

**PINE RIVER AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 8, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Pine River Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, November 8, 2021, at Pine River Middle/High School Media Center.

**I. ROLL CALL**

President Jim Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: 7-Kim Dean, Kevin Delancey, Katy Draper, Rob Kulpa, Jim Peterson, Tom Shook, Heather Smith

Members Absent: N/A

Administrators/Directors present: Matt Lukshaitis, Josie Hill, Jeff Hattendorf, Cody Wagatha, Aaron Schab, Brent Ruppert, and Rob Sibary

Administrators/Directors absent: Heidi Hayes

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the agenda as presented.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

**III. PRESENTATION-AUDIT**

Scott Hunter from Baird, Cotter and Bishop presented to the Board and community members the results from the district's 2021 financial audit.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Peterson announced to the public that the school is conducting a Title IX investigation and is unable to discuss or answer any questions surrounding said investigation.

- A community member addressed the Board expressing their discontent regarding the superintendent's October 14, 2021 media release.
- A community member read varying statistics and rankings from unknown sources to the Board regarding the district's academics.
- A community member expressed concerns regarding the Superintendent's October 14, 2021 media release.
- A community member questioned the Board regarding trainings, safety policies and procedures are being put in place to ensure PRAS students are kept safe.
- A community member asked the Board various questions including if the superintendent had made the Board aware of the October 14, 2021 media release prior to sending it out and if an investigation is ongoing, why was the letter released in the first place.

- A community member spoke about the "toxic culture" in the district reminding the Board they brought the same matter up at Board meetings in 2019. Also expressed concern regarding discipline discrepancies amongst students and staff.
- A community member addressed the Board pointing out a "common theme" being spoken out which is a negative culture/image for the entire district. Asked the Board to take control and fix the negativity and culture in the district.

*This meeting went into recess at 6:29 p.m. and reconvened at 6:39 p.m.*

## **V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Lukshaitis provided updates to the Board including:

- ESSER III district survey to assess needs before spending
- Non-homestead property tax millage renewal passed on Nov. 2, 2021
- Awaiting more updates/guidance regarding federal OSHA ETS Order

## **VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Peterson thanked the community for passing the non-homestead millage renewal. Also announced to the Board that a January Board retreat is in the planning stages and that a Board workshop may need to be held prior to December's regular Board meeting regarding OSHA's ETS order.

## **VII. PRINCIPALS/DIRECTORS UPDATES**

Principals Hattendorf and Ruppert, assistant principal Schab, along with business manager, Josie Hill and transportation director, Rob Sibary, provided building updates, financial updates and transportation updates to the Board.

## **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mrs. Dean, seconded by Mr. Delancey to approve the consent agenda, including the General Fund and Lunch Fund invoices, Capital Projects Fund Accounts Payable, and meeting minutes from the October 11, 2021 regular Board meeting.  
*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Resignations/Retirements**

1. Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the immediate resignation of varsity cheer coach, Sharon Wheeler, as recommended by the athletic director and the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

### **B. New Hires**

1. Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the hiring of Mrs. Linda Marks, middle school custodian, effective October 26, 2021, at a custodian step 1, as recommended by the transportation/operations director and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

2. Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the hiring of Mrs. Jessica Nix, instructional paraprofessional, at an instructional paraprofessional step 1, as recommended by the middle school principal and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

3. Motion by Mrs. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the hiring of Miss Erin Cubbler, as varsity softball coach, effective for the 2021-2022 season, at a coaching step 1, as recommended by the athletic director and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

#### **C. RFP AWARD**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Kulpa, to award the RFP for snow removal for the years 2021-2024, to Tyson Deverman, as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

#### **D. ARCHITECT CONTRACT FOR SOCCER BOOTH**

Motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the architect's Amendment of Agreement as submitted for the purpose of preparing plans for the construction, with bond contingency funds, of a new soccer announcer's booth, to include electrical, lighting, and heating/air conditioning, etc. at an approximate total cost not to exceed \$325,000 as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

### **X. CLOSED SESSION: NEGOTIATIONS AND SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Kim Dean	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Jim Peterson
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Kevin Delancey	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Tom Shook
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Katy Draper	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Heather Smith
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Rob Kulpa	

*This meeting went into closed session at 7:15 p.m.*

### **XI. OPEN SESSION:**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Kim Dean	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Jim Peterson
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Kevin Delancey	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Tom Shook
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Katy Draper	<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Heather Smith
<input type="checkbox"/> _Y_ Rob Kulpa	

*This meeting went back into open session at 8:12 p.m.*

- 1.) Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the amendment to raise the Board contribution toward the cost of the 2022 insurance plans for the purpose of health insurance as obtained through 44North to \$19, 324 (family), \$14, 818 (double) and \$7, 085 (single) in order to establish new teacher, support staff, and administrator/Central Office master contract language as negotiated.

*Ayes 5, Nays- 0, Abstained-2 (Mr. Kulpa and Mr. Delancey)- Motion carried*

- 2.) Motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Dean, to approve the Increase in Plan D Insurance Stipend (cash in lieu), as detailed in the teachers' master contract such that the Board does grant an annual stipend to any employee who elects to enroll in Plan D. Plan D will automatically increase to 70% of the Pine River "single" hard cap through CY 2023, paid monthly as recommended by the superintendent.  
*Ayes 5, Nays – 0, Abstained-2 (Mr. Kulpa and Mr. Delancey) Motion carried*

**XII. OTHER-**No other discussions occurred at this meeting

**XIII. ADJOURMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. after a motion was made by Mr. Shook.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the attached is a true copy of the proposed minutes of a Regular Meeting held on the 8th day of November, 2021, and that said proposed minutes have been approved and made available to the public at the address designated on the posted public notice of said meeting from and after the ~~13th day of December, 2021.~~

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Bra", is written over a horizontal line.

Secretary, Board of Education