

**Minutes of the Metamora CCSD #1 Board of Education Meeting, August 16, 2017**

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The August 16, 2017 meeting of the Metamora Community Consolidated School District #1 Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Metamora Grade School. Members present: Mr. Barnes, Mr. Blundell, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Gualandri, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Palmisano, and Mr. Strawn. Others in attendance included Greg Edwards, Shannon McClure, John Obery, Wendy Vogel, Debbie Rauh, Kevin Rauh, Lisa DeVore, Jan Holman, Metamora Grade School Principal Cathy Costello, Metamora Grade School Dean of Students Tim Damery, and Marty Payne.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Barnes, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All present voted yea on a roll call vote.

Staff Presentation

Shannon McClure, Junior High Science Teacher, shared with the Board a project that is planning for her STEM class. The students will be building wooden Chopper. Mrs. McClure has secured a resource for CAT who helps to build real Choppers with students in Peoria, who will bring one of the constructed Choppers with him. The event is scheduled for September 11, 2017. Mr. Payne thanked her for the enhanced opportunity for students, and shared that there are many great things happening in all of our classrooms.

Reports from the Public

Greg Edwards shared his opposition to the Board regarding the issuing of Working Cash Bonds. While Mr. Edwards understands the difficult financial spot the district is in, his perspective is to use reserves from the Working Cash fund, and plan for another referendum attempt. He shared that the use of bonds, simply adds more debt, and does not provide a permanent solution. John Obery echoed Mr. Edward's comments. Kevin Rauh shared that he too wasn't in support of the bonds, and didn't agree with borrowing money when the district has money (working cash). The Board thanked them for their comments and perspective and shared that there would be more conversation later in the meeting.

Action Items

**A. Tentative, 2018, Metamora CCSD #1 Budget**

Mr. Payne shared the basics of how a school district budget is developed, including both revenues and expenditures. The tentative budget is unbalanced, but a deficit reduction plan is not required by the state.

Details of the “Tentative Budget” are as follows:

### Fund Accounts

Education Fund – the current, anticipated deficit, as reads in the tentative budget, is \$230,639.

Operations and Maintenance – this fund is balanced.

Debt Service – the fund is used to pay off our existing bond debt. The fact that it shows a negative balance is of no real concern.

Transportation – we’re showing a negative balance of \$16,861. Part of the problem is that we don’t yet know what the state revenue will be for the fiscal year. The latest word is that we will be prorated at 80%. We’ve submitted the report for reimbursement/revenue, but have not yet received financial information from the state. We are supposed to receive quarterly payments each fiscal year, but we typically don’t. We won’t know until the end of the year exactly how many payments we will receive. This past year, we received two, but did receive one from the previous year in July. I made it part of this year’s budget, resulting in three revenue payments in FY17. This year is just as much of a guess as to what the state will, or won’t, do.

IMRF/Social Security – this fund is balanced.

Capital Projects - with the FY2017 Amended Budget, our auditor recommended that we transfer the remaining fund balance to the O&M Fund, and then on to the Education Fund. This zeroed out the fund account leaving it with a zero balance.

Working Cash - our fund account has a projected balance of \$933,401 to end the fiscal year.

Tort – this account is balanced.

Fire Prevention/Life-Safety – this too is balanced, and funds will be used based on need. As a side note, districts are required to conduct a 10-year health/life-safety audit, and our 10-year cycle has us beginning the process in the summer of 2018. A healthy fund balance may be needed, based on findings from our architect.

The tentative budget will be on display in the district office for 30 days. The following summary pages of the Tentative Budget were shared with the Board of Education and visitors in attendance at the meeting:

**B.** Resolution to Approve a Transfer/Loan of \$100,000.00 from the Working Cash Fund to the Transportation Fund.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the resolution of transfer. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

**C.** Approve the Date, Time, and Location of 7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 21, 2017, at Metamora Grade School, for a public hearing regarding the 2017-2018 budget. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

**D.** Approval of a Contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the District's Health Care Insurance.

Mr. Payne informed the Board that the staff has researched and will be meeting to determine if Blue Cross/Blue Shield or United Health Care will be the approved insurance carrier for the district. A final, staff vote will be taken prior to the September Board meeting. If the vote is to change to United Health Care, then new renewal date will become October 1. So that our staff can have health insurance now, Blue Cross needs to be approved, even if it is on a temporary basis.

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Strawn to approve. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

**E.** Service Contract with Ted Blunier for snow removal.

Mr. Payne shared the costs for the coming year. As compared to last year, the costs are as follows:

<u>2016-2017 Rates</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
Trucks by Hour - \$85.00	\$90.00
Salting – \$200.00	\$200.00
Skid Steer Needed – \$135.00 (per hour)	\$140.00
End Loader – \$150.00 (per hour)	\$175.00

Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Strawn to approve the renewal as presented. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

**F.** Approval of the Metamora CCSD #1, 2017-2018, School Improvement Plan and Internal Review

Mrs. Costello, Metamora Grade School Principal, presented the respective plans. Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the respective plans as presented. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

**G.** Revised and/or New Board of Education Policies: 2:100, “Board Member Conflict of Interest,” 4:15, “Identity Protection,” 6:70, “Teaching about Religions,” and 7:100, “Heath, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students”

Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Blundell to approve the changes as presented. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

#### H. 2017-2018 Activities/Athletic Code of Conduct

Mr. Damery, Metamora Grade School Dean of Students/Athletic Director, presented the changes to the current year’s document. Motion by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Strawn, to approve the revised code of conduct as presented. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

#### I. Transfer of the District’s Authorized IMRF and 403(b) Agent

Lisa DeVore, newly hired bookkeeper, will become the new agent. Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the transfer. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

### Discussion Items

#### A. Working Cash Bonds

The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion on the bonds. Key points of the discussion included the respective payment schedules of 5, 7, and 10 years, another referendum effort first before issuing the bonds, if the bonds issued, how much revenue is needed now if a referendum is successful, the change in the tax bill for tax payers if bonds are sold, the interest cost for the bonds, and the risk of potential increase of cost if the bonds are issued later and not at the current rates. As the discussion unfolded, it became clear that there were members who supported the issuing of bonds, and others who supported another referendum. It became clear as well that more research needed to be conducted with the bond underwriter to answer questions from the various scenarios that were being discussed. The board tabled a decision pending additional research. The Finance Committee (Joe Gualandri and Bob Fisher) will meet with the bond underwriter for additional research.

### Information Items

#### A. Board of Education Committee Reports

1. Building Committee
2. Education Committee
3. Executive Committee
4. Finance Committee
5. Negotiations Committee
6. Policy Committee
7. Transportation Committee

## 8. Referendum Committee

Action was not required for this agenda item

### **B. Administrative Reports**

Action was not required for this agenda item

#### Acknowledgement of Cards and Letters

Action was not required for this agenda item

#### Executive Session for the Purpose of Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, Dismissal, or Performance of Employees

Motion by Mrs. Strawn (at 8:47 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Blundell, to enter into Executive Session. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Motion by Mr. Blundell (at 9:20 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Barnes, to adjourn the Executive Session meeting and return to Open Session. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

#### Action Taken after Executive Session

Michelle Lelm for the position of full-time special education assistant. Motion by Mr. Strawn, seconded by Mr. Blundell to approve employment. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Jane Day for the position of teacher (3<sup>rd</sup> grade assignment). Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Strawn to approve employment. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Volunteer Coaches: Katie Hyde for softball, Eric Stone for baseball, and Dana Curtin for 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball. Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano to approve the respective volunteers. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Resignation from Hollie Richards from the position of secretary, effective October 2, 2017. Motion by Mr. Blundell, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the resignation. All present voted yes on a roll call vote.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Blundell, (at 9:24 p.m.), seconded by Mr. Barnes to adjourn the September 16, 2017 meeting of the Board of Education. All present voted yea on a voice vote.

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Bob Fisher  
President

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Mary Miller  
Secretary



