

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
March 20, 2025, 7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Acting-President Wallace and the following members were present: Jeffords, Kizziar, Schuchardt, Hogg, Simmons, and Wallace. Aly was absent.

Motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Jeffords to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 2/25/2025; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; 5) Accept Resignation Letters, Sherry Black, JH Science teacher, James Forthman, HS Cross Country, and April Hogg, JH Girls Basketball Coach; and 6) IHSA Membership Renewal. Mr. Fritch pointed out the bill from McGraw Hill to purchase a six-year online reading subscription, with Title I funds. With no further comments, roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Administrative reports, Mrs. Allen was not present to give a report.

Mr. Graves reported the following: 1) Student Council attended the Little Egypt District of Student Councils District Convention in Benton on March 5th and won several awards. Thanks to Natalie Bonnell for doing such a great job as sponsor; 2) The 3rd Quarter ended March 7th with grade cards going out Monday the 10th; 3) Senior Chris Webb signed a letter of intent to be on the Speech Team at SIC. He will receive a full ride scholarship; 4) FBLA was able to attend a session of the IL Supreme Court held at SIU-Carbondale on March 18th; 5) The first incentive trip is scheduled for Friday March 28th; 6) The Variety Show is April 7th at 7. Mr. Kale Rister is the sponsor and this is the first year for the show; 7) ACT will be given for grades 9-11 on April 10th; 8) The new window vinyls will be

installed on April 14th; 9) Rotary Banquet is April 24th at 6 pm; 10) Prom is scheduled for April 26th at Bramlet's; 11) Freshman Orientation is April 30th; and 12) Enrollment: 144.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) Septic system project is coming along but waiting on a 5-pin control. Hoping the system will be connected during Spring break. Some minor cosmetics work will need to be done to complete the project but are getting closer to completion; 2) Lights on the softball field have been installed by the local SEIEC workers. There are some shadows but they will be fixed. This project has only cost the District \$901 thanks to donors; 3) E-rate is a government funded project to provide upgrades to networking infrastructure and internet systems. Working with QNS on getting the equipment needed to upgrade our system. We will have 90% of the \$64,000 expected cost covered; and 4) Offices have a new system for checking in/out called Verkada. It is an upfront cost of \$13,000 for 6-years, which will be covered by the REAP grant. This company offers other security products that we may look in to for upgrading our existing equipment.

Motion to enter closed session for the purpose of discussion of personnel performance, procedures, and employment was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes. Board entered closed session at 7:14 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Hogg and seconded by Jeffords. Roll call vote: all ayes. Board returned at 9:19 pm.

Motion to approve bid from Prairie Farms for dairy products for the 2025-2026 SY was made by Simmons and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve bid from Best One Tire for tires for the 2025-2026 SY was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve bid from Enviro-Tech Termite and Pest Control for pest control for the 2025-2026 SY was made by Simmons and seconded by Jeffords. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve 1- year bid from Bulldog for trash removal for the 2025-2026 SY was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to hire Charlee Poole as District Administrative Assistant was made by Jeffords and seconded by Schuchardt. Roll call vote: Jeffords, Kizziar, Simmons, and Aly; ayes; Hogg abstained.

Motion to hire Lindsey Atkins as High School Social Studies teacher for the 2025-2026 SY was made by Simmons and seconded by Schuchardt. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to hire Clayton Bremer for High School Assistant Baseball coach was made by Jeffords and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to hire Gusten Wallace for Jr. High Head Baseball Coach was made by Simmons and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to hire Adam Broadway for Jr. High Assistant Baseball Coach was made by Simmons and seconded by Jeffords. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Elementary Secretary was made by Simmons and seconded by Schuchardt. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve Krysta Graves' contract as discussed in closed session was made by Kizziar and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Jr. High Girls Basketball Head Coach and High School Cross Country was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes.

There was no field trip to approve at this time.

Mr. Fritch presented the bullying policy with some updates. There was some discussion and then a motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Simmons to approve the Pope County CUSD 1 Bullying Policy as presented. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Old Business, Mr. Fritch presented the amended 2024-25 school year calendar to reflect the emergency/snow days used thus far. Motion to approve 2024-2025 SY calendar as presented was made by Hogg and seconded by Jeffords. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mr. Fritch asked if there were any questions on the 2nd reading of the PRESS Policy updates. With no questions, a motion to adopt the PRESS Policy updates as presented was made by Hogg and seconded by Schuchardt. Roll call vote: all ayes.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Simmons to adjourn the meeting until the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted aye.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

**John Wallace, Acting President
Board of Education**

**Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education**