

**Minutes for Public Hearing Meeting
Intent to Sell Bonds
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library
April 16, 2026 7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Aly and the following members were present: Slavin, Fatheree, Kizziar, and Jeffords. Members Simmons and Schuchardt were absent.

No members from the public were present.

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

King Financial provided a letter referencing the intent of the meeting, President Aly read this during the public hearing.

With no further comments or questions, a motion was made by Slavin and seconded by Fatheree to adjourn the Public Hearing Proclamation. Time adjourned 7:02pm.

Bronwyn Aly, President
Board of Education

Charlee Poole, Secretary
Board of Education

Minutes for Regular Called Meeting

Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library
April 16, 2026 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Aly and the following members were present: Slavin, Fatheree, Kizziar, and Jeffords. Member Schuchardt and Simmons were absent.

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

Under Approval of Agenda, Member Fatheree asked about the bus purchases. Mr. Fritch replied that Gary sent the papers to Central States Bus Sales and they were waiting to hear back from them. Motion was made by Kizziar and seconded by Fatheree to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meeting on 3/19/26; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports and 5) Accept Resignations. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Administrative reports, Mrs. Allen stated 1) Jr High Track student athletes are doing an amazing job with the limited resources they have access to. We have one more meet on April 22 before Regionals on May 1; 2) Our sunshine committee along with other staff members recognized our paraprofessionals and librarians on April 2, offering lemonade, cookies, fruit and other treats; 3) IAR and ISA testing is complete, we received \$300 in donations from the community for snacks/prizes; 4) 4th Quarter Progress reports were sent home on April 15; 5) Spring pictures were held on April 15; 6) U of I Ag Center trips are scheduled April 23 and April 24; 7) Rotary Banquet will be held on April 23 at 6. A Special thanks to Kyle Wise for donating China Palace catered meals for the PCE/JH Chinese Takeout Fundraiser being held before the Rotary Banquet; 8) May 1st is Lunch Hero Appreciation Day; 9) Teacher Appreciation week is May 4-8th; 10) May 4th is the 8th grade incentive trip; 11) May 7th is 8th grade graduation at 6pm; 12) May 14th is scheduled for Fun Day; 13) May 15th is 6/7 incentive trip to Dixon Springs; 14) Speech Teacher Appreciation Day is scheduled for May 18th; 15) Pre-k picnic is set for May 20th; 16) Last day of Kindergarten/Kindergarten promotion at 9:00am on May 22; 17) May 27th is set for 3-5 incentive trip; 17) Last student attendance day is set for 2:00 on May 28; 18) May 29th is teacher's last day; 19) Current enrollment is 301.

Mr. Graves reported 1) March 31 was Spring Accuplacer Testing with SIC; 2) March 31- 1st Semester Incentive Trip to Bob Noble Park and Pizza Inn; 3) April 11th FFA Tractor Show; 4) April 14th Blood Drive hosted by NHS/Mr. Evenson. Quota was made so scholarship money will be received; 5) 8th Grade Orientation was today (April 16). Thank you to Ms. Natalie, Ms. Sheyann, and Ms. Hershey for coordinating it; 6) The ACT, ACT9, and ACT10 will be given on April 21; 7) Rotary Banquet is Thursday, April 23 at 6 pm; 8) Prom is April 25 at Bramlet

Farms, theme is 'A Night in Vegas.' Promenade starts at 6 pm; 9) Award/Scholarship Recognition Day is May 1st at 9 am; 10) Graduation is May 8th at 6pm. Student pictures begin at 5:15, Board of Education picture at 5:40, and graduate group picture outside at 5:45; 10) Current enrollment is 130

Board Member Simmons arrived at 7:20.

Mr. Fritch started off with: 1) We are looking into getting shot clocks installed, as it is a requirement. I am looking into some different options. We may be able to buy from another school, if they don't choose to sell the whole system. If we have to buy new, then we will have to work on the scoreboards to make them compatible. Banterra may help with a score table. We can look into having it ad sponsored, will report back with more details; 2) According to the engineer we have a permit that will need to be renewed or we will need to remove the old sand filter, its contents and cover with dirt. Member Jeffords asked if we are required to use a contractor. Mr. Fritch replied yes; 3) Shawnee Division is offering a \$1,000 IHSA Scholarship for a student pursuing a career in education.

With no further reports or questions a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel performance, procedures, and employment was made by Slavin and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes. Executive session entered at 7:28pm.

A motion to return to regular session was made by Kizziar and seconded by Jeffords. Time 9:18pm.

Under New Business, the Time Clock Plus-Employee Management Systems was tabled until they receive more information.

Under Personnel Employment, a motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Kizziar to hire Brooklyn Cummins as the Jr. High Girls Head Basketball Coach. Roll call vote: all ayes.

A motion was made by Slavin and seconded by Jeffords to hire Shea Hamilton as the Jr. High Girls Head Cheer Coach. Roll call vote: all ayes.

A motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Slavin to post for Jr. High Girls Assistant Basketball Coach. Roll call vote: all ayes.

A motion was made by Jeffords and seconded by Fatheree to approve Bennet Hughes as a Volunteer for the Jr. High Girls Softball Team. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under FMLA Request(s), a motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Kizziar to approve the FMLA Request(s) as discussed in closed session. Roll call vote: all ayes.

With no further business a motion was made by Simmons and seconded by Fatheree to adjourn meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 7:00pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. Time adjourned 9:35pm.

Bronwyn Aly, Board President

Board of Education

Charlee Poole, Secretary

Board of Education