

December 21, 2015

**SWITZERLAND COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES OF THE
DECEMBER 21, 2015
EXECUTIVE SESSION BOARD MEETING 5:00 P.M.
REGULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00 P.M.**

The School Board of Trustees met before the regular public meeting for an Executive Session beginning at 5:00 P.M. at the Switzerland County School Corporation's Administration Office to discuss a job performance evaluation of an individual employee. This is in compliance with Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

Board Members Present: Mr. Daugherty, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Deck, Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Collier, Mrs. Cord and Mrs. Peters. Others Present: Michael L. Jones, Superintendent and School Board Attorney, Matthew Hocker.

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

The Executive Session adjourned.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE TO THE FLAG / MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Board President, Mr. Daugherty, called the regular meeting to order, asking that all communication devices be turned off or silenced, and led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Daugherty, President:	<u>Present</u>	Mr. Roberts, Vice President:	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Deck, Secretary:	<u>Present</u>	Mr. Bennett, Member:	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Collier, Member:	<u>Present</u>	Mrs. Cord, Member:	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Peters, Member:	<u>Present</u>	<i>Mr. Jones, Superintendent:</i>	<u>Present</u>

Others in attendance: Wilma Swango, Mona Crabtree, Matt Hocker, Michelle Oatman, Chris Oatman, Ryan Jessup, Kellie Lockwood, Lisa Scranton, Harold Scranton, Pat Lanman, Gregg Goewert, John Sieglitz, Sally Weales, Tony Spoores, Sean McGarvey,

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was recommended that the Board approve the agenda as submitted. Motion: Deck/
Second: Collier/ Vote: Unanimous.

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MINUTES:

The Minutes of the November 13, 2015 Facilities & Grounds Committee Meeting, and the Minutes of the November 16, 2015 Regular Board Meeting were recommended for approval. Motion to approve: Collier / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous.

CLAIMS:

It was recommended that the Board approve the following Claims as submitted: Motion: Peters / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

Payroll: 11/20/15 , 12/04/2015, and 12/18/2015

Prewritten: #49666 - #49740

New: #49741-#49843

FINANCIAL REPORT:

It was recommended that the Board approve the September, 2015 Financial Report as submitted. Motion: Deck / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

PRESENTATION:

High School Principal, Greg Goewert, presented the Board with information concerning an ACT testing program at a reduced price of \$10 from each of the required 80 students taking the test and a remaining cost of \$9.95 to be paid by the Corporation. The regular cost to a student would be around \$40, not counting travel costs. He asked the Board to make a decision at this meeting in order to meet a December 31, 2015 deadline. Motion to approve program: Collier / Second: Peters. Discussion: Mr. Daugherty asked Business Manager, Wilma Swango if the cost could be taken from General Fund per Mr. Goewert's request. Mrs. Swango explained that she is comfortable that we can pay this one-time expense of \$800 if the payment isn't due until January. Vote to approve program: Unanimous.

Mr. Goewert brought up an idea of converting the blue barn into a High School and Middle School locker room. He showed Board Members an official quote of \$175,000 from a local contractor. Mrs. Collier commented that she is not on the Facilities and Grounds Committee, but wanted to put in her two cents worth. With the Jefferson-Craig project going on and all of the expenditures going out, she feels we need to focus on the facilities we have and keeping them up to date rather than building something else. The High School needs new windows and the cafeterias in all of the buildings need updating. No action was taken.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Endowment: Peters: Last meeting held on Thursday, 12/17/15.- approved \$12,000 for the 8th Grade trip expenses.

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Negotiations: None.

Internal Controls: Cord: Wondered if the State Board of Accounts will be conducting an audit of the Extra Curricular Accounts as they said they would. Mrs. Swango verified that this will happen during the next audit, which will be in two years.

Facilities & Grounds: Bennett: The new building is looking nice and it looks like 80% of the playground equipment has been finished. Daugherty wondered if the project not being completed on time would present legal issues. Superintendent Jones has been told that things are going as planned, but an extended period of inclement weather may change the timeline.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chris Oatman: He wanted to know why a voluntary elected official, who works part time, can classify themselves as Administrators and receive insurance coverage at a rate of only \$1 when fulltime teachers must pay a much higher rate. He wondered why the four members who recently voted to continue these benefits feel they are entitled to them. He gave reasons that he and others in the community feel the benefits should be terminated. Out of 10 local school boards in this area, only Milan allows members to participate in group insurance and they are required to pay a full rate for the insurance. Questions were handed out to the four Board members who voted to keep the insurance and a written response was requested.

Michelle Oatman: She wondered how, as the fourth poorest county in Indiana, the four Board members who voted to continue the option of insurance benefits at a rate of \$1 feel the Corporation can continue to afford this versus putting the money to use elsewhere. She was concerned that since 1994, the agendas and the Minutes have been vague about the benefits the Board receives. She feels future annual financial reports should separate the cost of insurance benefits for Board members and be conveyed to taxpayers in the Minutes.

Kellie Lockwood: She brought up issues regarding the Corporation's website. She finds it confusing to navigate. No date is posted for the next Board meeting. Board Minutes are not listed in sequential order. She also feels the Board agendas and Minutes from the most recent meetings are not being posted on the website in a timely manner.

PERSONNEL:

It was recommended that the Board approve the employment of the following personnel as presented:

- 2015-2016 Art Instructional Assistant at Jefferson-Craig Elementary: Jessica Crepin - Motion: Collier / Second: Roberts / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve a Medical Leave extension request from Rachel Compton until the end of the 2015/2016 School Year as submitted. Motion: Roberts / Second: Collier / Vote: Unanimous.

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It was recommended that the Board approve several 2015-2016 Extra-Curricular Activity appointments and stipends as submitted. Motion: Deck / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous. They are as follows:

- MS Basketball (Boys) - Gary Cook, Volunteer Coach
- HS Basketball (Gr. 9) – Russell Wiggins, Coach (\$1200)
- HS Amazing Grace Club – Pam Ely, Volunteer Sponsor
- HS Baseball - Sean Cook, Varsity Assistant, (\$1,750)
 Ryan Peters, JV Coach, (\$ 817)
 Ricky Roberts, Assist. Coach, (\$ 500)
 Chad Combs, Summer 2016, (\$ 550)

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Two Extra-Curricular Activity fundraisers were recommended for approval by the Board. Motion: Roberts / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous. They are as follows:

- Sophomore Class– Chocolate & Jewelry Sales, for Prom Expenses, Jan. 12-22, 2016
- SCES Sp. Ed. Classes – Pennies for Patients (coin collections), for donations to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Mar. 1-18, 2016

It was recommended that the Board approve the reduction of fees for technology device repairs as submitted. The reduction is a result of decreased costs to the Corporation. Motion: Deck / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve an Endowment Request from the Archery Club in the amount of \$1,914 for the replacement of targets which can no longer be rebuilt in a cost effective manner. The new targets will have replaceable cores. Motion: Collier / Second: Peters / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve two Designated Endowment of Community Foundation project requests as presented. Motion: Collier / Second: Bennett. It was explained that this is not new money coming in, but money that is already in a particular fund, which is not the General Fund. The Board is being asked for permission to make expenditures from this fund. Vote: Unanimous. The approved project expenditures are as follows:

- \$1,000 – Matching 50 cents per \$1.00 contribution for supporting annual grant.
- \$12,000- Ivy Tech Dual Enrollment (6 credits for 15 Students) – cost shared with parents and Corporation

It was recommended that the Board approve the acceptance of five Community Foundation of Switzerland County, Inc. grants. Motion: Bennett / Second: Roberts / Vote: Unanimous. The approved grants are as follows:

- \$7,475: 2016 Payout from Switzerland County School Corp Fund
- \$75,000: 2016 Payout from Technology Based Programing for HS Enrichment & Adult Learning Fund
- \$1575: 2016 Pacer Band Fund
- \$300: 2016 Debbie Minch Memorial Fund Endowment Fund
- \$575: 2016 Kevin McSwain Memorial Fund

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It was recommended that the Board approve an Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2016 Secure School Safety Grant. The match for the grant is \$50,000. These grant monies will be used mainly to fund the Safety Resource Officer. Motion: Deck / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve a Transfer of Appropriations and Payment of Claims Resolution. Motion: Peters / Second: Deck / Vote: Unanimous. The approved Resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to have Board action in order to pay claims and to transfer appropriations within major account classifications; and
WHEREAS, It is deemed to be in the public interest to facilitate the payment of amounts which are owed by the School Corporation, and to ensure that adequate appropriations are available for payment of such claims;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the Treasurer to pay outstanding claims and to transfer appropriated amounts within the 2015 General, Debt Service, Capital Projects, Transportation and Bus Replacement Funds between December 22, 2015 and December 31, 2015. A claim docket and an appropriation transfer report for this period will be presented to the Board at the regularly scheduled Board meeting in February, 2016.
Adopted this 21st day of December, 2015.

It was recommended that the Board grant permission to advertise that the Corporation is seeking bids for bus routes for 2016-2020. Motion: Peters / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve a School Administrative Medicaid Claiming Program for Special Services Students as submitted. Motion: Peters / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board approve an AdTec Agreement, Category Two, as submitted. Motion: Deck / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous.

It was recommended that the Board grant permission to advertise for a Facilitator for contracted services for the organization of an Alumni Association & Education Foundation. The formation of a Switzerland County Alumni Association will give community members an opportunity to contribute to the Corporation through memorial donations. Motion: Peters / Second: Cord / Vote: Unanimous.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVES / FIELD TRIPS:

One Professional Leave and one Field Trip were presented for Board consideration. Motion to approve: Peters / Second: Collier / Vote: Unanimous. They are as follows:
Professional Leave:

- J. Grice –IN Music Educ. Assoc. Prof. Conf. @ Ft. Wayne, 1/14-1/17, 2016

Field Trip:

- Thayer & Wheeler – BPA Students to State Leadership Conf. @ Indianapolis, 03/06-03/08, 2016

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USE OF FACILITIES: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (SUPERINTENDENT)

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

- Next Public Board Meeting: Monday, January 11, 2016, 6:00 P.M. at the Administration Office (*Re-Organization: after the first Monday and before the 15th*)
- Next Endowment Meeting: Tuesday, January 26, 2015, 5:00 P.M. at the Administration Office
- Superintendent's "In the Neighborhood" School/Community Meetings (with sites for Cotton, Pleasant & Craig townships to be determined):
 - Wednesday, 03/16/16
 - Wednesday, 04/20/16
 - Wednesday, 05/18/16
- Suggest the Board develop a Consent Agenda Policy for future meetings beginning in 2016. Common practice for the regular business items such as Minutes, Claims, Fund Report, etc. to be acted on in one vote.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Cord: 4 comments: Due to a change in enrollment, Trimble County is doing a restructuring of their buildings. They have listed a percentage of utilization for each of them. She was wondering if Switzerland County has updated the percentage of utilization of its buildings. Superintendent Jones feels the last time it was done was four years ago as part of a study by Jerry Moore of Educational Services. Cord plans to call the Superintendent to ask what kind of formula was used to get this information. She has heard that the Jefferson-Craig storage building is an eyesore & needs to be removed. She feels so much has already been spent on this project and wonders if there is a way to make it more appealing, such as having students paint a mural on it, and continue to use it somehow. The school bus driver handbook states that GPS data will be presented to the Board in June and December and wonders why it was not included with this month's packet. Mr. Jones feels it is an oversight that Board members were not provided with that information and will get it to them. Finally, she voiced her disappointment that 11 months have gone by since a couple requesting an audience with the Board during an Executive Session have still not been granted their request.

Bennett: Ample opportunity has been given for the persons to respond to the Board's request for more information regarding the reasons they wish to meet with the Board in an Executive Session.

Peters: Don't knock the numbers of Band students. They give great performances and Mr. Grice is doing a great job. The Board needs to receive the Superintendent's goals for 2016, as they will be different than those of 2015. Superintendent Jones will provide that in January. In regards to the family who has been denied an audience with the Board for 11 months, if they will meet us part way by explaining exactly what they wish to talk

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about in an Executive Session meeting, and their reasons are appropriate, she is all for meeting with them.

Daugherty: The Board now has another year under its belt. Hopefully, we have learned some things and will continue to improve as a Board.

ADJOURNMENT: (7:15 P.M.)

Motion to adjourn: Deck / Second: Bennett / Vote: Unanimous. The Meeting was so adjourned.

L. Wayne Daugherty, President

William Roberts, Vice President

Josh Deck, Secretary

Joseph Bennett, Member

Katie Collier, Member

S. Jill Cord, Member

Nancy Peters, Member