

**PAW PAW COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #271**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**May 9, 2017**  
**Paw Paw High School Gym**  
**Paw Paw, Illinois**  
**7:00 P.M.**

The Special Meeting of the Paw Paw Community Unit School District #271 Board of Education was called to order on Monday, May 9, 2017 by Heidi McKee, President, at 7:06 P.M. Those answering roll call were: Heidi McKee, Kristel Schlorff, Dawn Foster, Jason Penman, Steve Richey, Sandra Heiman, and Mark Dunklau. Also present were Superintendent Stan Adcock, Emmylou Truckenbrod, Rich Favre – Earlville Superintendent, Jenette Fruit – Earlville K-12 Principal, Barb Meloy – Earlville Board Member, Angie Koontz – Earlville Board Member, John Eager – Earlville Board Member, Lisa Harness – Earlville Board Member, Jeff Maly – Earlville Board Member, Jennie Smith – Earlville Board Member, Carl Zimmerman – Earlville Board Member, and approximately 80 members from the communities of Paw Paw, Earlville, and Leland.

**Open Forum:**

None

**Items for Discussion:**

1. Presentation and Discussion of Paw Paw/Earlville Consolidation Feasibility Study Findings – Dr. William Phillips, Dr. Scott L. Day, and Dr. Leonard R. Bogle from Midwest School Consultants gave a presentation on the feasibility study they conducted on the consolidation of Paw Paw and Earlville school districts. The purpose of a feasibility study is to provide districts, students, parents, and communities with information from a neutral viewpoint based on analysis of curriculum, finances, staffing, transportation, facilities, school board interviews, and community perceptions.
- The consultants recommended keeping K-5 in their respective towns with junior high attending in Paw Paw and high school attending in Earlville. Combining the two schools would provide students with enhanced curriculum in Band/Chorus and Business, Spanish could be offered full-time on-site, Ag classes could be opened up again in Paw Paw schools, but the special education program would need further discussion and planning since both schools currently work with different cooperatives. The vocational program at IVVC would continue, as well as, dual credit courses through Kish College. Enrollment at Paw Paw is projected to decline over the next 5 years and enrollment at Earlville K-8 will decline slightly, but Earlville high school will see a slight increase.
- Transportation would have a projected additional cost of \$30,603. There would likely be savings of \$20,000 on the vocational routes by using only one bus and this could offset the cost of the regular routes.
- Current property tax rates between the districts are very different. Paw Paw is a PTELL (tax-capped) district and Earlville is not. The State Board of Education says the new district would also be PTELL, but the consultants are disputing this and believe it could be fought with the State Board. The districts would receive 3 incentives from the State if consolidated – GSA Difference Incentive, Certified Staff

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- Incentive, and Salary Difference Incentive. The incentives would expire after the first 4 years leaving a \$300,000 per year loss in revenue.
- The consultants are not recommending a consolidation at this time due to the loss in revenue after the incentives expire and the determination by the State Board of Education that the new district would be PTELL.

**Adjournment**

Jason Penman, seconded by Sandra Heiman, made a motion to adjourn this special meeting at 8:39 PM.

Motion passed by a roll call vote, 7-0.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

