

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
March 17, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

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

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

Motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Aly to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 2/17/2022; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Accept Resignations/Retirements. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) IAR State Testing is finished except for a few make-up tests; 2) The Illinois Science Assessment will start on April 4th for grades 5 and 8; 3) The Jr. High volleyball finished their first season; 4) Mrs. Autumn Jackson is interested in re-starting FCA in the Jr High next school year; 5) We will have Spring pictures on Wednesday, March 23rd; 6) PTO fun day is tentatively set for Friday, May 6th; 7)

Mrs. Dunning's class organized a St. Jude's Penny Drive to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. With the help from other classes and individuals, they have raised \$6,100; 8) Current enrollment 328 as of March 16th.

Mr. Graves reported the following: 1) 3rd quarter ends March 11th with grade cards going out Monday the 14th; 2) Choir attended 'Drama Days' March 1st; 3) SAT will be held March 23rd for the Juniors and a couple Seniors; 4) Scholarship forms are being completed by the Seniors; 5) Moana has been postponed; 6) Baseball and Softball have opened up for the season; 7) The rescheduled High School incentive trip for 1st semester is Friday, March 18th with 45 students going; 8) The High School did a week-long penny drive and raised \$254 for St. Jude's; 9) We will be starting a free program in weeks ahead on Vaping and will receive free vape detectors at the conclusion of the program; and 10) On March 6th, Phil and Laura Hosfeldt welcomed their son Elry Alexander to the world. Current enrollment is 181.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) ESSER III has been submitted and returned for changes three times. None of the items have been rejected but awaiting final approval; 2) We will be meeting with the contractors the 1st week of April to develop a timeline of the work on the HVAC system for the high school gym; 3) There are so many bills in legislation pertaining to Education that it is hard to keep up with all of them but we are keeping an eye on them; and 4) The Pope County Education Association has submitted a letter of intent to bargain. The

Board will need to appoint a bargain committee. Their current contract ends this year.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel performance, procedures, and employment was made by Walker and seconded by Simmons.

Roll call vote: all ayes. Board entered at 7:15 pm.

Member Schuchardt entered the meeting at 7:15 pm via Zoom.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Aly and seconded by Wallace.

Roll call vote: all ayes. Board returned at 9:17 pm.

Under New Business, Board reviewed the bids that were received. Mr. Fritch explained we did not receive a bid for bakery products. The Board tabled this bid.

Motion to accept bid from Prairie Farms for dairy products for the 2022-2023 SY was made by Simmons and seconded by Walker. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to accept bid from Best One Tires for tires for the 2022-2023 SY was made by Wallace and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to accept bid from Enviro-Tech Termite & Pest Control for pest control for the 2022-2023 SY was made by Wallace and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mr. Fritch presented the amended 2021-2022 SY calendar to reflect emergency and Act of God days used this year. The ROE have approved amendments and awaiting approval from ISBE. A motion was made by Walker and seconded by Wallace to amend the 2021-2022 SY calendar as presented. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mr. Fritch presented the proposed 2022-2023 SY calendar. A motion to approve the 2022-2023 SY calendar as presented was made by Simmons and seconded by Aly. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mr. Fritch explained the information for bids for Property/Casualty/Workman's Compensation Insurance is still coming in so the Board tabled this item until next month.

A motion to hire Paula Allen for Elementary/Jr. High Principal was made by Wallace and seconded by Walker. Roll call vote: all ayes.

A motion to hire Tiffany Hynes for Elementary/Jr. High Teacher was made by Simmons and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve Holley Comer as volunteer track coach for the 21-22 SY was made by Wallace and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve Eddie Mayhall as volunteer track coach for the 21-22 SY was made by Walker and seconded by Aly. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve Gene Fatheree as volunteer track coach for the 21-22 SY was made by Aly and seconded by Walker. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for High School Student Council Sponsor was made by Simmons and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for High School Drama Club Sponsor was made by Wallace and seconded by Simmons. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Jr. High Cross Country Coach was made by Wallace and seconded by Walker. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Jr. High Baseball Coach was made by Simmons and seconded by Aly. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for 5th grade Teacher was made by Walker and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Special Education Teacher, 3rd – 5th grades was made by Simmons and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve the Consolidated District Plan as presented was made by Wallace and seconded by Walker. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mr. Reeder explained he was requesting approval for a trip for the FBLA members to visit the St. Louis Zoo and the Science Center. Mrs. Kirby, Mr. Forthman, and Ms. Tresa will be chaperones. Motion to approve out-of-state field trip for FBLA to go to St. Louis, MO as requested by Mr. Robbie Reeder was made by Simmons and seconded by Wallace. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Mrs. Markovic explained she was requesting approval for a trip to St. Louis Botanical Gardens for about 45 art students on April 8th or 22nd, depending on the weather. Motion to approve out-of-state field trip for art students to go to St. Louis, MO as requested by Mrs. Jaime Markovic was made by Wallace and seconded by Aly. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Old Business, Mr. Fritch explained we received a letter from our attorney, Barney, and advised to wait on completing the Statement Economic of Interest forms. The Secretary of State's office is to be releasing some guidance soon. This was tabled until next month.

Mr. Fritch stated we have still not received our Annual Financial Report from the auditors, which was due in October. This item was tabled again.

Under Other School Business, Member Wallace gave an update on the morning traffic situation. He has contacted IDOT requesting someone to come evaluate the situation and give some recommendations on what we need to do or if they can help in any way. He will give an update at the next meeting once IDOT has more information.

President Hogg welcomed our new employees.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Kizziar to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting to be held on Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted aye.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 pm.

**Jeremy Hogg, President
Board of Education**

**Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education**