

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2012**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING      4:00 P.M.**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING      5:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees held a special public meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Switzerland County Administration Office on November 5, 2012.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Board President, James Phipps called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board members in attendance were Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Truitt and Mr. Waltz.

Others in attendance were Michael L. Jones, Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Ron Hocker, Matthew Hocker, Tony Spoores, Tammy Beitzel, Rita Sebree, Tiffany McElhany, Jason Manbeck, Todd Reese, Melody Reese, Josh Deck, Sean McGarvey, Rosemary Bovard, Teresa Bovard Lyons, Josh South, Kyle Stout, Jessica Mullins, Lisa Craig, Tim Land, Diana Land, Gerry Peters, Matt Levell, Pat Lanman, Rhonda Pennington, John Druba, John Sieglitz, Connie Wallace, Latasha Whipple, Hunter Springer, Adam Cole, Ryan Jesop, Rick Wallace, Lonnie Tingle, Sally Weales, David Todd, Gregg Goewert, Carol Covington, Greg Curlin, Natalie Wheeler, William Carpenter, and Bonnie Baur.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Mr. Truitt moved to approve an amended agenda with the omission of Administrator's Contracts under New Business, and the addition of an ECA Fundraiser request and a Field Trip request. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion and the vote to approve the amended agenda was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 05, 2012 in a motion by Mr. Truitt, seconded by Mrs. Peters.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The September fund report was presented for approval by the Board. Mrs. Swango mentioned that the Corporation was currently in the process of a regular audit by the State Board of Accounts. She mentioned that the federal grant funds were running in the

red and would be reimbursed once the monies were received. Fund #4113 was in the red because and it had been submitted but hadn't been approved yet, but it has now been approved, so those funds can now be requested. Fund #7965, the Education Jobs Funding is in the negative, but those funds have been requested and will now come to an end. Mrs. Swango said in January, the Corporation will be going to the Consortium for Health Insurance and will once again be fully funded. The balance of HRA dollars in Fund #1100 will go away in January and Fund #1110, the self-insurance fund, is in the red right now because of some major claims for which the Corporation will be reimbursed. Mrs. Moore moved to approve the report as presented. Mr. Roberts seconded. The Board's vote was unanimous.

### **CLAIMS:**

The following claims were presented to the Board for approval:

- Payroll Claims for 11/09/2012
- Vendor Claims:
  - Prewritten: #43394; 43800 through 43825; 43903 and 43904
  - New Claims: #4905 through 43982
  - Transfer of Claims: #43902

Mr. Daugherty moved to approve the claims as presented. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. Mr. Phipps asked about the transfer of claims. Mrs. Swango said they were both for payroll. She said even though the lead account and payroll account are both at the same bank now, the option of automatic transfer is not offered, so a check must physically be written for the transfer of funds from one account to the other. The Board's vote to approve the claims was unanimous.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Jones said a meeting was held the previous Monday at the High School strictly for the discussion of starting a football program. He said there were a good number of people in attendance and a lot of testimony was given from the group. He said he knew this was old news but there have been several meetings where the topic of football was brought up by parents of students involved. Mr. Jones said he felt one of the key issues for the Board has been cost. He said he felt this has been explored in a reasonable manner and after seeing the importance much of the community has given to this, he would like to recommend that the Corporation start a football program with a camp for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in the Spring that would involve fundamentals and conditioning, etc., as well as the formation of a C-team in the Fall for those who have participated in the Spring and Summer programs.

Mr. Daugherty said he was looking down the road at what it might cost the Corporation if students currently involved in football were lost to other schools because it was not started in the Fall. He said he did not think South Ripley and Rising Sun schools wanted Switzerland County to start the program because they fear losing students to our Corporation. He said if 10 students were lost to other schools each year because there is no football, that's about \$60,000 a year. He said there is no way of knowing if that will

be the case but he felt he should act now rather than wait for this to happen. He said he felt the Board has been very progressive in the last ten to twelve years and he felt this will be the next big step and hoped it would be something that the Corporation could live with three years from now. Mr. Daugherty said he was in support of starting a football program at the Middle School level with anticipation of having something next year, whatever that may be, for those 8<sup>th</sup> graders that are in school now to participate when they become Freshmen. He said he had not received any negative phone calls regarding football.

Mr. Waltz said he felt Mr. Daugherty covered the topic pretty well. He said he had received only one negative comment about football and had simply told the person that there had been several meetings where supporters of the program had attended and no one stood up at those meetings and voiced their opposition. Mr. Waltz said he felt the program could be afforded without extravagances. He used the analogy that a baby crawls before it walks and said this program will start at the crawling stage.

Mr. Daugherty said he had one more thought about this. He said he had done a little research which suggested that young adults should not start weight training before the age of 14 and the idea of students playing football without this is a big drawback for him. He said the Board has already set precedence by starting other sports like wrestling and swimming at the Middle School level first and then following at the High School level. He felt like that position should apply to football as well.

Mr. Jones said he had looked over funding for this and based the numbers on 40 participants which includes a Middle School team and a reserve team at the High School. Mr. Jones estimated the amount, depending on insurance costs ranging from \$6000 to \$12,000, to be in the area of \$42,000. He said this means there are going to be things that can't be done right away.

Mr. Jones again recommended that the Board make a commitment to the Corporation to start a football program with a Spring program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and a C-team at the High School in the Fall of 2013. Mr. Daugherty made the motion to approve that recommendation. Mr. Waltz seconded. Mr. Daugherty added that some of the things, such as goal posts, that need to be purchased in the beginning are not things that are going to be purchased every year. Mr. Waltz said he did not want folks to forget that private monetary support is still being sought. Mrs. Peters wondered, with the startup cost being around \$42,000, what the cost will be each year to maintain it. She was wondering if the Corporation could continue to afford the cost each year after the initial money is spent. Mr. Jones said it was very hard to put a number on it since there were so many unknowns. Mr. Daugherty said there will be a few new shoulder pads purchased and maybe a few new pairs of pants so that everything doesn't need to be replaced at the same time. Mr. Waltz felt after the initial purchases are made, the Athletic Department should be responsible for any new purchases of uniforms which should be covered by ticket sales. He said physical upkeep of the fields and the cost of a coach are the costs that will need to be covered by the Corporation each year. Mrs. Moore asked Athletic Director, David Todd, if he had an idea of what it will cost each year. Mr. Todd said he

felt money from ticket sales should take care of some of the costs, but it would not cover things such as the addition of a weight room and equipment and upkeep of the facilities. Mr. Jones pointed out that a lot of Capital Projects funds have already been committed to the renovation project at Switzerland County Elementary School so this program must progress slowly. Mrs. Swango said a number of funds will come into play. She said we can take utilities and insurance from Capital Projects but since we are already at our cap for those, the cost will really come from General Fund. She said if we can use items for P.E., we can charge a fee to Textbook Rental and pick up some of the cost that way. She said the cost of some things, such as jerseys, cannot be covered by these funds. She said perhaps they could be paid for through donations. Mr. Daugherty said Madison only won one game last year, yet they brought in \$15,000. He said he didn't see why we can't expect the same to happen here. He said those funds should be used to keep the program going. Mr. Todd said the Board should not expect Middle School football to bring in that kind of money. He said he also thought we should be careful about Spring football. He said some conditioning will be okay, but he did not want to take players away from other Spring sports. High School Principal, Mr. Goewert, wanted the recommendation for football clarified. He understood the recommendation to be 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade football to begin in the Fall of 2013 and the following year, in the Fall of 2014, to have a Freshman team that would only play schools that have a Freshman team. Mr. Goewert said he just needed clarification on that. Mr. Todd thought there was some confusion as to what C-teams and JV teams are. He said a C-Team is composed of mostly Freshmen, but may also have some Sophomores or Juniors that aren't very experienced. Mr. Jones said these are things that would need to be worked out.

Mr. Phipps said there were a lot of unknowns involving this program, but felt the proposal for the startup costs was realistic. He said the Board has dealt with these types of issues before and felt problems will arise that will be dealt with successfully. Mrs. Peters said she felt the implication is that she does not like football. She said this is not true. She said she just wasn't convinced the Corporation could afford it. Mr. Truitt said he just wanted to know who was in charge. He said no one wanted to stand up and say they were in charge, which bothers him. He said there are too many unanswered questions and he did not see how something can succeed if there is no one overseeing this program. He said Mr. Todd and Mr. Spoore have their plates full already. Mrs. Moore said she was looking for that as well and hasn't seen it yet. Mr. Daugherty said he believed someone was going to step up. Mr. Waltz said he did not think this was different from any other sport. He said the person responsible for making it work is the Head Coach and the Assistants. Mr. Phipps said a motion and second was on the table and it was time to call for a vote. Mr. Phipps, Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Waltz voted to approve the startup of a football program. Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Peters and Mr. Truitt voted against.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mrs. Peters moved to approve several grants. Mr. Roberts seconded. The Board unanimously approved the grants as follows:

- \$1,000 from Vevay-Switzerland Co. Foundation for Student Council (requested by Student Council Sponsor, Shaun Holiday)
- \$1,000 from Community Foundation of Switzerland County for SCES Literacy and Math Family Fun Night (requested by Denise Crawford)
- \$2,322 from Community Foundation of Switzerland County for the Business Professionals Association's software (requested by BPA sponsor, Debbie Seaver)

The Board unanimously approved the following ECA Fundraisers in a motion by Mr. Waltz and seconded by Mr. Truitt:

- Staff development and incentives – Great Lake Scrips: 2012-2013 school year
- Classroom supplies incentives – Apps Fair for downloads for phones and electronic devices: 2012-2013 school year.
- Staff development & incentives – Apps Fair for downloads for phones and electronic devices: 2012-2013 school year

Mr. Jones asked Corporation Attorney, Ron Hocker to elaborate on a situation concerning Fire Alarm Renovation Projects at Switzerland County High School and Jefferson-Craig Elementary School. Mr. Hocker explained that when the specs were drawn up, the Architect read the state requirement to mean that a facility was to be put in each place of gathering in a school building. Mr. Hocker said he did not interpret that to mean classrooms and so he not near enough rooms were included in the specifications sent to bidders. He said the question now is whether to rebid the project or take the low bid with the addition of what is required under state code. He said even if the project is rebid, this price is probably the lowest the Corporation is going to receive and the architectural firm has agreed to pay half of the out of pocket expense since it was their mistake. Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve change orders for the Fire Alarm Renovation Projects. Mr. Waltz seconded. The Board approved the change orders in the amount of \$24,854 with the School Corporation and RQAW each paying half of this amount, (\$12,427) in a six to one vote with Mr. Roberts voting against the recommendation.

Mr. Waltz moved to approve an amended Agreement between the Corporation and Seyferth Building Company for the construction/renovation project at SCES to include a 5% retainage fee for Eric Woflen of RQAW. Mr. Daugherty seconded the motion. Mr. Hocker said the retainage fee was included in the original specs for the project but it was left out of the contract. The Board's vote to approve the amended agreement was unanimous.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

President of the Band Boosters, Rita Sebree, said Mrs. Holyoke had comprised a packet for each of the Board members which includes a Band newsletter and a copy of the Seymour newspaper which has a large picture showing the Band's Alpine horn. She said she wants to keep the Board up to date with the Band's activities. She said the Band is working hard to be able to participate in Vevay's upcoming Christmas parade. Mrs. Sebree said she also wanted to advertise that the Band Boosters were holding a fund

raiser at the Java Bean on December 14 at 6:00pm in order to raise money for some things like Pep Band T-shirts.

Mr. Druba said the Middle School football program was going to be successful and he was glad to have it. However, he said he did want to point out that he was insisting on participating students getting top of the line football helmets. He said helmets are the most important piece of equipment a player can have, which is why he is insisting on this for his kids.

### **PERSONNEL:**

In a motion by Mrs. Moore and seconded by Mr. Truitt, the Board unanimously approved the following Extra-Curricular Activities position recommendations:

- Natalie Wheeler – Boys & Girls Varsity Golf w/payment recommendation for part of Falls season for services already provided
- Casie Jesop – Fellowship of Christian Athletes

### **USE OF FACILITIES:**

Mr. Roberts moved to approve T. Dreyer to use Switzerland County Elementary School for Girl Scout meetings on Tuesdays, twice a month, beginning in December, from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Mr. Waltz seconded the motion and the Board's vote was unanimous.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)**

Superintendent, Michael L. Jones made the following meeting announcements:

- Next Regular School Board Meeting – Monday, December 17, 2012
- Next Endowment Meeting – November 27, 2012

Mr. Jones mentioned that the fire hydrant out in front of the Administration Building is being moved a few feet to a more feasible location. He said there will be a mound of dirt for a while until it settles.

Mr. Jones also told the Board that the company doing the renovations at Switzerland County Elementary School, Seyferth, had moved a trailer in and put up a fence.

### **BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Peters said the Policy Manual Committee was finished making their changes and were now moving it on for legal approval, so it was pretty close to closure. She said the expected timeline for finalization was February.

Mr. Waltz said tonight, the Board members had all voted the way they felt and they each had a right to disagree.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Phipps moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Roberts seconded and the vote was unanimous. The meeting was so adjourned. (6:25 p.m.)

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James Phipps, President

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Wayne Daugherty, Member

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William Roberts, Vice President

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Nancy Peters, Member

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Tonya Moore, Secretary

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Andy Truitt, Member

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Vernon Waltz, Member