

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J
1201 TEXAS AVENUE
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 09, 2016

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was called to order at 6:07 p.m. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
- Board Present:** Brett Costley, Greg Kintz, Susan Wagner, Brittanie Roberts, and Katie Cook (via phone). BOARD PRESENT
- Board Absent:** Cari Levenseller, Ernie Smith BOARD ABSENT
- Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant; Dawn Plews, Business Manager; Marie Knight, Fiscal Assistant; Juliet Safier and Ashley Ward, Licensed Staff; and Karen Roberts and Marilyn Landers, Classified Staff. STAFF PRESENT
- Visitors Present:** Amanda Rose Sicard, Scott Laird, Susan Ely, Ginger Johns, Jennifer Draeger, Lauren Ely, Dakota Willard, and Susan Ely. VISITORS PRESENT
- 1.1** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 1.2** Agenda Review: Added Item 9.4 Potential Board Action on the Bond Update and following the Executive Session possible action on the Superintendent contract. Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the agenda as amended. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. AGENDA REVIEW
- 2.0 RECESS REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting was recessed at 6:08 p.m. RECESS REGULAR MTG
- 3.0 BUDGET HEARING:** Budget Committee Chair Brett Costley opened the Budget Hearing at 6:08 p.m. BUDGET HEARING HELD
- Aaron Miller explained that at the last Budget Committee meeting the Budget document was approved. The next step is to hold this hearing allowing the public to comment and then the Board will take action to adopt the Budget. Mr. Miller thanked the budget committee for their work.
- Dawn Plews noted that there was one change made to the document between the Approved Budget and the Budget being presented for adoption. The amount of \$711,245 listed as Unappropriated Ending Fund balance has been moved to Long Term Principal Payment.
- The hearing was opened for public comment. There were no comments from the floor.
- The Budget Hearing concluded at 6:10 p.m.
- 4.0 RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING** at 6:10 p.m. RECONVENE REGULAR
- 5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** PUBLIC COMMENT
- Ginger Johns presented a historical original master key from Washington Grade School to the School District. She requested that the key be displayed in some fashion and noted that the key belonged to her late husband and former VSD teacher, Jim Johns. She also donated an original Ron Smith scroll wood working of Washington Grade School.
- Ashley Ward (on behalf of Cathy Ward) presented a thank you card from the Senior class to the board for their support of the senior trip.
- 6.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** CONSENT AGENDA
- 6.1** Minutes of 05/12/16 Regular Meeting. MINUTES APPROVED
- Greg Kintz moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

7.0 REPORTS & DISCUSSION

7.1 Student Reports: Amanda Rose Sicard stated that next year the VHS Leadership Public Relations Representative will be Odessa Roberts. She updated the Board on the following: STUDENT REPORTS

- Students in Ms. Willard's dual credit Spanish classes earned a total of 204 college credits.
- Students in Ms. Riley's dual credit Science courses just took their final tests and she was not sure of the results.
- June 29th from 10am to 3pm there will be a Blood Drive in the small gym
- Softball advanced to the 2nd round of the State Playoffs but lost to the #1 team, Pilot Rock.
- Baseball made the league playoffs but did not advance to the State playoffs
- Track finished the season strong with the Boys' team placing 4th at State and setting a new State record in the 4 x 100 relay.
- Most all Band students earned their Letter this year.
- Seniors were awarded \$52,475 in scholarship money at the recently held Scholarship Dessert.

Dakota Willard and Lauren Ely talked about the 8th grade trip to Washington DC in April with the Close Up program. They highlighted some of the sites they visited. In the evenings they attended Workshops to discuss in depth the sites they had toured.

7.2 Building Reports: Mr. Underwood gave a verbal report as no report was included in the Board packet. Over the summer he will be working on the Attendance Policy and Athletic Code of Conduct. A College Career Readiness grant has been received. Staff will receive training over the summer to implement this. A Formative Assessment Team will attend training over the summer to improve assessments and student achievement. The team is currently in discussion regarding implementation of an 8th Grade Project which would be similar to the current Senior Project. If implemented the 8th Grade Project would be used as a requirement to be promoted to high school. BUILDING REPORTS

Katie Cook's call ended and she left the meeting.

Aaron Miller shared that Mist Grade School held an Open House last night and promoted their 5th graders to middle school. The Self Manager program was active this year. Selected 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students are great helpers around the school. All Elementary students recently helped with the High School Project Based Learning (PBL) class project "Project Sparkle." They worked around the school sprucing up the grounds for graduation. VES teachers spent May 31st on professional development reviewing reading and math data from quarterly testing. The data shows our students are moving forward, gains are realized in all grade levels, and students are utilizing the intervention strategies they have learned in their core instructional work as well. They have another professional development day on June 15 to fine tune the plan for 2016-17.

7.3 Financial Report: Dawn Plews shared there is nothing unexpected in her report. An increase in funding from the Medicaid surveys has been received. Enrollment for the year stayed basically flat. FINANCIAL REPORT

7.4 Maintenance Report: Mark Brown's report was reviewed. It was asked what CTE was. Aaron Miller explained it stands for Career and Technical Education. The CTE grant the District received helped to pay for building the shop and providing funding for teachers. The final piece of the grant is to provide funding for student interns, two each at VSD, Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, and Stub Stewart State Park. This grant last one year. The district has maintained the interns at VSD and UNWC. Stub Stewart State Park provides their own interns. MAINTENANCE REPORT

Clarification of where the broken window at Greenman field was? At the ticket booth. It was noted that the Police are aware of who it was and are working to recover damages.

Explanation on the propane refill noted on the report? The shop building is heated with Propane.

Explanation of IPM? Integrated Pest Management.

8.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

- 8.1 **Resolution #1516-06 and #1516-07:** Dawn Plews explained the two resolutions up for adoption. At this time of year, all appropriations adopted in the current year budget resolutions need to be reviewed for any additional revenue and overspending in instruction. These are audit housekeeping requirements. Resolution #1516-06 addresses this.
- Resolution #1516-07 categorizes and imposes the taxes, appropriates all the different funds and adopts the budget.
- 8.2 **New Hire:** Mr. Miller shared that interviews for a new 1st / 2nd grade teacher have been completed. Debra Taylor has been offered a position. Debra spent 11 years in Vernonia as an instructional assistant in the Kindergarten classroom. She did her student teaching under Michelle Eagleson. Ms. Taylor is well rounded with strengths in Math and Science. Mr. Miller is recommending her for hire.
- 8.3 **Advanced Refund:** Aaron handed out an updated copy of the District's debt service showing the outstanding principal in the General Obligation Bond as of 6/30/2016 \$12,125,000. Annually a payment of 855,425 is made. This payment does not come out of District funds as it is supported through the Bond proceeds. The District has been working with PiperJaffray on an Advanced Refund or a refinance of the current bond. They have stated there are a couple companies wanting to purchase the bonds without going through a public sale.
- A handout from PiperJaffray showed the anticipated savings to taxpayers based on the Advanced Refund sale. The District would not see any savings. In 2009 voters approved 1.90 per thousand. The savings could be significant however a final amount cannot be determined until the day the bonds are actually sold. There is always fluctuation based on interest rates.
- 8.4 **Bond Update:** Mr. Miller handed out information that shows the District's current debt and which of these loans could and could not be retired with possible new bond revenue. Three of the five would be eligible to pay off with new bond money as they were used for construction of the new K-12 school. Bond funds must be used to pay for capital projects. The two loans that could not be paid off with funds from a bond were used to construct the old Middle School building. Since that building no longer exists it is not eligible as a capital project. The total amount owing on the three loans that could be retired with bond funds is \$3.9 – \$4 million. The district's total debt owing is \$4.7 million.

RESOLUTIONS
DISCUSSED

NEW HIRE
RECOMMENDED

ADVANCED REFUND
DISCUSSED

BOND DISCUSSION
UPDATE

There was a question from the Board about prepayment penalties? One of the three, if paid off early, would have a prepayment penalty but the amount was not known.

The District is in discussion not only with moving forward with the Advanced Refund but also looking at options of going out for a bond in November 2016. As Mr. Miller explained, the approximately \$500,000 annual debt payments will be coming directly out of the general fund now that all fundraising possibilities have been exhausted. A new bond would eliminate the debt and we could return to a normal school district budget process.

Three bond options are currently being discussed.

Option #1: This option would maintain the original dollar per thousand approved by the voters in the last bond election of \$1.90 per \$1,000 of assessed value. It would add 2 years to the life of the current bond. This option would generate \$4 million dollars. Option #1 does not take fully remove our debt.

Option #2: This option would maintain the original dollar amount of \$1.90 per thousand and would add 6 years to the life of the current bond. Option #2 would generate a total of \$6.8 million, \$4.7 million to remove debt and give \$2.1 million to complete the current K-12 campus. Also with this option the OSCIM (Oregon School Improvement Match) Program through the State of Oregon would kick in and we could be eligible for a portion up to a \$4 million dollar match.

Option #3: This option would maintain the original dollar amount of \$1.90 per thousand and would add 11 years to the life of the current bond. Option #3 would generate \$9.4 million dollars. With option #3 we would be eligible for the full \$4 million OSCIM matching funds.

Mr. Miller stated he feels Option #1 is not enough. It would not fully cover our debt or help us bring the campus to closure. He further believes that Option #3 is too much. He recommends that should the Board opt to move forward with going out for a bond in November to proceed with Option #2. This option will satisfy the debt, allow us to become fiscally healthy instead of in crisis, and finalize some of the elements not done initially to the campus.

There were questions and comments as to what the completion of final elements would look like. Mr. Miller would like to hold a meeting prior to July 1st with the community. This meeting would give the public an opportunity to provide feedback and help to develop a priority list for how any money available from the bond after retiring the debt, would be used for capital outlay as well as what would be the next list of priorities should we be fortunate enough to receive matching funds from the State of Oregon.

Mr. Miller's recommendation is to move forward with setting an amount for a November Bond election as well as discussing and scheduling a date for a community meeting.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

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|---|--|
| 9.1 Approve Resolution #1516-06 to Appropriate Unanticipated Revenue and to Change Budgeted Resources in the 20156-2016 Fiscal Year. : Susan Wagner moved to approve Resolution #1516-06 appropriating unanticipated revenue and changing the budgeted resources in the 2015-16 fiscal year. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. | RESOLUTION #1516-06
APPROVED |
| 9.2 Approve Resolution #1516-07 to Adopt the 2016-2017 Budget, Make Appropriations, and Impose and Categorize the Taxes. Susan Wagner moved to approve resolution #1516-07 adopting the 2016-2017 budget, making appropriations, and imposing and categorizing the taxes. Brittanie Roberts seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance | RESOLUTION #1516-07
APPROVED |
| 9.3 New Hires. Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to hire Debra Taylor as a 1 st / 2 nd Grade teacher at Vernonia Elementary School. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance. | TAYLOR HIRED AS
ELEMENTARY
TEACHER |
| 9.4 Authorize November 2016 Bond Amount: Greg Kintz moved to authorize the Superintendent to move forward with a bond proposal for the November 2016 election for repayment of debts for old capital projects, as well as development of new capital projects for an anticipated total of \$6.8 million with the possibility of receiving an ODE OSCIM grant for the funding of further, new capital projects. | BOARD AUTHORIZES
DISTRICT TO ENTER
INTO BOND ELECTION
IN NOV. 2016 for \$6.8M |

10.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- End of Year Staff BBQ Luncheon will be June 10th at 1:00 pm. The Board is invited.
- Set October and April meeting dates for Board Meetings to be held in Mist.
- Negotiations: The District and the Teachers Union (VEA) reached a tentative agreement today. Next week is another meeting with the Classified Union (OSEA) and he hopes to wrap this up as well.
- Baseball Field Update: Bid packets have been sent out to three contractors. Bids will be reviewed by Mr. Miller and members of the VEF. Greg Kintz asked if there is money left over from the donations for construction of the Baseball Field, can it be used towards other athletic fields. Mr. Miller indicated that any overage could be used to finalize elements around the Softball and Baseball fields such as cement work, possibly an indoor batting cage, etc.
- Administration has been busy finalizing staff evaluations.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

10.0 RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION under O.R.S. 192.660 (2) (i) at 7:23 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent and staff evaluations.

RECESS to EXECUTIVE
SESSION

11.0 RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION at 7:55 p.m.

RECONVENE REGULAR
SESSION

Resolution #1516-03 Amended: Brittanie Roberts moved to amend resolution 1516-03 moving the non-renewal status to renewal. Susan Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

RESOLUTION 1516-03
AMENDED

Superintendent Contract: Brittanie Roberts moved to approve the Superintendent Contract for 2016-2019 as amended. Greg Kintz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with those in attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT for 2016-2019
APPROVED

Other Issues: Brittanie Roberts asked for an update on the previously discussed scholarship opportunity through OSBA. Greg Kintz confirmed it would cost the District \$1200 to participate in this.

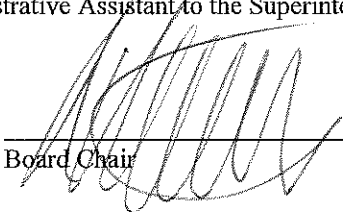
OTHER ISSUES

After discussion it was a consensus of the Board to add a standing item on the agenda titled Committee Reports.

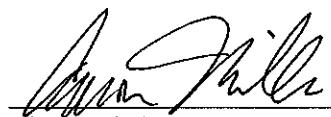
12.0 **MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:02 p.m.

ADJOURNED

Submitted by Barb Carr
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Directors



Board Chair



District Clerk

