we amortized \$317K over 20 years. She said Baird produced that number, not the Board. Mr. Ward said the Board has the flexibility to sell less than the \$4.5M. Mr. Reininger asked for the typical interest rate and was told by Ms. Bobert we could expect 4% over 20 years as a conservative estimate. Ms. Bobert said if this passed, we would need architect direction and Baird will then run amortization schedules. In January, Baird will provide the Board with various scenarios. Dr. Baule said the next step would be to meet with the architects, Mr. Purvis and the stadium committee to discuss the scale of the options for the Board's consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the resolution declaring the intent to issue working cash fund bonds for District 200.

Ayes: Mrs. Balsley, Mr. Crull, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Reininger and Mr. Ward

Nays: Mr. Ellingson and Mr. Moon

Abstain: *none*

Motion passed 5-2, with no abstentions.

NEW BUSINESS

A. November 2014 Bills

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Crull to approve the bills as presented.

Ayes: Mrs. Balsley, Mr. Crull, Mr. Ellingson, Mr. Moon, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Reininger

Nays: *(none)*

Abstain: Mr. Ward

Motion passed 6-0, with one abstention.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 8:12 p.m. by Mr. Reininger and seconded by Mr. Crull to recess to Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives. The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon and Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger.

A motion was made by Mr. Crull and seconded by Mrs. Morris to return to Open Session of the Board of Education, and was called to order at 8:46 p.m. by President Don Ward.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon, Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Reininger to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

PRESIDENT _____ *Don Ward / S/*
Don Ward

SECRETARY _____ *Collin Crull / S/*
Collin Crull

APPROVED: 12/15/14