

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

*March 9, 2009*

President Jeanette Schmidt called the Regular Meeting of the Southern Lyon County USD #252 Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m., on Monday, March 9, 2009 at the Board of Education Office in Hartford, Kansas.

**ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeanette Schmidt, Bill Veatch, Kevin Flott, Kenny Hamman, Kent Grieder, Craig Clark and Roland Martin

**SUPERINTENDENT:**

Michael Argabright

**CLERK:**

Brenda Redeker

**VISITORS:**

Bruce Boettcher, Curtis Simons, Becky Ewy, Tammy Windle, Eric True, Tom Camien, Todd Robert, Bill Warner, Shari Hatfield, Annabelle Payton, Jeanette Sliter and Jenny Grieder

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Kevin Flott (Kent Grieder) moved to approve the Agenda as presented with three additions. **3 e.** to the Consent Agenda adding Jerry Olson as a Substitute Teacher for the 2008-09 school year; adding **10 a.** Student Matters under Personnel and adding **14 a.** State Basketball under Student Obligations to the Agenda. Motion Carried. (7-0)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approved the Minutes from the February 9, 2009 Meeting with corrections as presented
- b. Approved Bills Due and Payable and Journal Entries
- c. Approved Payrolls for February 13, 2009 and February 27, 2009
- d. Approved Financial Reports and Security Pledges
- e. Approved Substitute Teachers *Michael Sauer* and *Jerry Olson* for the 2008-09 school year
- f. Approved the Donation from *Dale Curry* for \$7,000.00 in value of Weight Room Equipment for Hartford High School; delivery of Weight Room Equipment from *Thomas Transfer* with a value of \$450.00 and \$100.00 from *Olpe Elementary PTO* towards water bottles for state Assessment incentives.
- g. Approved *Russ Bonitatibus* to fill the remainder of Jason Hoelting's four year term as a Board Member for Southern Lyon County Recreation Commission.
- h. Approved the resignation of *Tammy Windle* as Hartford High School Head Girls Basketball Coach.

Bill Veatch (Roland Martin) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion Carried. (7-0)

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

None

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jeanette Sliter presented letters to President Schmidt from concerned parents, students and community patrons and also presented her verbal concerns in regards to the Hartford Head Football Coach position. Superintendent Argabright noted that those concerns needed to be brought to the Principal and Athletic Director to handle in a professional manner and to trust the administration to handle those concerns. Becky Ewy also spoke supporting the concerns brought up by Jeanette Sliter. President Schmidt thanked them for coming and sharing their concerns.

### **HARTFORD AND OLPE HIGH SCHOOL TRACK EQUIPMENT REQUESTS**

Track Coaches Tom Camien, Eric True, Todd Robert and Tammy Windle presented a handout supporting their request for new track equipment due to the age of existing equipment, safety concerns and student participation numbers. Prices were given for high jump and pole vaulting equipment to be shared by Olpe and Hartford at a cost of approximately \$24,000.00 which would be paid out of Capital Outlay fund if approved. Students are showing interests in these areas and not able to practice without safe equipment. Existing equipment is approximately 30 years old and doesn't meet safety requirements.

Kent Grieder (Bill Veatch) moved to approve the purchase of high jump and pole vaulting equipment as presented. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Kent Grieder also mentioned to the Coaches that for safety reasons to reinforce to the students to run single file on streets during practice.

### **SUMMER SCHOOL**

Elementary Principal Bill Warner presented the 2008-09 Summer School Proposal with two staff members employed at each school. Those teachers would be Nancy King and Debra Redeker at Olpe Elementary and Marie Walker and Julianna Schmid at Neosho Rapids Elementary. Enrollment would be open to students in grades K-6 with instruction provided in the areas of reading and math. Classes would run from June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup> with the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday with no transportation provided. Teachers would be paid \$21.00 hour and will work 4.5 hours per day. Teachers would also be paid for 2 hours of planning time prior to the start of summer school. Total cost for the summer school program would be \$6,216.00 and would be paid out of the At Risk fund. Superintendent Argabright recommended the program as it proved worthwhile for students attending and funding was available for the program.

Roland Martin (Bill Veatch) moved to accept the plan for summer school as presented. Motion Carried. (7-0)

### **OLPE CITY EASEMENT REQUEST FOR NEW WATER TOWER**

Bruce Boettcher from B & G Consultants presented plans for a new water tower at Olpe with the location to be north of the ball fields and south of the tennis courts and that the request for easements and deeds needed to complete the project. Superintendent Argabright explained that Board Attorney Bob Bezek

needs to review the plans and easements and had not completed that in time for the Board meeting. The City of Olpe is working with their city attorney Mike Helbert on this with no attorney fees to the District. Approval of the easements would be pending on the legal decision from Board Attorney Bob Bezek.

Kevin Flott (Bill Veatch) moved to approve Legal Description #1, the Utility Easement of the waterline connection to the existing city main from USD #252 to the City of Olpe pending legal decision by Board Attorney Bob Bezek. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kevin Flott) moved to approve Legal Description #3, the Utility Easement of existing tower site, existing waterlines, existing electrical and telephone lines from USD #252 to the City of Olpe pending legal decision by Board Attorney Bob Bezek. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Shari Hatfield left the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and returned at 7:48 p.m.

Kevin Flott (Bill Veatch) moved to approve Legal Description #4, Legal land ownership transfer (quiet Title procedure) to transfer ownership of property to USD #252 from August and Hattie Thill (1957) pending legal decision by Board Attorney Bob Bezek. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kevin Flott) moved to approve Legal Description #6, the Utility Easement of proposed waterline, and existing sanitary sewer from USD #252 to the City of Olpe pending legal decision by Board Attorney Bob Bezek. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kevin Flott) moved to approve Legal Description #7, Legal land ownership transfer (warranty deed) of property from USD #252 to the City of Olpe pending legal decision by Board Attorney Bob Bezek. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bruce Boettcher left the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Roland Martin left the meeting at 8:02 p.m. and returned at 8:05 p.m.

## **FACILITIES**

Superintendent Argabright reported that Schumann Electric had inspected the Olpe Kitchen for safety and compliance and minor repairs were completed. The State Fire Marshall has inspected all facilities with only a few minor items to take care of. The overall report was good and Superintendent Argabright commended our Administrators and Bill Ballinger for the work they do to keep our buildings safe.

Superintendent Argabright recommended fixing at least one district roof this summer and hiring RTI to take care of the bidding process. The roof in most need is over the Olpe Jr. High area. This could be paid out of Capital Outlay fund. If funds allowed, the second roof in need of repair is the old gym area at Hartford. Prices from RTI were discussed and tabled until questions could be answered, possible having an RTI representative at the April board meeting.

Becky Ewy, Annabelle Payton, Jeanette Sliter and Jenny Grieder left the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Break at 8:18 p.m. with the meeting resuming at 8:30 p.m.

## **PERSONNEL**

Superintendent Argabright recommended Anne Otte as the Olpe Jr. High Head Track Coach for the 2008-09 school.

Bill Veatch (Kenny Hamman) moved to approve Anne Otte as the Olpe Jr. High Head Track Coach for the 2008-09 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Due to the number of student participating in Track, Superintendent Argabright recommended Michelle Barnhart as an additional Assistant Track Coach for the 2008-09 school year. Superintendent Argabright reported that Todd Robert will assist as a district wide pole vault coach as coordinated by the head coaches in Hartford and Olpe.

Bill Veatch (Kenny Hamman) moved to approve Michelle Barnhart as an additional Assistant Track Coach for the 2008-09 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Roland Martin (Craig Clark) moved to authorize the Administration to open and hire a Head Girls Basketball Coach for Hartford for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Eric True, Tom Camien, Todd Robert and Tammy Windle left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

President Schmidt (Kent Grieder) moved to recess into executive session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss matters affecting a student(s) in order to protect the privacy interest of the individual(s) to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker, Shari Hatfield, Bill Warner left the room.

At 8:40 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Kent Grieder) moved to recess into executive session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss matters affecting a student(s) in order to protect the privacy interest of the individual(s) to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 8:46 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Shari Hatfield and Bill Warner returning.

## **NEGOTIATIONS**

Jeanette Schmidt (Bill Veatch) moved to recess into executive session at 8:48 p.m. for 5 minutes to discuss negotiations in order to protect the public interest in negotiating a fair and equitable contract with the Board and Superintendent present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker, Bill Warner, Curtis Simons and Shari Hatfield left the room.

At 8:53 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Bill Warner, Curtis Simons and Shari Hatfield returning.

## **2008-09 BUDGET**

Superintendent Argabright presented the District's Budgeted Enrollment FTE and the Audited Enrollment FTE information. Transportation dropped from budget projections and At-Risk funds increased slightly. He also presented a PowerPoint presentation on Enrollment Demographics, Teacher to Student Ratio, Certified and Classified Salary Breakdowns and what percentages of salaries came from the General and Supplemental Funds. This was the same PowerPoint presentation that was presented to all staff earlier.

## **2009-10 BUDGET**

Superintendent Argabright shared information about reductions that need to be discussed for the 2009-10 Budget. Enrollment trends show decreases in number of pupils in some attendance center. Savings could be found in realignment of programs within attendance centers by increasing sharing of staff and programs within the District. The 4 Year Old At Risk Program was partially funded this year with a small amount supplemented. The District is fortunate to have two highly qualified part time staff for this program. This is not a required program but critical to have for a good educational base. All Day Kindergarten is only half funded and supplemented through the At Risk Program. All day Kindergarten is not required but would not be recommended to change back to half days. Pupil-Teacher Ratio of 10-1 or 12-1 will be hard to maintain and keep all classes covered if our enrollment continues to decline. Superintendent Argabright reported with current trends, a 12-1 or more ratio is likely. Pre-enrollment numbers are not too helpful for programs because numbers for courses may change by fall. Professional Development is a must for all levels. It will not be used excessively but a priority to keep up with updates is needed. Certain courses and programs have to be provided by state and local policies for graduation. The District does not have to offer some electives but we feel that a well rounded program is necessary.

President Schmidt (Kenny Hamman) moved to recess into executive session at 9:18 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present.

Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker, Shari Hatfield and Bill Warner left the room.

At 9:23 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Kenny Hamman) moved to recess into executive session at 9:24 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present.

Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:29 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Kenny Hamman) moved to recess into executive session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present.

Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:35 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Kenny Hamman) moved to recess into executive session at 9:36 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principal Curtis Simons present.

Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:41 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker, Shari Hatfield

and Bill Warner returning.

President Schmidt (Bill Veatch) moved to recess into executive session at 9:43 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 10 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principals present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 9:53 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Bill Veatch) moved to recess into executive session at 9:55 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principals present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 10:00 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Bill Veatch) moved to recess into executive session at 10:02 p.m. to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed for 5 minutes with the Board, Superintendent and Principals present. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Clerk Redeker left the room.

At 10:07 p.m. President Schmidt declared the meeting in open session with Clerk Redeker returning.

President Schmidt (Roland Martin) moved to reduce five (5) teaching positions through the Reduction in Force procedures within our negotiated contract for the 2009-10 school term in the following areas: Physical Education, Language Arts, Business, and Social Studies. This includes current vacant positions due to retirement and resignations. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Superintendent Argabright presented a list of previous year's budget cuts and reductions and a list of 2009-10 Budget Cut/Savings Action Items.

Roland Martin (Bill Veatch) moved to fulfill USD #252 Board of Education goals and programs for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kevin Flott) moved to decrease nurse equipment purchases for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kevin Flott) moved to implement and encourage District Energy Savings Plan by replacing emergency lights with more efficient lights, motion sensors installed in bathroom and lab areas where appropriate, install more energy efficient lighting fixtures, replace manual thermostats with programmable unites with lock boxes where appropriate for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to rebind instead of replace textbooks for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Kenny Hamman) moved to discontinue having snacks and pop available for staff during professional meetings for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (6-1) Roland Martin opposing.

Kevin Flott (Kenny Hamman) moved to pay off mowers out of Capital Outlay to relieve the General Fund for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (4-3) Bill Veatch, Craig Clark and Roland Martin opposing.

Discussion was held in regards to items that will need to be paid out of Capital Outlay and not to deplete the fund too much.

Kevin Flott (Kent Grieder) moved to rescind the carried motion to pay off mowers out of Capital Outlay to relieve the General Fund for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

Bill Veatch (Roland Martin) moved to discontinue mileage paid to Board Members to and from Board meetings for the 2009-10 school year. Motion Carried. (7-0)

All other Budget Cut/Savings items were tabled for another meeting.

Curtis Simons, Bill Warner and Shari Hatfield left the meeting at 10:47 p.m.

School Programs, Classified Staff, Fees and LOB were tabled for another meeting.

### **STUDENT OBLIGATIONS**

Obligations and fee collection procedures were discussed. When obligations exceed \$100.00 per student, building principals will issue a formal letter including the balance and follow up procedures of a collection agency with possible legal action; may be turned in as a “child in need of care”; building principals offering a payment plan; senior students with outstanding obligations not paid in full will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies unless supporting documentation of an approved payment plan is in place. Outstanding obligations in excess of \$250.00 per student or \$500.00 per family, the building principal will notify the District Office and the District Office will notify a collection agency of their choice with possible legal action for all outstanding obligations and or fees. Students may be turned in as a “child in need of care” by the building principals.

When a child’s breakfast/lunch balance is \$0.00, building secretaries will send a note home with the student. When a negative \$10.00 balance is reached, student(s) will receive an alternative meal (cheese sandwich and drink or as designated by the Food Service Director) starting the same day in which the negative balance occurs. Alternative meals will have a cost assessed to the students and students qualifying for reduced meals will have the same charge amount assessed as a regular meal (breakfast and lunch). When a \$20.00 negative balance occurs, students grades PK-6 breakfast and/or lunch will continue with an alternative meal; students may be turned in as a “child in need of care” by the building principals to the appropriate agencies. Grades 7-12 will not receive breakfast and/or lunch services including alternative meals.

Roland Martin (Kevin Flott) moved to approve the Obligation/Fee Collection Procedures effective April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Motion Carried. (5-2) Craig Clark and Bill Veatch opposing.

Kent Grieder left the meeting at 11:03 p.m. and returned at 11:05 p.m.

### **14 a. STATE BASKETBALL**

Discussion was held about the policy for a 3:00 ballgame and school dismissed at 12:30 p.m. for 7-12 grades and running additional bus routes for the K-6 grades dismissing at their usual time as most K-6 students bring notes to get out early to attend the games.

Kevin Flott (Kent Grieder) moved to amend the policy to read K-12 dismisses at 12:30 for a 3:00 game and only run bus routes once. Motion Carried. (7-0)

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Argabright congratulated Lyon County Spelling Bee winners Gabriel O'Connor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Neosho Rapids 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and Dylan Rhoads, 5<sup>th</sup> Place – Neosho Rapids 7<sup>th</sup> Grade. Congratulations to Hartford High School Boys Basketball Team making it to Regional's and congratulations to the Olpe High School Boys and Girls Basketball Teams and wished them the best of luck at State. Congratulations to Logan Grieder for winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place in State (\$500 Scholarship) for his "Stop School Violence" Poster and thanks and appreciation to Dale Curry for donating weight room equipment to Hartford High School, Thomas Transfer for delivering the equipment and to the Veatch family for assisting.

Superintendent Argabright encouraged and complimented our students and staff for their preparations for state assessment testing.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Looking forward to Track season with good coaches and new equipment. Congratulations to all the teams participating in the Regional, Sub-State and State Basketball games. Special thank you to the local Radio stations for their great coverage of the games. Congratulations to the Hartford Boys and Girls Basketball Teams for one of their best seasons and best of luck in state assessment testing. Encouragement was given to remain positive in these economic times and think about and be thankful for all that we do have. We need to focus and promote the District in a positive light to get through these tough times.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Kevin Flott (Bill Veatch) moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. (7-0)

The meeting adjourned at 11:18 p.m.

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Jeanette Schmidt, President

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Date

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Brenda J. Redeker, Clerk

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Date