

MT. PULASKI COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #23
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. PULASKI UNIT OFFICE
JULY 20, 2009

President David Meister called the meeting to order on July 20, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unit Office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Diane Deppe, Jeff Haley, and David Meister. Superintendent Phil Shelton was also present.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Jeff Haley to enter Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. for employment, compensation, evaluation of personnel, and pending litigation. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by David Meister to exit Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:07 p.m.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to hire Jim Peck as HS Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to hire Michael West as HS English teacher and Scholastic Bowl Co-Coach for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to hire Jason Gill as HS Ag teacher and FFA sponsor for the 2009-2010 school year. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to approve Executive Session minutes reviewed tonight in Executive Session. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Olson, second by Kathy Boward to adopt the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approve June 15, 2009 Minutes
- B. Approve Payment of Bills

Roll call vote. Answering aye: Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. Answering present: Jeff Haley. No nay. Motion carried.

David Meister updated the Board on the frustrating time he has had dealing with the Department of Labor regarding requirements for State Fair tram workers. A mandatory background check on each volunteer was a new requirement last year. This year, with no advance notice and only 5 weeks before the State Fair starts, he was told no person under 17 years of age would be allowed to work the trams. He is still short 220 volunteers to fill all the scheduled tram time slots. With August 1st the deadline for submitting required paperwork, he'll be busy on the phone recruiting additional volunteers.

Superintendent Phil Shelton reported summer maintenance this year consists of painting walls, waxing floors, and regular cleaning of the classrooms, with nothing major being purchased for the buildings.

A claim has been filed with the District's insurance carrier for the repair of the grade school fire alarm system, bell system, and P.A. amplifier damaged by lightning on May 15th.

The School District's attorney has sent a letter to the Elkhart TIF attorney emphasizing the fact that the School District is ready to go to litigation to recover over \$134,000 still owed for capital expenditures at the Elkhart Grade School prior to its closure. The School Board has been very patient in trying to get this matter resolved. The TIF agreement was entered into in good faith by the School Board; however, Elkhart TIF payments have never been made on a timely basis. The cost of a lawsuit could be significant, and it is unfortunate the School District may have to resort to this measure. The Tort levy tax rate may have to be increased when the 2009 tax levy is filed in December to cover the cost of these legal fees.

The FY 2009 budget ended June 30, 2009 with over \$263,000 still owed the School District by the State of Illinois (\$105,945 - Education fund; \$157,979 - Transportation fund). The budget summary given to the Board showed actual expenses were less than budgeted. However, the lack of funding from the State caused a shortfall in the Education and Transportation funds. If funding from the State had been as scheduled, revenue in all funds would have been greater than expenses. Superintendent Phil Shelton was commended for his ability to keep expenses down in anticipation of the lack of funding from the State.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to approve the fuel purchase contract with Ag-Land FS as presented. Roll call vote. Answering aye: Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, and David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

A list of maintenance and equipment replacement needs was given to the Board to set priorities for projects in the event maintenance grants may become available.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Kathy Boward to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Voice vote. All aye. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By

Catherine J. Shull
Board Recording Secretary

