

**ONAWAY AREA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
October 03, 2023**

Call to order.

A special meeting of the Onaway Area Community School District Board of Education was held in the Media Center. Called to Order by President, James Rieger at 7:00 p.m. on October 03, 2022.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call.

Present: Kowalski, Porter, Hart, Rieger, Veal, Chaskey, and Palmer.

Absent:

Approval of agenda.

Veal moved to move citizens present time before regular business, support by Porter. Discussion held. Kowalski, Palmer, Rieger, and Chaskey opposed. Hart, Veal, and Porter in favor. Motion failed.

Palmer moved to approve the agenda as written, supported by Kowalski. All in favor. Motion carried.

Regular Business.

President Rieger- On 9/21, I received an email from Annette Porter alleging ethics violations against Lorrie Kowalski, and she asked me to investigate do an investigation on it. So, per Board policy 2303 A. It says if it is suspected or alleged that a Board member has violated the Code of Ethics, the following may occur: The president (or Vice President, if the president is the focus of the inquiry) may confer with that Board member to determine whether the suspected/alleged violation is disputed. So, I spoke with Lorrie on all these alleged violations. We had a pretty good conversation. Apparently, at our policy committee meeting, Thrun attorney was there. He corrected a few mistakes, and he answered some other questions. And with the answers I received, I don't feel that there is any ethics violations. To further go ahead, it says: If the suspected or alleged violation is disputed, Which I'm not saying it's disputed, I'm saying it's not. It says the board may initiate an investigation by an affirmative vote of a majority of members elected or appointed and serving on the board. So, according to this policy, we would have a

motion to conder or to continue with the ethics violation. So, what I'm looking for is a motion to continue with our investigation.

Veal moved to continue with the ethics violations investigation, supported by Porter. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Hart- yes, Chaskey-no, Palmer-no, Veal-yes, Porter-yes, Rieger-no. Kowalski- recused. Motion failed.

Porter requested that a formal ethical violation is looked into, correct (by Vice President Chaskey regarding President Rieger).

Chaskey moved to keep Thrun on (reinstate) and then, at the next meeting, set up some guidelines or boundaries. After him being here, there was a lot of things that were answered that had been, I will err on the nice side and say miscommunication. So, I believe that they can be useful with their wealth and knowledge, but there needs to be some more transparency, supported by Hart. Discussion held. Roll call vote: Palmer-no, Porter-yes, Kowalski-no, Hart-yes, Veal-yes, Chaskey-yes, Rieger-yes. Motion carried.

Citizens Present/Time –

Max Boettger presented to the Board. No action taken.

Stacey Porter presented to the Board. No action taken.

Lisa Pochmara presented to the Board. No action taken.

Wayne Vermilya presented to the Board. No action taken.

Taed Price presented to the Board. No action taken.

Gale Parr presented to the Board. No action taken.

Gail Boughner presented to the Board. No action taken.

Gary Wellnitz presented to the Board. No action taken.

Jessica Chandler presented to the Board. No action taken.

Jannina Stiles presented to the Board. No action taken.

Adjournment.

Hart moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m., supported by Veal.


Secretary, Board of Education

BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Lorrie Kowalski	Mindy Horn, Interim Superintendent
Jim Rieger	Marty Mix, Secondary Principal
Mike Hart	Robin Benson, Elementary Principal
Sharon Lyon	
Jeremy Veal	
John Palmer	

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