

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2011**

EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING 4:30 P.M.
REORGANIZATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00 P.M.

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Switzerland County School Corporation's Administration Office to discuss I.C.5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

The board members present were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Truitt, Mr. Waltz and Mrs. Moore. Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Superintendent; School Board Attorney, Ron Hocker and Matthew Hocker were also in attendance.

The board discussed no subject matter in the Executive Session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

The Executive Session adjourned and the meeting was opened to the public.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Mr. Phipps called the regular meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag.

ATTENDANCE:

The board members present were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Truitt, Mrs. Moore and Mr. Waltz.

Others in attendance were Dr. Elizabeth T. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ronald Hocker, Matt Hocker, Dan Noel, Jerry Moore, Don Dyck, Susan Brudvig, Sean McGarvey, Kim Temple, Tony Spoores, Gerry Peters, Ruth Lohide, Patrick Lanman, Rhonda Pennington, John Sieglitz, Greg Curlin, Kim Temple, Tony Spoores, and Michael Jones.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was unanimously approved in a motion by Mr. Daugherty, seconded by Mr. Truitt.

OATH OF OFFICE:

School Board Attorney, Ron Hocker, administered the Oath of Office to newly elected board member, Nancy Peters, and re-elected board members, Vern Waltz and Andy Truitt.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:

Mr. Phipps made a motion to nominate Mr. Truitt to serve as the Board President for 2011. Mr. Roberts seconded. Mr. Truitt abstained from the vote with all other board members votes being unanimous to approve the nomination.

Mr. Daugherty moved to nominate Mr. Roberts for the Vice Presidency of the board, with Mr. Waltz seconding. Mr. Roberts abstained from the vote while all other board members voted unanimously to approve the nomination.

Mr. Phipps moved to nominate Mrs. Moore to serve as the Secretary of the Board, seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mrs. Moore abstained from the vote while all other board members voted unanimously to approve the nomination.

Mrs. Swango was nominated to serve as the Corporation Treasurer in a motion by Mrs. Moore, seconded by Mr. Phipps. The vote to approve Mrs. Swango's nomination was unanimous.

Mrs. Moore moved to approve Mrs. Swango's appointment of Cindy Haskell to serve as the Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Daugherty seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Ron Hocker was nominated for the position of School Board Attorney in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mrs. Moore. The vote to approve the nomination was unanimous.

The board voted unanimously to approve meeting dates and times in a motion made by Mrs. Moore and seconded by Mr. Daugherty. The board set their Regular monthly meetings to be held on the third Monday of each month at 5:00p.m. with Executive Sessions to be held as necessary.

The board voted unanimously to approve keeping the salaries of the regular meetings; committee meetings; annual salaries and other benefits the same as the previous years' in a motion by Mr. Waltz, seconded by Mrs. Moore.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the bonding of certain school personnel. Mr. Daugherty second. The unanimously approved bonding is as follows:

- Kim Stout, ECA, SCHS: \$ 10,000
- Donita Cole, ECA, MS: \$ 5,000
- Melody Smith, ECA, JC: \$ 5,000
- Marilyn Devers, ECA, SCE: \$ 5,000
- Wilma Swango, Corp. Treasurer: \$100,000
- Cindy Haskell, Deputy Treasurer: \$ 75,000

Mr. Truitt and Mr. Waltz were unanimously approved to serve on the Negotiations Committee in a motion made by Mr. Daugherty and seconded by Mrs. Moore.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Daugherty to serve on the Endowment Committee. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the appointment.

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the appointments of Mr. Phipps and Mrs. Moore to the Internal Review Committee. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

The board unanimously approved the appointments of Mr. Waltz, Mr. Daugherty and Mrs. Peters to the Grounds Committee in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Roberts.

In a motion made by Mrs. Moore and seconded by Mr. Waltz, Conflict of Interest Statements from Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Roberts were approved by the board. Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Roberts abstained from the vote while all other board members voted to approve.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the school board meeting of December 13, 2010 were approved unanimously in a motion made by Mrs. Moore and seconded by Mr. Phipps.

FUND REPORT:

Mrs. Swango said the board members should have received a copy of the annual 1782 Notice and Fund Report in their board packets. She told the board members they have seen them before and there was nothing new in them and was just reminding them that this was the budget for next year. The second thing she said she put in their packets was a spreadsheet of the advertised and actual approved budgets for past years since 2007. She said she did not include on those forms the revisions after the corporation's appropriations were reduced by the State Department of Education. She said the correct number for the 2010 actual budget would be \$10,987,916. She said this is relevant because in 2011 the corporation's appropriations have again been reduced to \$11,262,408. She said she wanted them to be aware of this so they could make correct comparisons. She said she had a new handout based on a letter Dr. Jones had received this week from the Department of Education. Mrs. Swango said the letter from Melissa Ambre, the Director of the Office of School Finance explained that what we thought our school budget was and our revenue from the state has been decreased by \$501,252.21. She said that even though the corporation had been previously approved by the Department of Local Government Finance to spend the dollars on the spreadsheet, we now have the appropriations reduced accordingly, since our revenue has been decreased.

Originally, our state revenue was expected to be \$10,212,000 but now it's going down by \$501,252.21. Mrs. Swango said comparing 2010 and 2011, if the board members looked at the basic tuition report, they would see that the amount has gone down; academic honors diploma has gone up; Special Education grant has gone up a little; the Career and

Technical Education is based entirely on Vocational student count and it has gone down a little; and the Prime Time Grant has gone up a little. She said if you look at the Restoration Grant and the Small Schools Grant, which have both been put there to help with our budget situation, you will see that the Restoration Grant has gone up considerably and the Small Schools Grant is down just a little. Mrs. Swango said this year is a budget year at the state legislature, so we aren't quite sure what happens from here. Mrs. Swango said last year, our total state funding was originally approved to be \$10,552,000. Mrs. Swango said she put the \$195,911 on there, as it was stimulus which is not General Fund money and needs to go in a special fund, but it functioned as General fund money so she just drew a line through that amount instead of subtracting it. She said our reduced appropriations last year were \$481,206.27. She said the corporation was told this year to expect a similar reduction but when it came in, it was really \$501,252.21. Mrs. Swango said after those deductions, the state revenue becomes \$9,717,379.27.

CLAIMS:

Mr. Daugherty made a motion to approve the payment of Vendor Claims #40515 through #40622 and Payroll Claims for 12/22/2010 and 01/07/2011. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. Mrs. Swango said she wanted to say to the board that the monthly fund report was not available since this meeting was held earlier than usual and the bank statements were not received in enough time to have it ready for them at this meeting. She said the board members would receive December's report in their February board meeting packet. Mr. Phipps asked about a copy of a check for a CD identified as a transfer to federal funds. Mrs. Swango said we are operating under a reimbursement plan under federal funds now. She also mentioned that since she has to report any interest that is earned on federal funds, she set up a separate account and transferred the federal money into that account in order to keep track of it. She said she made a copy of the check so the board members could follow that and no numbers are missed this way.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Jones explained that last year, for a multitude of reasons, one of them being academic, the corporation had decided to rethink the location of its sixth grade students. She said at that time, the board voted to bring the sixth grade students at Switzerland County Elementary and put them with the other sixth grade students at Jefferson-Craig Elementary for one year and to look into any other potential options for the future. Dr. Jones said Educational Services Company had been employed to help the corporation with researching those options and representatives of the company were here to present the resulting Feasibility Study Report. Demographic Consultant, Susan Brudvig, presented statistics regarding the county's births and location of families and enrollment forecasts for the corporation to use in long range planning. Educational Consultants, Jerry Moore and Don Dyck gave information regarding the classroom configurations of

the elementary schools, educational adequacy of the current structures and presented optimal and functional capacities comparisons to forecasted enrollments. The educators were led to three different scenarios that the board might consider for future educational needs for elementary students. In the case of all three scenarios, slight redistricting from northeast to southwest as well as upgrades to Switzerland County Elementary School was advised. The scenarios are as follows: Scenario A – SCES: PreK-5, JC: K-6 / Scenario B – SCES: PreK-6, JC: K-6 / Scenario C – SCES: K-3, JC: 4-6. Mr. Moore said it was their opinion that Scenario C would be the least favorable and that Scenario A, which is the current situation, was the most favorable. Mr. Daugherty asked how they had reached this conclusion, since it was mentioned in the report that students do better with less transitions on the elementary level. Mr. Moore said while this was true, since the students would be making a change to the Middle School anyway, he felt keeping the sixth grade team of teachers together to help the students make that transition to the seventh grade to an environment where they would be changing classes and mingling with other new students was important. He said this way, the sixth grade students would also have more of an opportunity to become familiarized with the Middle School building since a couple of their classes are already there.

Mr. Daugherty made a motion nominating Mr. Truitt as President and Mr. Roberts as Secretary of the Board of Finance. Mr. Phipps seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Swango mentioned to the board that they had been given a copy of the Investment Policy to review and asked the board members if they had any questions. The board members had no further questions regarding the policy.

Mrs. Swango asked board members if there were any questions regarding the Investment Report that was provided to them. She said she did want to point out that there was a typographical correction to the CD rates purchased on December 10, 2009. She said the rates should show 1.5 instead of .15. There were no questions regarding the report.

Mr. Phipps made a motion to approve the Friendship Bank and Main Source Bank as the two depositories for the school corporation. Mrs. Swango pointed out that of all of the institutions that were listed on the Treasury of the State website, these were the only two that were located in the Switzerland County School Corporation district. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote to approve the depositories was unanimous.

Mrs. Swango said that according to Indiana Code, at the end of two years, any checks that are outstanding as of December 31st are to be re-deposited into the same fund they came from. She said there were no outstanding checks to be presented so no action was needed.

Mr. Waltz moved to approve the acceptance of \$5000 in grant funds from a 2010 Dow Corning / Foundation Partnership Grant which was submitted by Mrs. Fancher for the purchase of lab supplies and equipment. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion and the vote

was unanimous. Mr. Waltz said Mrs. Fancher had done a fantastic job and was pleased that she had taken the initiative to do this for the school.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Pat Lanman said the public would be very interested in seeing the Feasibility Study information in writing and wondered if Mr. Sieglitz, the school's Technology Director, could get an electronic version of the study and make it available on the website. Mr. Sieglitz said he would check with them and see if he could make that happen.

PERSONNEL:

Mrs. Moore moved to approve the ECA recommendation that Pam Yates serve as the 2010-2011 sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Students at the Middle School.

Mrs. Swango explained that previously, since maternity leaves did not demand board action, these were not brought to the board. She said that now, however, TRF was requiring that any persons requesting credit for unpaid time off, show that the leave was approved by the board.

Mr. Roberts moved to approve Amanda Alford's request to take a six-week maternity leave on or around March 28, 2011. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The board unanimously approved an FMLA request submitted by Sharon Barbour in a motion by Mr. Phipps, seconded by Mr. Daugherty.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE / FIELD TRIPS:

Mrs. Moore moved to approve a Professional Leave request from Janet Hendricks to attend a High Ability Conference and Breakfast in Indianapolis, IN on 01/13/2011 and to spend the night there prior to the conference. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the board's vote was unanimous.

USE OF FACILITIES:

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve Jud McMillin to hold town meetings at the Middle School Cafeteria on Thursday, February 17, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00p.m., and at Switzerland County Elementary Cafeteria on Thursday, April 21, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00p.m. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

Dr. Jones announced that tentatively, the next Endowment meeting would be held January 25, 2011 and that the next Regular School Board meeting would be held February 21, 2011 at 5:00p.m.

BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Truitt welcomed Mrs. Peters to the board.

Mr. Daugherty said he wanted to talk about employees getting CDL's. He said he wondered if there was some type of incentive that we could offer to get someone to consider getting their CDL for emergency situations. He said he felt like we could sacrifice the floor being swept one day if we could get someone to drive the bus when it was necessary. Dr. Jones asked if he meant that the corporation should pay for the cost of a person getting a CDL. Mr. Daugherty said he didn't have a problem with paying for it if we could make this happen. Mrs. Moore said it would be nice to get one person from each building.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Daugherty seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (7:50 p.m.)

Andy Truitt, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Tonya Moore, Secretary

Wayne Daugherty, Member

Nancy Peters, Member

James Phipps, Member

Vernon Waltz, Member