

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

**Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 27, 2017**

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, March 27, 2017 in the Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium, and called to order at 7:01 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call: Members present: Amanda Smego, Deb Deubner, Lisa Cutting, George Calvert, Sue Horstmann, Scott Ward

Member absent: Jesse Binns

Also present: Tracy Hertsel, Dave VanLue, Robyn Bright, John Bright, Bonnie Adams, Cindy Martynowicz, member of the press

George Calvert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda – **Moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Deb Deubner to approve the agenda, as presented. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2017 regular meeting, as written. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Ward, yes.

Communications and correspondence – None.

Reports, Information Items from School Staff –

Operations-Transportation / J Bright: Mr. Bright gave an update from Transportation and Operations. He reviewed the work that will be going on during spring break. Mr. Bright then spoke to the bus replacement program.

Food Service / R Bright: Mrs. Bright said that her department will work over spring break to make sure they are ready for their AAR administrative review with the state on April 11 and 12. This part of the audit will focus more on the food service aspect and their financials will be audited at a later date.

Ross Beatty JSHS / VanLue: Mr. VanLue congratulated the Robotics team for their hard work this past weekend at Grand Valley State University. He reviewed their place within the state teams and upcoming events. The team may be able to advance to the state competition which will be held at Saginaw State University.

Public Comment – None.

Financials – January, 2017 – **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** Sue Horstmann, that the February, 2017 payables are approved as follows: General Fund \$239,676.88; Food Service Fund \$15,488.63; Sinking Fund \$5,460.50; and, 2015 Bond Capital Projects Fund \$59,214.28. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Discussion Items

Request for 457(b) Resolution – Mr. Hertsel reviewed the district history with the 403(b). He said that with the proposed 457(b) the funds would be pre-taxed but also would allow staff to get to their money without a penalty due to their age. He would be asking for approval of this at the next Board meeting.

Ag Barn – Mr. Hertsel explained this proposal and the thoughts for funding. He said that the ISD would pay \$25,000 for equipment to be housed in the barn and he has a local person willing to donate their time to construct it. Mr. Ward asked when answers would be available to questions asked at recent committee meetings. Mr. Hertsel said he would get those answers as soon as possible and will keep the Board advised. He would like to ask for approval at the April 10th Board meeting. Mr. Ward said that either the Building & Grounds or Finance Committee would need to meet on this ahead of Board action.

Old Business – Action Items

Hiring / Part-Time Bus Driver- **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** George Calvert to award the position of Part Time Bus Driver to JoAnn Watkins, after successful completion of her probationary period. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Hiring / JV Baseball Coach – **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert that Nick Davis is awarded the position of JV Baseball Coach, as recommended by the Athletic Director. **Motion carried** 6-0 as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent’s Report- Mr. Hertsel reported as follows:

- The Foundation’s annual Reverse Raffle will be held on Saturday, April 22, and he will have tickets available for anyone interested in attending.
- NEOLA updates will be coming soon for Board review.
- Received a letter from Aaron Miller about Bill #4376 that would allow the Sinking Fund to be used for bus purchases in the future. This would not help our district at this time as this was not approved by the public.
- Reminder that Spring Break is next week.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert and **supported by** Lisa Cutting to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. All in Favor.

Susan Horstmann, Secretary