

Tawas Area Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting
January 13, 2025

The special meeting of the Tawas Area Board of Education was called to order by President Bruning at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025 in the boardroom at the administration office.

Mrs. Bruning led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Jenkins, Miller, Butzin, Ulman, Bruning
Absent: None
Tardy: None

Administrators Present: Danek

PUBLIC COMMENTS – INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Mrs. Bruning stated that those wishing to speak during public comment would have 3 minutes to do so. There were 3 applicants for the board vacancy in attendance who wanted to speak. Mr. Chris Walter gave a brief introduction and expressed his interest in being on the board. He talked about his background and how the skills he has acquired throughout his life would make him a valuable board member. Tracee Behnke-Lentz spoke next and stated that she had served on the board for 4 years, which was an honor and a privilege. She talked about how being a member of a board of education has a steep learning curve and it takes two to three years to really find your place and feel comfortable. Mrs. Lentz also talked about her experience as a former teacher, now retired, and how she felt she brought a unique perspective to the board as well as a historical reference. Mrs. Hannah Moran introduced herself next and stated that she applied for this seat on the board in hopes that she could bring a younger perspective to the board. She also mentioned that she is currently employed by TCA Insurance, but was formerly a teacher at IRESA and has some background in education. Mrs. Bruning asked if anyone else wanted to share. There was no further public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Bruning stated that the Board would move on to selecting the candidate who would be appointed to fill the vacancy. The candidates were each assigned a number and voting would take place based on that number. A roll call vote was taken and each board member voted for the individual they felt was the best candidate for the vacancy. Mrs. Jenkins voted for candidate 5, Mrs. Bruning voted for candidate 5, Mrs. Ulman voted for candidate 5, Mr. Miller voted for candidate 3, and Mr. Butzin voted for candidate 2. Candidate 5 received 3 votes, which does not constitute a quorum, so the Board decided to vote between candidates 2 and 3 to narrow it down to the top 2 candidates. When voting between candidates 2 and 3, Mrs. Jenkins voted for candidate 3, Mrs. Bruning voted for candidate 3, Mrs. Ulman voted for candidate 2, Mr. Miller voted for candidate 3, and Mr. Butzin voted for candidate 2. Candidate 3 had more votes so the Board would then vote between candidates 3 and 5 for their final vote. All board members voted for candidate 5, with candidate 3 receiving no votes. Mrs. Bruning announced that candidate 5 is Mrs. Ami Edmonds who would be welcomed back on the Board.

Motion by Jenkins, support by Ulman to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.