

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
(PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET)
SEPTEMBER 8, 2005
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

President Ranz called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge to the flag.

ATTENDANCE:

Board members in attendance were Mr. Ranz, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. See, Mr. Cole, Mr. Phipps, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Swango and Superintendent Caddell.

Others in attendance were Mona Crabtree, Ron Hocker, Glo Asbury, Pansy Covington, and Roger Christman.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Roberts moved to approve an amended agenda with the addition of a Bus Driver Proposal. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

The bus driver proposal was presented to the board for approval. Under this proposal, each bus driver's increase would be based on an average projection of gas prices at \$2.90 per gallon and would be retro-active to the first day of school. Mr. Truitt made a motion to approve the proposal with Mr. Phipps seconding. Mrs. Swango asked what the cost of gas was in the 2004 contract. Mr. Caddell said that it was based on \$1.83 per gallon. Mr. Caddell said that this formula could be revisited in January, as they were doing it on a semester basis. Mrs. Swango said that she would like to go on record as saying that she had concerns and wanted more time to go over everything. The proposal was approved by the following vote: AYES: Cole, Phipps, Ranz, Roberts, See, and Truitt. ABSTAIN: Swango. There was further discussion on how the payment increase should be made to the drivers.

The 2006 Budget was then presented to the board. No vote was taken, as this meeting was a public hearing and was set up as a question and answer session regarding the new budget. The overall increase for the budget was 1.015% over last year's actual budget. There was discussion involving enrollment numbers, transportation funds, tax rates, and capital project funds. Mr. Cole said he had some concerns regarding the transportation budget, increased \$4,000 next year. Mr. Caddell said that there was a maximum levy on the Transportation fund. Mr. Caddell went on to say that transportation was one fund that will eventually be in the red if the state does not help the school systems. Mrs. Swango

asked if the corporation could look to the general fund for help. Mr. Caddell said that we could this year, which was a change. He said we want to try to avoid that if we could.

Mr. Caddell asked the board members to call or e-mail him if they had any questions regarding the budget before the next meeting on September 19, 2005. He said he needed to get everything to Janice Ramsey, the county auditor on September 20th.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES / FIELD TRIPS:

Mr. Cole moved to approve the professional leave of Mr. Caddell and to attend the ISBA Fall conference in Indianapolis on September 26 and 27th. Mr. Truitt seconded the motion. The board's vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS (Superintendent):

None.

BOARD REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

Mrs. See mentioned that someone had called and asked if they could get a list of seniors' addresses in order to advertise their business. Mrs. See told her she didn't think the school could legally give out that information. Mrs. See said this business owner's child was a senior who said that someone told her the names could be purchased from the high school. Mr. Caddell said the only entity to which the schools could legally release that information was the military branches of government for recruiting purposes. He said he was sure that this was not happening but he would check into it.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Truitt moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Roberts seconded. The vote was unanimous.