

JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 171

MINUTES

MEETING: Special
DATE: April 18, 2012
TIME: 6:30 PM
SITE: Administrative Office

MEMBERS PRESENT
Cindy O'Brien, Chairperson
Theresa Graber, Vice Chairperson
Amy Jared
Alyce Arnsberg
Danielle Hardy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dale Durkee, Superintendent
Janice Sutton, Clerk

A. Roll Call

Cindy O'Brien, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 6:30 PM and Janice Sutton, Clerk, called the roll of members: Cindy O'Brien, Theresa Graber, Amy Jared and Danielle Hardy were in attendance. Alyce Arnsberg entered the meeting at 6:32 PM.

B. Call to Order

1. Flag Salute

Mrs. O'Brien led the Flag Salute.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mrs. Jared, seconded by Ms. Hardy, and approved unanimously.

C. Public Comments

Dr. Doug Gray would like to continue dialogue with the Board and School District regarding the future of the Orofino Junior High building. Dr. Gray is still interested in acquiring or using the building for a community center. He asked the Board for their consideration in not entertaining any offers for sale for one to two years, thus allowing the community to come up with ideas on how to keep ownership of the building. Roger Colgan and Tia Pomponio were both in agreement with Dr. Gray's ideas/request.

Dr. Gray will write a proposal to present to the Board for their consideration.

D. Action Items

1. Possible Uses for Orofino Junior High School Facility - Orofino City Council

Rick Laam, City Administrator, sent a letter to Board informing them that the City was withdrawing their request for consideration for acquiring the Junior High. Mr. Laam stated in his letter that the cost of demolishing the building was too high and would not make any transaction cost-effective. Mr. Laam extended his gratitude on behalf of the Mayor and City Council for the time spent by the staff and Board on this matter.

2. Policy Review

1. Trustee Expenses, Policy #1420
2. Travel Allowances and Expenses, Policy #7430

Ms. Hardy explained her position on travel expenses for board members. She explained the handout (she had provided to the board members) which detailed her proposal to instill procedures for school board member reimbursement.

Mrs. O'Brien says the Board needs to lead by example.

Mrs. Jared would like clarification from the District's Legal Council on the definition of "Actual Expenses". Mr. Durkee said he would contact our legal council for clarification.

Mrs. Arnsberg would like to find ways to decrease spending/expenses from the Board of Education budget. She would like to give back to the schools the money set aside for the Trustees travel that wasn't expended.

Mrs. Snyder, Business Manager, noted that historically we have covered travel expenses (mileage, lodging, etc.) for the Trustees as they do not receive payment for serving as a board trustee.

Ms. Hardy would like to add procedures for school board member reimbursement to the May School Board Agenda.

3. Special Education Director's Position

A handout showing the current costs of the ½ time Special Education Director's position versus additional costs to increase the position to ¾ time or full time was provided to the Board and patrons.

The overall consensus of the Board and staff is that the ½ time Special Education Director's position is not adequate for the needs of our district.

Mr. Vian, TS Principal, feels that we need someone available "24/7".

Ms. Baldus, OES Principal feels that the District needs someone in District all the time, but says she can not advocate for a full time Special Education Director when some of the staff we now have working with children may lose their jobs due to funding issues.

It was mentioned that perhaps a ¾ time Special Education Director (3 days a week and one Friday a month) would be feasible.

Dr. Carl Morgan, ½ time Special Education Director, said that he would need time to

consider a 3/4 time position.

E. Budget Work Session

Trina Snyder, Business Manger, made available to the Board and patrons the estimated revenue for 2011-12 expenses. She also presented Draft 1 of the Budget Preparation for 2012-13.

Mrs. Snyder went over funding from ADA. She explained about protected units and how that applies to the discretionary monies we receive.

Trina also talked about Pay for Performance and Job Ed monies. Funding we have received through Job Ed is no longer available. This will greatly impact our district as we currently have 3 full time and 7 part time aides being paid with Job ED money.

The district just received \$320,000 from Federal Forest funds, the last of five years payments. As of March 31, 2012 we have \$1.19 million in Federal Forest funds. Technology expenses are taken from Federal Forest funds as well as the partial cost of one school bus.

Currently we have \$224,661. in our insurance pool and the district building account has a balance of \$234,500. (WES escrow is not included in this amount)

A budget hearing has been scheduled for June 18th, during the regular school board meeting.

F. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Arnsberg has asked to have the budget reports be printed in a different format.

Ms. Hardy asked about the next step with budgeting/staffing for next year. Mrs. Arnsberg wants some indication of changes in staffing before it is finalized.

No date has been set to being negotiations with the CEA.

Roger Colgan asked about the cost of implementation of i-Pads. Mrs. Arnsberg told him he could access the Department of Education website - "Students Come First" for more information.

Mrs. O'Brien went over candidates for the Superintendent Search. She's very excited about the possibilities.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Cindy O'Brien, Chairperson

Attest:

Janice Sutton, Clerk