

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 47J  
1201 TEXAS AVENUE  
VERNONIA OR 97064

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2015

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER:** A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of Administrative School District 47J, Columbia County, Oregon was convened at 6:02 p.m. by Bill Langmaid.

**Board Present:** Ernie Smith, Tim Bamburg, Bill Langmaid, Brett Costley, Greg Kintz, and Jim Krahn. Cari Levenseller arrived at 7:12 p.m. **BOARD PRESENT**

**Board Absent:** None. **BOARD ABSENT**

**Staff Present:** Aaron Miller, Superintendent; Nate Underwood, Middle/High School Principal; Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant, Joanie Jones, Juliet Safier, Teresa Willard, Linda Hobart, Judy Gingerich, Geoff Schwartz, Randy Shockey, Charlotte Gilbert, Debbie Stahlnecker, Laura Blacker, Gienah Cheney, and Nga Frederiksen, licensed staff; and Stacy Adams, Karen Roberts, Jana Titus, Roxana Sherman-Heath, Theresa Gray, Kathi Fetch, John Murray, Jeana Gump, Glenda Delemos, Melissa Zavales, and Amanda Wolf, Classified Staff. **STAFF PRESENT**

**Visitors Present:** Payton Wolf, Sara Smith, Jessie Williams, Julia Fletcher, Meghan Sullivan, Susie Rainbolt, Nicky Rainbolt, Janean Zavales, Becky Young, Paige Smith, Steve Calhoun, Carol Calhoun, Brittany Young, Jennifer Glass, Nicole Glass, Patty Buchanan, Lily Buchanan, David White, Steve Riley, Scott Laird, Rob Cochran, Jeff Goodman, Karen Goodman, Jeffrey Goodman, Jessica Goodman, Katie Goodman, Coral Pearl, Kari Hansen, Brittanie Roberts, Amy Cieloha, Katie Poetter, Allegra Poetter, Jenny Glass, Nicole Glass, Lilly Lindsley, Winter Snow, Summer Snow, Dominic Szlavich, Alexis Baska, Kellie Murray, Sandy Mikalow, Wyla Mikalow, Lauren Ely, Tamera Sullivan, Todd Sullivan, Iva Coffey, Dylan Taylor, Emilee Easlon, Megan Ely, Lauren Glass, Hayden Cieloha, Kole Titus, Bonnie Birkmaier, Randall Normand, Bryanna Larson, Cassandra McFalls, Cassidy Whitton, Autumn Sorenson. Kate Frederiksen, Susan Ely, Sue Whitton, Janice McGuire, and Rebekah Stevens. **VISITORS PRESENT**

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rebecca Jacobson, District legal counsel, shared with the board the requirements for teachers to hold and maintain a valid teaching license with Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). All licensing transactions are between the educator and TSPC and is out of the hands of the district. If a license expires while renewal is in process TSPC will grant a 120 day grace period provided that all renewal documentation was received at TSPC prior to the license expiring. However when a teacher has been granted an emergency license no such grace period is granted and if all renewal documentation has not been received prior to the emergency license expiring, the teacher is no longer licensed to teach.

Miscellaneous community members spoke on behalf of Jean Riley whose license recently expired without a grace period allowance. Those who spoke included: Steve Calhoun, Teresa Willard, Cathy Ward, Julie Fletcher, Randall Normand, Summer Snow, Bonnie Birkmaier, Katie Poetter, Janean Zavales, Alexis Baska, Amy Cieloha, Janice McGuire, Melissa Zavales, Becky Young, Megan Ely, Jessie Williams, Jeffrey Goodman, Juliet Safier, Nicky Rainbolt, Susan Ely, Jessica Goodman, Brittany Roberts, Rob Cochran, Dylan Taylor.

Jean Riley apologized to the students and community for failing to renew her license in a timely manner.

- 3.0 APPEAL TO BOARD:** At the request of Jean Riley the appeal hearing is being held in public session vs. executive session. Chair Bill Langmaid clarified this before proceeding.

**SUPERINTENDENT  
DECISION APPEALED  
TO BOARD**

Mr. Miller stated that Jean Riley was granted an emergency license in 2013 which expired on Dec. 31, 2014. Due to no longer holding a valid teaching license with TSPC he was forced to place Ms. Riley on unpaid administrative leave. Ms. Riley is appealing the decision of unpaid leave and is requesting that she be granted emergency leave per Article 8.2 of the current VEA contract. Normally due to confidentiality the hearing would be held in executive session however Ms. Riley

requested it be held in the open session.

David White – Uniserv Consultant for the Oregon Education Association represents licensed staff of the Vernonia Education Association (VEA). He explained that Ms. Riley is in the process of completing the TSPC required coursework for license renewal and asked the board to reconsider the decision of the Superintendent and grant Ms. Riley emergency leave. Personal issues caused her to be unable to complete the coursework required for license renewal on time.

The board asked for a realistic timeline of when the renewal process might be complete. Mr. White felt it would be a matter of weeks not months. Once the final paper is submitted to the college, reviewed and graded a transcript can be requested. Once the transcript is produced Ms. Riley will submit that to TSPC, pay the expedited fee for processing, and within a few days of that request TSPC will issue a license.

RECESS TO  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board had questions for legal counsel and recessed to Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. under O.R.S. 192.660 (2) (f) "To consider records exempt by law from public inspection."

RECONVENE TO  
REGULAR SESSION

The Board reconvened the special meeting at 7:59 p.m.

The board stated that Superintendent Miller was required to place Ms. Riley on leave and failing to do so would jeopardize his licensure. The Board expressed frustration that Ms. Riley waited until the last minute to notify the district that she would be unable to complete the required course work on time. The board also reminded those in the audience to represent this issue properly; it is not the Administration or the Board that put the District in this situation.

DECISION OF SUPT.  
UPHELD BY BOARD

Ernie Smith moved to deny the appeal and uphold the decision of the Superintendent to place Ms. Riley on unpaid leave pending a decision. Jim Krahn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD DIRECTS SUPT.  
TO PLACE RILEY ON  
UNPAID LEAVE  
THROUGH 2/12/15

Ernie Smith moved to direct the Superintendent to place Ms. Riley on unpaid leave through February 12, 2015. Motion seconded by Brett Costley. Motion passed unanimously.

**4.0 RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Moved to the end of the agenda.

RECESS TO  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MOVED TO END OF  
MTG.

**5.0 RECOMMENDATION of ADMINISTRATION:** Cari Levenseller moved to table item 5.0 Recommendation of Administration to Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Motion seconded by Jim Krahn. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION  
OF ADMIN. TABLED TO  
FEB. 12, 2015.

**6.0 REVISED IGA Between City of Vernonia and Vernonia School District:** Mr. Miller shared that the district will be making a request to have all remaining Spencer Park funds currently held in escrow released. In reviewing the final paperwork with the City of Vernonia it was determined that the IGA describing duties of responsibility of the new Spencer Park had not been signed. It is being presented for signature.

IGA BETWEEN CITY OF  
VERNONIA AND  
VERNONIA SCHOOL  
DISTRICT REGARDING  
NEW SPENCER PARK  
APPROVED.

Jim Krahn moved to approve the revised Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Vernonia and Vernonia School District regarding the demolition of school buildings and replacement park construction processes as presented. Cari Levenseller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**7.0 SURPLUS DECLARATION:** Mr. Miller explained that Kennedy Restoration expressed interest in the Air Scrubber previously used at Washington Grade School. This is not an item we need any longer and the Maintenance Department is requesting that it be declared surplus.

AIR SCRUBBER  
DECLARED SURPLUS

Tim Bamberg moved to declare the Phoenix Guardian HEPA Air Scrubber previously used in Washington Grade School as surplus. Ernie Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** under O.R.S. 192.660 (2) (b) at 8:12 p.m.  
Superintendent Miller informed the board of staff discipline issues.

RECESS TO  
EXECUTIVE SESSION

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION** at 8:23 p.m.

RETURNED TO  
REGULAR SESSION

**OTHER ISSUES:** A brief discussion was held on allowing concession food and drink in the gym. The board was in consensus that soda should not be allowed. Further discussion on the possibility of food and how the gym will be cleaned will occur at another time. It was mentioned to include Mark Brown, Maintenance Supervisor, in the discussion.

FOOD & DRINK IN  
GYM DISCUSSED

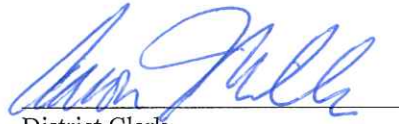
**8.0 MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted by Barb Carr, Administrative Assistant

Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barb Carr", written over a horizontal line.

District Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ann Fells", written over a horizontal line.

