

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LINCOLN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 298
LINCOLN, KANSAS

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017
6:00 P.M.

Board Members:

D. Bell
M. Breneman
TJ Jonsson
P. Winters
R. Wright
D. Zachgo

Others:

Kathy Robertson, Supt.
Greta Obermueller, Clerk
Stephen Koch, LES Principal
Jeana Eckhart
Katie Good
Jennifer O'Hare
Shari Pittenger
Melodee Larsen
Christi Walter
John Baetz

1. The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the President, Monty Breneman.
2. Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by Debora Zachgo, to adopt the agenda. Aye-6
No-0

6:01 p.m. Jared Spear arrived.
3. Monty Breneman thanked Kathy Robertson for the blue polo shirts that she had personally purchased from PawPrints class at the Lincoln Jr/Sr. High School for each board member. They were waiting at each board members respective place at the board table this evening. Mr. Breneman encouraged board members to wear their shirts for board member pictures next month.
4. Monty Breneman stated that the Board of Education has received a letter of interest from Jeana Eckhart to fill the vacancy on USD #298 Board of Education, created when Chad Walter resigned his position. Mrs. Eckhart was present at the meeting and invited to join board members at the board table to state her reasons for pursuing this endeavor. She thanked board members for considering her for this position. She stated that she was born and raised in Lincoln County, had sons that attended and graduated from Lincoln Schools, she served on site councils as her children were going through the school system and had volunteered for many activities over the years. She noted the conflict there seems to be in the county at the present time and would like to be a part of the solution. Board members had no additional questions for Jeana, so Mr. Breneman thanked her for coming.

5. Kathy Robertson distributed an excel spreadsheet outlining the latest state budget plan with the proposed additional amounts for all districts. She pointed out while this is encouraging, legislators have recessed for three weeks and have no school funding plan in place. And on a larger note, the state has no way to finance any additional funds proposed for districts, due to the lack of a tax plan for FY-18. In the most current efficiency report, they are suggesting freezing KPERS, cutting highway funds, shifting PAT funding back to the federal level as opposed to the recent shift to the state level, and changes with the Tobacco monies. In order to close out the FY-17 fiscal year, the state is recommending borrowing enough to end the year with \$50 million in reserves. The legislature has hired an attorney. Governor Brownback vetoed the latest tax bill and at the present time, nothing further has left committee.
6. Under Bond Discussion, Monty Breneman started the dialogue by stating that everyone is aware that the bond has failed; however, the fact remains that district needs have been identified, still remain and loom bigger every day. Kathy Robertson said that she had contacted the State Department of Education about the availability of QZAB funds after the results of the bond issue were reported to the board office. Craig Neuenswander notified the district that USD #298 Lincoln has been approved for this request. Stipulations require that these funds be paid back within ten years and Mrs. Robertson is in the process of securing local bank involvement, if the board chooses this path of funding. Mr. Breneman asked that board members give thought to ranking projects and funding and this item will be on the agenda for the May meeting.
7. Kathy Robertson reported that she had attended the County Commissioner meeting at the Lincoln County Courthouse on Monday at 10:30 a.m. for discussion of ENEL distribution. Since it has been suggested that the funds be distributed to finance district projects up front, Mrs. Robertson was present to inquire. Dawn Harlow, County Clerk, informed those in attendance that these dollars had to be distributed annually to comply with cash basis laws. This would not and could not be an option. If ENEL would protest their property taxes, and taxes were abated, those monies would have to be recouped.
8. Motion by Patti Winters, seconded by David Bell, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education go into executive session at 6:20 p.m. for 10 minutes with the Superintendent for the purpose of discussing matters relating to employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative or representatives of the body or agency; and that the board return to open meeting at 6:30 p.m. in this room. The executive session is required to protect the district's right to the confidentiality of its negotiating position and the public interest.

6:30 p.m. The Board returned to open session.

9. Motion by David Bell, seconded by Rhonda Wright, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the \$325.99 donation from Mahaska to Lincoln Jr./Sr. High School. Vote: Aye-6 No-0
10. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by David Bell, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the \$50 donation from Sharon Markley to the Parents as Teachers Program. Vote: Aye-6 No-0
11. Motion by TJ Jonsson, seconded by David Bell, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education go into executive session at 6:35 p.m. for 20 minutes with the Superintendent, Kathy Robertson, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting at 6:55 p.m. in this room. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual(s). Aye-6 No-0

6:35 p.m. Steve Koch and Christi Walter joined executive session.
6:50 p.m. Steve Koch left executive session.
6:55 p.m. The Board returned to open meeting.

Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by David Bell, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education go back into executive session at 6:55 p.m. for 15 minutes with the Superintendent, Kathy Robertson, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting at 7:10 p.m. in this room. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual(s). Aye-6 No-0

6:55 p.m. Christi Walter joined executive session
7:05 p.m. Christi Walter left executive session.
7:10 p.m. The Board returned to open meeting.
12. Motion by Rhonda Wright, seconded by TJ Jonsson, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the resignation of Kevin Feldkamp as JH Basketball Coach effective at the end of the 2016-17 season. Aye-6 No-0
13. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by Patti Winters, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the resignation of Christian Emmert as Lincoln Elementary School Custodian effective May 19, 2017. Aye-6 No-0
14. Motion by Patti Winters, seconded by Rhonda Wright, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education accept the resignation of Carolyn Schwerdtfager, LES assistant cook, effective May 20, 2017. Aye-6 No-0

15. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by TJ Jonsson, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education approve Coaches as presented for the upcoming year as listed. Aye-5 No-1

7:12 p.m. Patti Winters left the board meeting.

16. Motion by David Bell, seconded by TJ Jonsson, that U.S.D. #298 Board of Education hire Alex Winters for summer mowing beginning April 19, 2017. Aye-5 No-0

7:13 p.m. Patti Winters rejoined the board meeting.

17. Motion by Debora Zachgo, seconded by David Bell, that the meeting be adjourned. Aye-6 No-0

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Greta Obermueller, Clerk

Approved:

Monty Breneman, President