

Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library
May 21, 2026 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Kizziar to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meeting on 4/16/26; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Accept Resignation.

Under Recognition of Visitors and Correspondence, President Aly introduced Paula Baker, Pope County FFA and Tim King with King's Financial.

Pope County FFA presented a Certificate of Appreciation, in recognition of the school boards dedication and support to the Pope County FFA Chapter.

Tim King said that the steps are getting approved for the bonds, he is awaiting the board's decision on the years of repayment. He presented the rates again for the members to review. Member Slavin asked if there is a standard timeframe. King responded no, there isn't a standard. Member Fatheree asked if it is paid off earlier is there a penalty? King replied no, usually they stay within 8 years, knocking off 4 years if you went with the 12-year rate, for example. Board decided on 12 years.

Under administrative reports Mrs. Allen reported: 1) May 9th was State Track and Field: Ryder Arnold placed 5th in discus and 11th in shotput, Maggie Broadway placed 10th in hurdles, Andrew Jones placed 1st in discus, and Kinley Smith placed 9th in shotput; 2) May 4th is the 8th grade incentive trip to Ross Cottom Lanes, Pizza Hut and DQ-PTO paid for the 8th grade to eat at Pizza Hut since they wouldn't be in attendance for Fun Day; 3) May 4-8th was Teacher Appreciation Week; 4) May 7th was 8th grade graduation with a parade and dance afterwards.; 5) May 11th was the Parent sponsored 8th grade trip; 6) May 14 was Fun Day sponsored by the PTO; 6) May 15 was the K-2 incentive trip to Harrisburg Park, Domino's Pizza and ice cream. On the same day was the 6/7th grade incentive trip to Dixon Springs with a cook out and ice cream; 7) May 19th, Friendly Farms donated pizza/popcorn/DQ to the top selling class, which were Ms. Susan's Prek

and Mrs. Hynes homeroom (7b); 8) May 20th was the PreK picnic; 9) Mrs. Graves made summer hygiene kits that were sent home with 15 students, the items based on individualized needs and preferred items; 10) May 22nd was Kindergarten graduation at 9:00am; 11) May 27th was 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade incentive trip to Ross Cotton Lanes, Domino's and DQ; 12) Last student attendance day is May 28th with a 2:00 dismissal; 13) Last day of school for teachers is May 29th; 14) Current enrollment is 305.

Mr. Graves reported: 1) Senior Awards and Scholarship Day was held May 1st; 2) FFA Banquet was May 3rd. New officers were installed for the coming year and members were recognized for their accomplishments. The FFA also received a \$500 Farm Credit grant and installed new landscaping behind the school; 3) Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated May 4-May 8. Snacks and food was brought to them from local businesses and individuals throughout the week. The teachers were very appreciative; 4) Graduation for the Class of 2026 was held on May 8; 4) Incentive Trip to SIU Rec Center was May 14; 5) Administrators took CARES training with Mr. Reeder (who did a great job) on May 15; 6) Grayson Fritch and Drake Taylor won the Bass Fishing Regional and will fish Sectionals; 7) Lady Pirates Softball play for the Regional Championship Friday May 22 at Shawnee High School; 8) Underclassmen semester exams will be May 26-May 27 with makeup exams on the 28th; 9) Current enrollment is 130.

Mr. Fritch started off with: 1) Projects are all moving along, Septic removal will be starting up, finishing getting the permits to have it removed at the high school; 3) D7 roofing has been by to do some tests, they should start on the roof removal on May 29th; 4) Zeller will start with mobilization on June 1st for the bathroom renovation at the Jr. high; 5) Would like to give a shout out to all the teachers and administration for putting in the time and effort to providing educational services to the school district; 6) On the amended budget, we had a larger than previous payment from the timber harvest from the Shawnee Forest and county.

With no further reports or questions a motion was made to enter closed session for the purpose of personnel performance, procedures, and employment. Motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Slavin. Roll call vote: all ayes. Board entered closed session at 7:26 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Fatheree. Roll call vote: all ayes. Returned to regular session at 8:25 pm.

Under New Business, a motion was made to approve the posting of the 25-26 Tentative Amended Budget was made by Slavin and seconded by Kizziar. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to set the date of the Public Hearing on 25-26 Amended Budget for June 25, 2026 at 6:45pm. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to change the date of the June 18, 2026 meeting to June 25, 2026 at 7:00 pm. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve IASB Membership Renewal was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Slavin. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to post for Jr. High Boys Basketball Head Coach was made by Kizziar and seconded by Fatheree. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion to approve the Illinois FFA State Convention trip to Springfield, IL on June 10, 2026 – June 11, 2026 was made by Schuchardt. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Motion for resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$3,510,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2026, of Community Unit School District Number 1, Pope County, Illinois, for the purpose of altering and reconstructing school buildings and purchasing and installing equipment therein for fire prevention and safety, energy conservation and school security purposes, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds and authorizing the proposed sale of said bonds and authorizing the proposed sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof was made by Schuchardt and seconded by Fatheree. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Under Old Business visitor Paula Baker presented documentation on Time Clock Plus and Red Rover, two time keeping systems and e-time clocks. Members and Mrs. Baker discussed price, payment options, and differences between the two systems. A motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Slavin to accept the quote from Time Clock Plus. Roll call vote: all ayes.

With no further business a motion was made by Fatheree and seconded by Kizziar to adjourn meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, May, 25 2026 at 7:00pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial with a public hearing on the amended budget at 6:45 pm. Time adjourned 9:18 pm.

Bronwyn Aly, Board President

Board of Education

Charlee Poole, Secretary

Board of Education