

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
February 28, 2007

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on February 28, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at Kingsley Jr. High School, 303 Kingsley St., Normal, Illinois.

1.0 Roll Call

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Meta Mickens-Baker, Martin O'Connor, John Puzauskas, Jay Reece, Steve Whittington, and Board President Scott Lay. Members absent: None.

2.0 Closed Session

At 5:30 p.m., Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to adjourn to closed session to:

- discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District according to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act, and
- review closed session minutes according to Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None.

Motion carried.

3.0 Return to Public Session

At 7:00 p.m., Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Also present: Superintendent Alan Chapman, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Human Resources John Pye, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction Jim Braksick, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Tod Altenburg, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Michele Steinbacher from *The Pantagraph*, Charles Bartlett, Meghan Leiseberg, Mark Pritchett, Mark Jolicoeur, David Henebry, Dawn Green, Carol Knight, Kevin Heid, Brian Taylor, Lisa Matchett, Julie Wright, Tim Kiper, Randall Middleton, Lynette Mehall, Cathy Weiss, Lindsey Cramer, Steve Wilder, Wendy Cannell, Chuck Hartseil, Vickie Mahrt, Mark Talbott, Mary Jefferson, and others.

4.0 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5.0 Public Comments

None.

6.0 Action

6.1 Authorize Lease Agreement For Portable Classroom Unit

Pye provided information regarding enrollment projections for Northpoint Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year indicating the need for one portable unit which would provide two additional classrooms. (Attachment #1) Reece moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to authorize lease agreement for a portable classroom unit as proposed. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

6.2 Approve Amendments to Certifications of Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds

Randall Middleton provided a summary regarding the amendments to the Certifications of Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for four elementary schools. (Attachment #2) Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve amendments to Certifications of Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for Hudson, Fairview, Brigham, and Sugar Creek Elementary Schools as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

6.3 Certify the Statement of Completion for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds

Middleton presented a brief summary and explanation regarding the Statements of Completion for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for nine Unit 5 facilities. (Attachment #3) Those included NCWHS, NCWHS Athletic Building, KJHS, PJHS, Hoose, Fairview, Glenn and two at Oakdale. Mickens-Baker moved, Briggs seconded, to certify the Statement of Completion for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for Normal Community West High School, Parkside Jr. High, Kingsley Jr. High, Fairview, Oakdale, Glenn, and Colene Hoose Elementary schools as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

6.4 Approve Ten-Year Life Safety Survey and Certify the Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for Kingsley Jr. High School and Eugene Field Special Services Center

Middleton provided copies of the Application for Approval of Ten-Year Safety Survey Report for Eugene Field Special Services Center and KJHS. (Attachment #4) Reece moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve the Ten-Year Life Safety Survey and Certify the Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for Kingsley Jr. High School and Eugene Field Special Services Center as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

7.0 Consent Agenda

Chapman reviewed items on the Consent Agenda and recommended its approval. Puzauskas moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

7.1 Approval of Minutes

- January 31, 2007 Regular Meeting
- February 7, 2007 Special Meeting
- February 19, 2007 Closed Meeting

7.2 Other

- 7.2.1 NCWHS Request for Overnight Trip ~ Student Council
- 7.2.2 NCWHS and NCHS Request for Overnight Trip ~ Winterguard

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.0 Reports/Discussion

8.1 Architect's Report

Mark Jolicoeur and David Henebry presented and shared information regarding a proposal to form an executive committee for the workshop and programming phase of pre-referendum expenses and architectural services. Chapman noted that the approval of the formation of this committee is scheduled as an action item later in the meeting. Jolicoeur noted that the intent with the initial part of the executive committee would be to develop a greater understanding of the specificity of a workshop and programming effort and then to report this information to the Board of Education.

8.2 First Midstate Inc. Report

Kevin Heid of First Midstate Inc. presented a report regarding the issuance of Bonds. (Attachment #5) Information included but was not limited to the following:

- One-bond issue vs. multiple-bond issues
- Federal tax laws and principles on arbitrage
- Reimbursement to the District regarding architect and engineering fees
- Board resolution requirements declaring intent to reimburse ~ soft costs vs. hard costs
- Possible means for reimbursement of architectural and engineering fees

8.3 Report on Short-Term Borrowing Options

Altenburg provided an overview as to the timing and specific amounts of money that the District may need to borrow. (Attachment #6) Altenburg noted that short-term borrowing needs are estimated to begin April 27, 2007. Altenburg reported that he had met with four different lending institutions to develop strategies for meeting the District's short-term borrowing needs. A report is scheduled for the March 14 Board meeting and will include cost estimates to the District based on the principal, interest, and length of the short-term borrowing need.

8.4 Freedom of Information Request

Chapman reported that the District had received one request for public information under the Freedom of Information Act. (Attachment #7) On February 14, 2007, minutes from the open meeting of the Board of Education, McLean County Unit District No. 5 held April 13, 2005 were provided to Amy Reiter, *The News Gazette*.

8.5 Board Representative Reports

- Consortium for Educational Change Committee ~ Whittington noted that representatives from the committee had made a trip to Pekin to help with conducting a Critical Friends visit. Members attending were Whittington, Mary Ahillen, Vickie Mahrt, Jim Broach, and Kelly Lyle.
- Community Connections Committee ~ Briggs reminded the Board that the committee meeting originally scheduled for February 21 had been rescheduled to March 7 and requested items for the agenda.
- Unit 5/Local Government Committee ~ Mickens-Baker reported that the meeting originally scheduled for March 6 had been rescheduled to March 20, 12:00 p.m. at the IEA Office. Representatives from the Town of Normal, City of Bloomington, Bloomington District 87 and McLean County Unit District No. 5 have been invited to attend.

9.0 **Action**

9.1 Authorize Formation of Executive Committee for Workshop and Programming Phase of Architectural Services

Chapman recommended that the Board authorize the formation of the Executive Committee for the Workshop and Programming Phase of Architectural Services. He further recommended that the committee include two Board members, Cabinet officers, and both architects. President Lay noted that the two Board members who will serve on the committee are Puzauskas and O'Connor since they are members of the Facility Committee. (Attachment #8) Reece moved, Briggs seconded, to authorize formation of Executive Committee for Workshop and Programming Phase of Architectural Services as recommended. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

10.0 **Announcements**

- Mickens-Baker reported she had recently attended two Unit 5 student events which included a music competition at CJHS and a spaghetti dinner and music program at NCHS.
- O'Connor reported that he had been in attendance at the NCHS spaghetti dinner and music program.
- Chapman read a copy of and commented on a statement released this morning to media outlets regarding a former Unit 5 employee. (Attachment #9)

11.0 **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**Scott Lay, Board of Education President
Community Unit School District No. 5
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois**

ATTEST:

Meta Mickens-Baker, Board of Education Secretary

Approved Date: March 14, 2007