

Monroe School District #1J
Regular Board Meeting
Held at Monroe High School
October 9, 2017

The board meeting was called to order by Chair Burnett at 7:00 P.M.

Members present: Nancy Burnett, Tim Warden, Tony Stroda, Bre Miller, Lauren Wolfe, Superintendent Bill Crowson, Secretary Christine Manley, and Student Council Representative Zack Esplin.

Also present: Employees Tim Johnson, Marie-Louise Martinson, Kathi Holvey, Jill Moore; Monroe City Councilor Floyd Billings; and patrons Steve Martinson, Lorin Hull, Christina Hull.

After review, Tony Stroda moved to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2017 board meeting as written. Second: Tim Warden. Motion carried 5/0.

The bills were reviewed and discussed. The Board requested a complete accounting of the Bond and Seismic funds spent to date. The Board requested detailed information on that accounting.

The listing of new hires was reviewed.

The grant application for the 2017 Barb Drennan Promising Practices Grant from Jim Mulanax was reviewed.

Tim Warden moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second: Lauren Wolfe. Motion carried 5/0.

Construction Projects at the grade school are finished. A few fencing issues still need to be addressed. Work is being done on installing the new heat/cooling system at the high school gym/cafeteria building. It is still planned to pour concrete for the high school signs and posts. All staff members were invited to meet with Pivot Architects last week but only six employees showed up. There was good dialog with the architects. They plan on completing their master plan by December 1.

City Councilor Billings extended another invitation to student(s) to attend the City Council meetings. The City received a grant for new restrooms at the Park. There are plans for eight houses to be built, they are just waiting for permits. He will bring board members the latest newsletter. Dollar General and the Brew Pub are ready to go. No update on the former Wilber-Ellis property.

Christina Hull reported on Parent Group activities. At their last meeting they reviewed and revised the bylaws and cut one position. Elections will be held next month. They will ask Audra Terry to take pictures of the new staff members. Dine-out fundraising activities are scheduled for October 17 and November 14. The jog-a-thon held last week raised approximately \$16,000. The Carnival at the grade school will be held October 31. They approved funding requests for entry fees for the Robotics Club, 1st and 2nd grade pumpkin patch field trip, Battle of the Books sponsorship, Science Night refreshments, and the K-5 Aquarium Outreach Program. A request for playground equipment is under review.

Zack Esplin reported that the Student Council has been busy planning Homecoming activities, Spirit Week and the Dance.

Enrollment: 435 grades K-12.

Mr. Crowson's administrative report included the following:

- He shared board contact email and phone numbers and OSBA webinar information. Bre Miller asked specifically if there was a policy to cover board members responding to the public's emails. There is no such policy. Mrs. Miller volunteered to do some research.
- The City has requested information on the grade school well including volume. They are reaching out to see if the District would allow them to use the well to supply water for housing projects. This well has been used in the past for irrigation. Floyd Billings explained that if the City could pull water from several wells then they could get rid of the Long Tom water. Board members requested that Mr. Crowson contact either Kevin Spence or Tanner Gibson to repair the pump and irrigate the grade school ball fields. Tim Johnson commented that the power line to the high school irrigation pump does not supply enough power to start it. Board commented that maybe Ericson Electric could work on that this winter.
- Starting next month, the Regular Board meeting times November through February changes to 6:30 P.M.
- He explained that through the bond paperwork process, the correct Board Resolution and Bond Debt Service budget line was not submitted to Oregon Department of Revenue by June 30. As a consequence, taxes cannot be levied this year. However, the District still has a bond debt payment due this year. Options to resolve the situation include complete refinancing, borrowing, or using general fund money to pay this year's debt. None are good options, but the best may be to borrow. The taxpayers will get a "tax holiday" in 2017, but unfortunately their taxes will double in 2018 (\$2.64 per thousand) then return to \$1.32 per thousand the following year. He will draft a letter for his and the Chair's signature to send to the community. The Board explained to the audience that Bill Crowson has inherited this situation, and he is working hard to remedy it.

Tony Stroda asked to review the construction accounting list again. There were questions regarding payment for heating costs. More information on the spreadsheet is needed in order to understand what projects have been paid.

Mr. Crowson explained that the extra duty EL Coordinator's contract was cut last spring. He has reviewed the program and the work that Mrs. Martinson puts into it. A lot of pieces fit into this program and there is a lot of time spent in management of the grant. He believes Mrs. Martinson is worthy of this stipend. Tony Stroda moved to approve the contract. Second: Bre Miller. Motion carried 5/0.

Mr. Crowson reviewed the English Language Learners Annual Report for 2015-16. The full report is posted on our website. The report for 2016-17 may be posted next summer. Both Mrs. Holvey and Mrs. Martinson explained that student numbers in this program have increased. The \$90,000 grant is for staff training and curriculum for all students.

Mr. Crowson requested to remove the draft of DJC-AR-2 Procurement Plan, Child Nutrition Program. He has received another new draft from the Department of Education regarding Federal rules. He will bring the revised draft back to the Board. There was general discussion regarding food service budget, expenditures, and federal programs.

Tony Stroda explained that the District has only three years to spend the bond money from the time it was received. There was general discussion regarding classroom space, blending classroom space between the middle school and high school, career training, industrial arts programs, engineering and trade programs. Bre Miller volunteered to research the Pipeline to Jobs program. Tony Stroda suggested a Career Day in Monroe and have alumni come in to talk to students.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Burnett at 8:20 P.M.

Nancy Burnett, Board Chair

Christine Manley, Board Secretary