

North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200
Minutes of the Business Services Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, November 4, 2020
5:45 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Tom Kinser at 5:45 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Melissa Geyman, Dr. Mike Greenlee, Kelly Holsker, Jake Hubert and Mary Piskie. Absent: Kelly Hanaman. Also Present: Brian Haselhorst and Mary Maxey.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

(none)

TAX LEVY

Ms. Geyman provided details on the levy. She noted for 2020, the District is scheduled to abate \$1,400,000. She stated due to state budget cuts, the property tax relief grant was not available for FY21.

Four options were presented. Option 1: Levy CPI (2.3%), levy additional money for increase in final EAV and new construction, abate bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000 for an estimated levy rate of 6.6707%. Option 2: Levy CPI (2.3%), levy additional money for increase in final EAV and new construction, abate bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000, abate additional CPI of \$225,000 for an estimated levy rate of 6.5355%. Option 3: Do not levy CPI (2.3%), abate bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000 for an estimated levy rate of 6.3614%. Option 4: Levy CPI (2.3%), levy additional money for increase in final EAV and new construction, abate bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000, abate additional amount up to \$1,000,000 for an estimated levy rate of 6.0997%. Ms. Geyman did not recommend Option 3. She reviewed the Bond and Interest Fund and stated interest from the Capital Development Fund could be used for that additional abatement, and she would discuss a resolution with counsel. She specified this additional abatement would only impact one year.

The Committee felt like Option 4 was a good opportunity, as it would provide some taxpayer relief since there have been so many financial challenges for families in 2020. The Committee would like to see the impact on a home as well as on farmland using this scenario. Ms. Geyman will prepare those examples for the next Board meeting. She also confirmed the Business Office could fully support Option 4.

The levy will be discussed at the November Board of Education meeting. Public hearing on the tax levy with a final vote by the Board of Education is schedule for December 15, 2020. The tax levy must be filed with the County Clerk by December 29, 2020.

TRANSPORTATION PURCHASES

Ms. Geyman presented the plan for bus and vehicle purchases. She noted our current fleet consists of 28 buses, three vans, one Yukon, two trucks and one white bus. With newer buses and fewer routes, our need for spare buses has decreased. The long range plan was to purchase ten buses per year for three years, then move to a bus rotation of replacing five to six buses every year. Due to the amount of buses

being used as spares, we may trade more than we initially planned. She covered the repair and maintenance costs from 2017 to current, which show those costs declining. Ms. Geyman is proposing trading six buses, purchasing one with undercarriage (77 passenger), purchase two buses (77 passenger) and a district van and truck for a cost of around \$290,000 of the \$400,000 budget. The anticipated reimbursement from the state is expected to be around \$225,000. With the reimbursement and trade, the potential cost for FY21 would be approximately \$49,000. Ms. Geyman will obtain quotes and bring the information to the Board no later than the January meeting. Buses will be delivered summer of 2021. The Committee agreed with adopting this plan and to look at purchasing utility vehicles. Mr. Kinser said Ms. Geyman's vision of bus rotations and processes has really turned out well. He was pleased we have students riding on better equipment all while reducing our operating costs. He thanked the District for being good stewards of the money, and was pleased with the work and the plan. Mr. Hubert suggested preparing a communication to show taxpayers how we have handled this situation, and how it helped to reduce costs.

SOLUTIONS BANK SCHOOL SPIRIT CARD

Solutions Bank (formerly Poplar Grove State Bank) is offering a program in which they will donate \$25 to the participating school of your choice if you open a bank rewards, secure or student checking and Spirit debit card. The bank would be using our logo on the debit cards. Mr. Hubert asked if that athletic incentive offered by the PGSB was still in force, and noted the sign at the HS still said PGSB. Ms. Geyman will contact the bank to see if this is a substitute program or in addition to our past agreement.

AUDIT UPDATE

Ms. Geyman stated the auditors were still waiting on guidance from the Federal Government regarding the lunch program, etc. in order to complete the audit. There were no audit findings, and she is hoping the audit will be finalized this month. Ms. Geyman thanked her business office staff for their work. She noted in the Education Fund, they have about 9 months of expenses on hand, the O&M Fund has about 5 months of operating expenses and the Transportation Fund has about 9 months of operating expenses.

FUND TRANSFER

Ms. Geyman said we have until July 1, 2021 to move some funds. She is recommending moving about \$2,000,000 from the Education Fund into Operations and Maintenance. There is approximately \$14,000,000 in the Ed Fund now. A resolution would be required to move money between funds, and the transfer would have to be posted in the newspaper. Ms. Geyman can likely take the information to the January Board meeting for approval.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Ms. Geyman mentioned they will be going out for bid for copiers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(none)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Submitted by:

Tom Kinser /S/
Tom Kinser, Chair