

Cassopolis Public Schools
725 Center Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 445-0503

Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
January 11, 2016

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, January 11, 2016 in the Board meeting room at Squires Education Center and called to order at 7:00 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Amanda Smego, Deb Deubner, Lisa Cutting, George Calvert, Sue Horstmann, Jesse Binns, Scott Ward

Members Absent: None

Also present: Tracy Hertsel, Becky Smith, Jeremy Carlisle, Dee Voss, Dave VanLue, John Bright, Cindy Martynowicz and members of the community

Jesse Binns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda – **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** George Calvert to amend the agenda by adding a new Discussion Item VIII-B, Financing Institution for 2 Dodge Caravans; and, a new Action Item IX-B, Approve Financing Institution for 2 Dodge Caravans. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Moved by George Calvert, **supported by** Jesse Binns to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Binns, yes; Deubner, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of December 14, 2015, as written. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Communications or correspondence – None.

Reports, Information Items from School Staff –

Sam Adams Elementary / Voss: Mrs. Voss said that she and Mr. Carlisle had met for 5 days on reallocations for all grants and the district improvement plan.

Administration / Carlisle: Mr. Carlisle said that the new district web site is up and running. He encouraged everyone to check it out.

Finance / Smith: Mrs. Smith said that she and Mr. Hertsel have been working with the Finance Committee over the last couple of months and would be presenting budget revisions at the next Board meeting.

Ross Beatty JSHS / VanLue: Mr. VanLue said that the junior senior high school will be starting a new after school program for Grade 7-12 students who are on the F list, a list that is generated each Monday. There will be specific criteria and attendance at the after school program will be mandatory for the affected students. They will follow the rubrics in place and the program will start in early February.

Public Comment – Bianca May, 61486 Donald Roadway, Vandalia said that she had planned to speak about the things that Mr. VanLue covered. Mrs. May said she was very glad to hear this program is being put in place.

Curtis May, 61486 Donald Roadway, Vandalia said that he also is very glad to hear that the district is starting the new program.

New Business – Discussion Item

NEOLA, Vol. 30, No. 1 First Reading – Mr. Hertsel said that Board members were given new proposed policies from NEOLA for their review. These items cover many areas and are to insure consistency with state law. Mr. Hertsel said that in a few instances where there is disagreement between state and federal law, NEOLA follows recommendations from the federal level. These will be on the agenda for the next meeting as a second reading and for action.

Financing Institution for purchase of 2 Dodge Caravans – Mr. Hertsel said that the Board already approved the purchase of these 2 vehicles but during the process of looking into financing, the best rate was with the Greater Niles Community Federal Credit Union. The credit union requires a Board motion to process the request.

New Business Action Item

Hirings – **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** Jesse Binns that the following positions are awarded following successful completion of their probationary periods: Patty Ballard-Works, 2 hour/day Non-Instructional Paraprofessional at Sam Adams Elementary School; and, Lea Hodges, Bus Driver. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Financing institution for purchase of 2 Dodge Caravans – **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert that it is hereby resolved the Cassopolis Public Schools will use the Greater Niles Community Federal Credit Union of Cassopolis to secure a four year loan not to exceed \$54,000 for 2 Dodge Caravans purchased from Bill Snethkemp – Fleet of Lansing, Michigan through the state purchasing program. Further that Scott Ward, George Calvert and Sue Horstmann are the direct authorized signers for the loan. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent Report – Mr. Hertsel reported as follows:

- Thanked Mr. Bright as our snow removal has been much improved this year.
- Thanked Mrs. Smith for getting the revised budget prepared.
- Would like to have a Building & Grounds meeting a week from Thursday at 6 p.m. for Mr. Leininger to give updates on the bond project.
- Has been dealing with numerous issues at the elementary with heating/cooling. He is working with Fanning/Howey and Honeywell. There are roof leaks on both the 1st and 2nd floors.
- The antenna has been moved from Red Brick to the Ag Farm, so we are proceeding with having the property listed for sale. Once the title work is done, we will be able to move forward.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Jesse Binns to adjourn the meeting at 7:40. All in favor.

Susan Horstmann, Secretary