

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 P.M. by Chair Riley Holman.

Members attending: Riley Holman, Tony Stroda, Sherrie Deaton, Sarah Fay, Bre Miller, Superintendent Bill Crowson, and Secretary Christine Manley.

Also attending: Employee Ken Elliott, Patron John Greydanus.

Budget Hearing: Chair Holman called for public input on the 2021-22 budget. There were no questions or comments from the audience. At this time the Board will continue on with the regular meeting agenda but will listen to comments as more audience members arrive.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting and May 11, 2021 Budget Committee meeting were reviewed. Sarah Fay moved to approve the minutes as presented. Second: Sherie Deaton. Motion carried 5/0.

Agenda: The following item was added:

8. New Business

D. Accept Results of Special Election, May 18, 2021

Consent Agenda: The bills list was reviewed and discussed. Board members requested an update on the Seismic Grant fund balance. Board members reviewed the listing of new hires, the transferred employee, and extra duty contracts. The letters of resignation were discussed. It was noted that the non-represented employee's (administrators and confidential employees) wage increase is less than the average of the union bargaining raises. Tony Stroda moved to approve all items in the consent agenda. Second: Sarah Fay. Motion carried 5/0.

Board Member Recognition: Retiring Board Member Tony Stroda was presented with a plaque which read, "In grateful appreciation of your dedication and commitment to our students, staff and community. Monroe School District #1J Board of Directors 1997 – 2021". Mr. Crowson commented that Mr. Stroda has been the "rock" of the school board for many years and will be missed. Mr. Stroda voiced his confidence in the remaining board members.

Construction Update by Mr. Crowson indicated that the north hall door at the grade school is still not working. He is in the process of applying for a building permit for the high school window project.

Enrollment & Attendance: Enrollment was reported as 358 grades K-12.

Administrative Update: Mr. Crowson reported that Graduation may be moved inside if the weather turns colder and 8th grade Promotion is currently scheduled at the grade school gym. The last day for students is on Thursday. Benton County would like to schedule a drive through vaccination clinic this July in Monroe.

There was an issue with a bus driver bringing their home school students to attend a field trip without prior approval or notice. Mr. Crowson will review and/or update current policy with the bus contractor and staff.

The Summer Food Program is scheduled to begin Monday, June 14 and run for six weeks Monday-Thursdays. As mandated at the time the program was approved by the State, the menu is set as a “grab ‘n go” breakfast and lunch for kids. Lory Bechtold from the Art in the Park program filed a formal complaint with Mr. Crowson regarding the menu. After meeting with staff, the menu will remain the same Monday through Wednesday with a different meal menu on Thursdays. Due to the constraints placed on the program he feels this is the best that can be done for this year. Board members voiced their support of Mr. Crowson’s decision.

Weapons policy review: Mr. Crowson reported that the Benton County School Resource Officer indicated that there is staff training available. He will follow up. Board members would like to see our policy patterned after Sherman County School District’s policy as previously discussed. A draft will be presented at the July meeting.

Safe Routes to School Grant: John Greydanus (grant coordinator) explained that the City has opened bid for the project and would like to award the bid next week. Once the deed is signed and notarized, the City will hold the deed until they have a signed contract with the new contractor. The deadline to complete the project is the end of October.

Mr. Greydanus also talked about other grants the City is pursuing such as a riverside grant masterplan and an Army Corp. grant. The grant is structured to improve City water, flood control, and fish passage among other items, and may have an impact on high school property. June 18 will be the first meeting and he is requesting board member input.

Sarah Fay moved to allow Mr. Crowson the authority to sign the Bargain & Sale Deed. Second: Sherrie Deaton. Motion carried 5/0.

There was lengthy discussion regarding the administrative regulations attached to policy GCPC/GDPC Retirement of Staff. Administrative regulations are needed to guide the rehiring of PERS retired employees. Board members feel that more flexibility is needed in the regulation. Mr. Crowson will continue to research. Tabled until the July board meeting.

Ken Elliott withdrew his request to retire and be rehired at this time.

The 2021-22 District Organization and Annual Procedural Business listing was reviewed. Tony Stroda moved to approve the listing as presented. Second: Bre Miller. Motion carried 5/0.

Final Input on proposed budget: Chair Holman called for final public input into the 2021-22 budget. There were no comments or questions.

Tony Stroda moved to approve the following resolutions as presented: 2021-002 Adopting the Budget & Making Appropriations and 2021-003 Imposing & Categorizing Tax. Second: Bre Miller. Motion carried 5/0.

The Results for the May 18, 2021 Special Election were reviewed and discussed. The results were accepted by consensus. Zone 4 remains vacant. Board members will appoint a person to that position at the July board meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Riley Holman, Board Chair

Christine Manley, Board Secretary