

**West Jefferson School District #253
Terreton, Idaho 83450
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 9, 2017**

BOARD MEMBERS: Ryan Ashcraft – Chairman
Willy Schmitt – Vice Chairman
Bruce Smith – Clerk
Burt Allen – Treasurer
Tanis Cherry – Board Member

SUPERINTENDENT: Dwight Richins

BUSINESS MANAGER: Patti Bingham

5:30 P.M. Executive Session

- I. Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(a) To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need.

At 5:30 P.M. Mr. Willy Schmitt moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(a): To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. Mr. Bruce Smith seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Smith (AYE), Mr. Allen (AYE), Mrs. Cherry (AYE), Mr. Schmitt (AYE), Mr. Ashcraft (AYE), All in favor, motion passes.

I, Ryan Ashcraft, President of the West Jefferson School Board of Education, certify and swear that the purpose of the above Closed Executive Session was concerning Idaho Code 74-206 (a): To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need.

Ryan Ashcraft, *Chairman*

At 6:25 P.M. Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to adjourn executive session and begin Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Bruce Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes.

Regular Board Meeting
6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Ryan Ashcraft, Willy Schmitt, Burt Allen, Bruce Smith, Tanis Cherry, Dwight Richins, Val Sawicki, Val Young, Larry Soderquist, Sheena Hawker, Ellen White, Cory Hall, Brianna Tuckett, Jody Weekes, Clarynn Shuldberg, David McDonald, Cara Shuldberg, Mary Blackham

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. OPENING CEREMONIES

- a. Welcome to Visitors: Ryan Ashcraft
- b. Pledge-of-Allegiance: Tanis Cherry
- c. Prayer: By Invitation: Bruce Smith

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Additions: VIg Turf discussion

Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to adopt the agenda with the above additions. Mr. Burt Allen seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Special Board Meeting Minutes of
- b. Board Meeting Minutes of
- c. Approval of Bills
- d. Approval of Payroll
- e. Monthly Budget Reports
- f. Personnel Actions

Willy Schmitt asked about the expenses for the crows nest. Larry Soderquist explained what needs to be done to have it inspected and up to code. He is not sure what the total costs will be. Mr. Schmitt wondered if some of the Hay Fund be used to pay for this.

Mr. Burt Allen made motion to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. Willy Schmitt seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed

V. REPORT/INFORMATION

- a. Patron Input: None
- b. Board Member Input:
 - Ryan Ashcraft reported on Day on the Hill.
The Lieutenant Governor spoke. Mr. Ashcraft learned more about the ISEE reporting process. The attitude of the legislation is to get rid of

reports not needed. In new legislation, they are trying to include the classified personnel in the Master Education Premium program.

- Bruce Smith is concerned about the upkeep of the sports equipment and uniforms. He suggested that the district ask a community member to be a caretaker. Mr. Richins said that storage space with security is an issue. It had been suggested that the district invest in storage units. Mr. Smith wondered about the accountability of coaches and students. Mr. Richins will check into different solutions for the board.
- Willy Schmitt wondered about the possibility of getting a grant writer. An idea was to share a professional grant writer with other school districts. Mr. Richins will check into this possibility.

c. Superintendent's Report

1. The committees have done really well overall. Spring is a busy time and the teachers and staff have made a special effort to meet.

VI. PROPOSALS:

a. Technology Plan Report- Jody Weekes

Mr. Weekes presented the board with a Technology Plan for the next 5 years. The goal for the current 2016-2017 school year is to have 105 Chromebooks in the district. There is funds allocated for this purpose, but there must be board approval before purchasing. Bruce Smith would like to see the funding sources at the next work meeting. The life span of a Chromebook is 4-5 years. Tanis Cherry wondered if there would be a user's fee. Board will work on this project at the next work meeting.

b. Summer Projects- Larry Soderquist

Mr. Soderquist presented the board with a proposal for summer maintenance projects, with cost estimates. He listed them in order of importance, however, the items can be switched as to priorities of the board. Board members asked Larry a variety of questions. Larry explained that Rocky Mountain Power pays 41% of costs to change to LED lights. He also explained the need for acquiring another pick-up and snow blade. The schedule for varnishing the gym floors is to do the old gym floor this summer and the new gym floor between volleyball and basketball seasons next fall.

c. HS Teachers discuss calendar options

Mr. McDonald represented the teachers in his building. Most of the high school teachers are in favor of early release time on Monday. The teachers need time to collaborate with each other in helping build strong programs and in planning intervention for struggling students. Mr. Ashcraft asked if there is any data showing the effect of early release. Mr. McDonald has data, but not data to compare early release vs no early release, as data was not kept in the past. Early

release has been beneficial in helping teachers and staff to reach the goals set for them.

d. Elementary/Jr. High teachers discuss calendar options

Mrs. Brianna Tuckett represented the Elementary and Jr. High teachers. They are in favor of early release. Being able to meet as teachers and staff gives the teachers power to better help struggling students. The teachers value the early release time and it is not wasted. Mr. Ashcraft asked if they had any data. There is no data showing comparison, but they are tracking data to show what has been happening and the improvement overall, by having early release each week. Board asked questions of the teachers present. Friday would be their least favorite day because of the concern that there would be more absences. Ellen White spoke for the Classified personnel. The aides are in favor of keeping early release. It has helped immensely in collaborating with the teachers. She wishes that the aides were invited to attend the early release time more than once a month. Tanis Cherry thanked the teachers for coming to the meeting. It was suggested that instead of early release, the teachers have an extended day. The teachers were not in favor of this. The normal day is long enough already. The board continued discussing the calendar. Mr. Ashcraft talked with some of the farmers and they prefer the normal harvest time vs moving it to an earlier date. Mr. Smith asked how flexible the calendar could be. Would it be possible to hold school if the weather didn't permit getting into the fields. Mr. Richins explained that it would be hard to cancel school and then decide to hold school. Some of the families plan their family vacations during harvest break.

e. First reading on calendar options

Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to move the calendar to action agenda VIIId. Mrs. Tanis Cherry seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

f. Proposal to revise the Board Policy 404.4 Employee Travel Compensation

Mr. Richins explained that the policy is outdated and needs updated to reflect costs of a meal. Bruce Smith asked about 404.4.4 in the policy. Why are we paying an employee to use their own car when a district car is available. Mr. Richins answered questions from the board.

Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to move the revised Employee Travel Compensation to 1st reading. Mrs. Tanis Cherry seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

g. Turf discussion

Tanis Cherry is concerned about spending more money on a football turf than on technology or building improvements. Bruce Smith does not want the cost of maintaining and replacing, when needed, to come as a shock. It was a big expense to put in and must be taken care of.

VII. ACTION AGENDA:

- a. Approve purchase of school bus

Mr. Burt Allen made motion to approve purchasing a new school bus for the year 2017-2018. Mr. Bruce Smith seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed

- b. Approve Bulk Fuel purchase

Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to approve the purchasing of bulk fuel for the buses. Mrs. Tanis Cherry seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

- c. Set Work Meeting date

Next Work Meeting will be Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:00 p.m.

- d. Calendar for 2017-2018

Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to move to 1st reading Calendar #2 Normal Harvest with Early Release Monday, making the change that on October 10 school is in session. Mr. Willy Schmitt seconded the motion.

- Tanis Cherry voiced the opinion to have early release on Friday to show the public that they are listening. Burt Allen wishes that everyone would compromise more.

**Vote called for by Mr. Ashcraft- Bruce- yes, Burt- no, Tanis- no, Ryan- no, Willy- yes
Motion failed**

- Board discussed options of having Late Mondays, Early Release Fridays, Early Release Mondays and Late Wednesdays.

Mrs. Tanis Cherry made motion to have 2 calendars to show the teachers to get their input: Late Stay Wednesdays and Early Release Fridays. It would be mandatory hours for personnel to attend regardless which calendar chosen. No second- Failed

- Discussion continued.

Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to move to 1st reading Calendar #2 Normal Harvest with Early Release on Monday, making the change that on October 10, school is in session. Mr. Willy Schmitt seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

Mrs, Tanis Cherry made motion to move to 1st reading a Calendar with Normal Harvest and Early Release on Friday and October 10, school is in session. Mr. Willy Schmitt seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

- Mr. Richins will have both calendars ready for the March 30, 2017 Work Meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 p.m. Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to adjourn. Mr. Willy Schmitt seconded the motion. All in favor- Passed

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March 17, 2017 Deadline to file for Board Election- Zone 5- Hamer, Zone 4 Terreton
- March 22-26 Spring Break
- April 13, 2017 Executive Session 6:30, Regular Meeting 7:30

Clerk of the Board

Chairman of the Board

Date