

**PINE RIVER AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 14, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Pine River Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, September 14, 2020, at Pine River Middle/High School Media Center.

**I. ROLL CALL**

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Members present: 7-Merrylie Cameron, Kim Dean, Kevin Delancey, Katy Draper, Terry Koetje, Jim Peterson, Tom Shook

Members Absent: N/A

Administrators/Directors present: Matt Lukshaitis, Josie Hill

Administrators/Directors absent: Brent Ruppert, Emily Adema, Heidi Hayes, Rob Sibary

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mr. Koetje to approve the agenda as presented.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr., Lukshaitis provided updates from the ISD-wide superintendents meeting he attended including subjects like: truancy (there are students in varying districts who have not returned and their whereabouts are unknown), COVID-19 Exposure reporting and contract concerns throughout local school districts, state mandated testing and MHSAA's decisions regarding fall sports. Mr. Lukshaitis also updated the board regarding Pine River Area Schools Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan and the Amended COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Plan.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Peterson discussed fall sports and the restart of football this week. Also discussed phase 4 spectator guidelines for sporting events.

**V. PRINCIPALS/DIRECTORS UPDATES**

Josie Hill updated the board regarding funding including the various COVID-19 funds, balances available and spending limitations for each pot of money. Also provided an update on current foundation allowance and general fund balance.

The remaining administrators submitted reports to the board electronically and were not required to attend this meeting.

**VI. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public was allowed to attend this meeting remotely via phone or *Google Meet*. No member of the public addressed the board.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the consent agenda, including the General Fund invoices and meeting minutes from the 8/10/2020 Regular board meeting and the 8/20/2020 Board Workshop, as presented.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS N/A**

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Flex Custodian Position**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve the creation of a Flex Hour Custodian position, 20-40 hours weekly, as needed for the elementary, middle and/or high school buildings as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

### **2. Teacher Resignation**

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Delancey to approve the immediate resignation of Mr. William Barnwell, secondary (6-12) Social Studies and STEP teacher, as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

### **3. HS Cashier Resignation**

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the resignation of Sarah Delancey as the HS Cashier, effective immediately, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Abstained-1 Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. Kevin Delancey abstained.)*

### **4. JV Baseball Coach Resignation**

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the immediate resignation of Mr. Tony Moore, as the JV baseball coach, as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

### **5. Elementary Lunch Recess Supervisor**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Koetje to approve the hiring of Mrs. Sarah Delancey as the Elementary Lunch Recess Supervisor, effective for the 2020-2021 school year, at a non-instructional paraprofessional step 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Abstained-1 Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. Kevin Delancey abstained.)*

6. HS Cashier

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Delancey to approve the hiring of Ms. Lani Huber as the HS Cashier at a cook step 1, effective September 8, 2020, as recommended by the Food Service Director and the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

7. Varsity Wrestling Coach

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve the hiring of Mr. Tim Jones as the Varsity Wrestling Coach at a coaching step 5, effective for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Athletic Director and the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**IX B. SUPPORT STAFF JOB DESCRIPTIONS, REVISED 8/20/2020**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve revisions to support staff job descriptions effective for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**IX C. EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN**

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the Pine River Area Schools Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan including the Goal Reporting and Reconfirmation Meeting documentation as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**IX D. PRAS COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN, AMENDED**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve the amended Pine River Area Schools COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**IX E. 2020 L4029 TAX RATE REQUEST**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the 2020 L4029 Tax Rate as recommended by the Business Office Manager and Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**IX F. 2020 DEBT RETIREMENT ACCOUNT**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Koetje to approve the opening of the 2020 Debt Retirement account as required for the new 2020 bond as recommended by the Business Office Manager and Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES.*

*No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

#### **IX G. PITNEY BOWES CONTRACT**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve renewing the Pitney Bowes Contract (60-month term) for the purpose of district mailings and postage at a quoted rate of \$164.91 quarterly billing as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

#### **IX H. AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACTS**

1. Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the authorization of finalizing and signing a Construction Manager At-risk, contract with Triangle Construction (Grand Rapids, Michigan) for work in anticipation of, during and in the conclusion of construction for all matters pertaining to Pine River Area Schools' August 2020 bond proposal.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

2. Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to authorize the Superintendent to act as its agent in finalizing and signing a contract with architect Tony Esson for work pertaining to the Pine River Area Schools' 2020 bond.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote Occurred-All Members voted YES. No members voted NO. No members ABSTAINED.)*

**X. OTHER-**Mr. Delancey presented an email he sent out regarding executive orders 176 and 180 specifically as they pertain to the wearing of masks for athletes during athletic competitions. Mr. Delancey suggested a board resolution stating Pine River Area Schools would not follow these mandates due to the health and safety of its athletes. Board members Katy Draper and Terry Koetje also agreed that masks being worn during athletic competition are unsafe for athletes. Mrs. Cameron also agreed. Mr. Shook expressed he doesn't believe any sporting competition should be allowed right now while we are in the midst of a pandemic. Mrs. Dean agreed that masks may be unsafe however the school is required to follow mandates including the Governor's executive orders. Mr. Lukshaitis addressed the board regarding the legal ramifications that could occur should such a resolution be adopted including gross negligence if it was proven that a student athlete contracted COVID-19 due to PRAS not following a lawful mask mandate. Mr. Peterson, board president, stated he would not support adopting a resolution that would violate these executive orders.

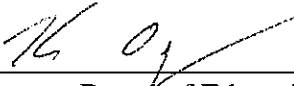
Mr. Lukshaitis informed that board that should they decide they could vote on reducing their board size from seven members to five. A brief discussion took place as to how and when this could occur should the board decide to move in this direction.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 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 14th day of September, 2020, 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 12th day of October, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education