

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

**Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 10, 2018**

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, December 10, 2018 in the Board meeting room at Squires Education Center, and called to order at 6:32 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call:

Members present: Lisa Cutting, George Calvert, Deb Deubner, Amanda Smego, Jesse Binns, Scott Ward

Members Absent: Sue Horstmann

Also present: Dr. Angela Piazza, Renee Manno, Deb Stermer, Robin Hadrick, Matt Brawley, Jerry Zachary, Glen Barr, Geri Vlasticak Lauren Sheeley, Cindy Martynowicz, staff, students and community members

Jesse Binns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ward welcomed all to tonight's meeting of the School Board of Education. He stated that the purpose of this public meeting is to conduct the business of the School Corporation and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be time for public participation as indicated by the agenda.

Mission: To ensure that all students achieve the educational and life skills necessary to be successful in today's ever-changing society.

Vision: All students will demonstrate the academic, technological, and cultural competencies necessary to compete in a global society.

We will keep these statements at the forefront of all business decisions.

Approval of the Agenda: **Moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Jesse Binns to approve the agenda.

Moved by Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert to amend the agenda by adding a new action item, Item XII, D, Authorizing Transaction Coordinator for the Sale of Red Brick; and, to amend the agenda by adding a new discussion item #XI, F; and a new Action Item XII, E, Semco Easement. **Motion carried** 6-0 as follows: Binns, 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** 6-0, as follows: Binns, 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 November 12, 2018 regular meeting, as written. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Binns, yes; Calvert, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent's Report

Recognition of Dr. George Calvert's years of service on the Board of Education: Dr. Piazza presented Dr. Calvert with a token of appreciation for his years of service on the Board, from 2008 to 2018 and thanked him for his interest in the students, and commitment and dedication to the district.

Ross Beatty JSHS Report: Mrs. Hadrick introduced Mrs. Herwick and representatives from her Freshman English Honors Class. The students presented excerpts from books they have written as part of their project-based learning project.

Sam Adams ES Report: Mrs. Stermer introduced three 6th grade student representatives who spoke on their project which was to review long term effects of eating certain fast foods. Their teachers were also present: Mrs. Carlisle, Ms. Gorham and Mrs. Ridge.

Band Boosters Report: Tina Reick and Carol Montavon Bealor distributed handouts to Board members and discussed the Band Booster's short and long-term goals as well as upcoming needs for band members.

Board Committee Reports:

Athletic: None.

Building & Grounds/Transportation: None.

Curriculum: None.

Personnel/Finance: Mr. Ward gave an update on tonight's Finance Committee meeting.

Public Comment: Carol Montavon Bealor thanked Dr. Piazza for the opportunity to visit Andrews University to tour their Math & Science Center. She encouraged parents, especially of Freshman, to see if their student qualifies for enrollment in the program.

Financials: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** Jesse Binns that financials from October, 2018 are approved as follows: General Fund \$270,202.54; Food Service Fund \$39,057.34; Debt Service Fund \$111,248.68; and, 2015 Bond Capital Projects Fund \$27,000.05. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Calvert, yes; Smego, yes, Binns, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Action Item:

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert to award the position of Varsity Baseball Coach to Nic Davis, as recommended by the Athletic Director. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Smego, yes, Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Discussion Items:

FFA request to attend Green & White Show in Lansing from 1/26-27/2019,

FFA request to attend State Convention in Lansing from 3/6-8/2019,

FFA request to attend Regional Competition at Camp Friedenswald from 4/25-26/2019: Hannah Deubner presented these requests to the Board on behalf of the FFA.

NEOLA Board Policy Proposed Revisions – First Reading: Dr. Piazza reviewed the current proposed updates, which were presented for first reading. There were no questions.

Purchase of new district vehicle: Mr. Ward said that this proposed purchase was discussed in tonight's Finance Committee meeting. The purchase of two vehicles is being recommended; one a Ford Explorer XLT which would be for the Superintendent's use and the other a 10-passenger transit van that would transport our smaller sports and/or other extra-curricular teams to events. Also, we would eliminate some aged vehicles from the fleet.

Semco Easement: Mr. Ward said that Semco contacted the District about entering into an agreement granting them a land easement and in turn they would reimburse the District \$30,000 for this usage. Also, if they were to not need the easement in the future, they agreed to put the land back to its original state.

Old Business – Action Items:

Request for 5th Grade Overnight Trip to Camp Friedenswald: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert that the request for 5th Grade to attend Camp Friedenswald from May 15-17, 2019 is approved. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Purchase of new district vehicle: **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** George Calvert that the Superintendent is authorized to purchase two vehicles; a 2019 Ford Explorer XLT and a 2019 10-passenger transit van. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Smego, yes; Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Motion to authorize the sale of the Red Brick property: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** Jesse Binns that the Superintendent is authorized to put the Red Brick property on the market a for sale. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Binns, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Authorizing Transaction Coordinator for the sale of Red Brick: **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** Jesse Binns to authorize Sue Horstmann to provide in-kind services to act as the District's Transaction Coordinator for the sale of Red Brick.

Mr. Ward said that Mrs. Horstmann offered her services pro-bono to assist with the sale of the Red Brick School.

Motion carried 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Binns, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Ward, yes.

Semco Energy Easement: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** Lisa Cutting to authorize the Superintendent to enter into an agreement with Semco Energy to allow for a land easement (150' X 200' 282' X 240') in the vicinity of the Northeast corner of M-62 and Cemetery Street, whereby Semco Energy would compensate the District \$30,000.

Mrs. Deubner said she did not have a problem with this, but wants to be sure that the FFA land is protected and is not affected by this land easement.

Motion carried 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Miscellaneous Administrative Items: Mr. Ward read the following items into the record:

December 21 Last Day before Holiday Break

January 7 School Resumes

January 14 Regular BOE meeting, 6:30 p.m., Squires Education Center

Dr. Piazza said also that the Holiday Concert will be held on Wednesday the 19th at 7 p.m. at Ross Beatty JSHS. She asked Mrs. Stermer to announce the elementary music program information. Mrs. Stermer said that on Wednesday December 12 from 6:30-7:30 p.m., K-3 students will perform; and, on Tuesday December 18 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the 4-6th grades will perform.

Mr. Ward thanked everyone for a good first half to the school year; and wished all a Happy Holiday season. Mr. Ward then thanked Dr. Calvert for his tenure on the Board, and said it has been a privilege to sit with him on the Board these past years.

Request for Closed Session: Request to go into Closed Session: **Moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Lisa Cutting to go into closed session at 7:52 p.m. to discuss personnel issues under Attorney-Client Privilege. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Binns, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

The Board took a 5-minute recess.

The Board returned to open session at 8:26 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert and **supported by** Jesse Binns to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Susan Horstmann, Secretary