

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT OF COLBY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009
COLBY DISTRICT/EDUCATION CENTER

The Regular School Board Meeting on October 26, 2009, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Colby District Education Center by Board President Dennis Engel. Members present were Ed Haas, Donna Krueger, Cheryl Ploeckelman, Larry Oehmichen, William Tesmer, Rick Weber and Dennis Engel. Also present were Superintendent Terry Downen and Chris Thieme.

The meeting notice was posted according to the requirements of the open meeting law.

Several items of correspondence were presented including: WTA “Focus” 9/21/09, 9/30/09 and 10/9/09. Acknowledgement - Family of Dr. James Koch: Marathon County Board of Health Resolution; “New Census Data” from the Wisconsin Budget Project; CESA #10 Survey of Projected Tax Levies; Third Friday (9/18/09) Enrollments; CESA #10 Board of Control Agenda and previous meeting minutes; WASB “New Laws”: Hunting Mentorship, 5K Attendance/Grade 1 Admission, School Closure for Health/Safety, Restricting School Purchase/Use of Mercury-Containing Products. At your seat: “The Wisconsin Taxpayer” – August, 2009; WTA “Focus” 10/20/09; “Teaching Today” September and October Issues.

The Principal’s written reports were enclosed with the agenda.

Elise Woik, Student Board Member, informed the board that FFA members attended the National Leadership Convention in Indianapolis. The National Honor Society Induction was held with Ms. Marcott and Mr. Downen as speakers. Homecoming Activities were well attended. She said students have expressed a concern about school closing due to illness forcing the cancellation of sports events as teams head into tournament play.

Mr. Downen updated board members on his written report including information on student absenteeism for illness, the Little Stars lift installation delay, and the latest from DPI promoting an effort to grant the State School Superintendent new intervention powers to direct school boards. He also distributed an email to legislators asking them to address the equity in funding issues.

Motion by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mr. Oehmichen to amend the September 21, 2009 board minutes to include Ed Haas as present, add Mr. Haas and delete Mr. Weber as attendees at the WASB Labor Law Seminar, replace Mrs. Ploeckelman with Mr. Oehmichen making the motion for administrator salary increases and to delete from the same motion any reference to a two year contract (2009-2011) for administrators. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Krueger to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2009 Regular Board Meeting as amended. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mrs. Krueger to approve the Receipts and Invoices for payment as presented. Voice vote - motion carried.

September Revenue Receipt #890976-891035	\$1,345,861.30
Mid Wisconsin Bank Wires 1058-1068	175,364.86
Community Bank Regular Checks 27364-27404	79,947.54
Direct Deposit 9034646-9034948	269,003.68
Dorchester State Bank Checks #54510-54730	497,165.87
Mid Wisconsin Bank Renovation Fund Ck. 1027-1032	562,400.48

There were no requests for out-of-state travel.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Tesmer, to accept the request from Steve MacSwain, Colby High School Social Studies Teacher to retire at the end of the 2009-2010 school year according to Article XI of the Master Agreement. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Haas, seconded by Mr. Oehmichen, to accept the resignation of Adam Vaughn as Varsity Softball Coach. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Mr. Tesmer reported on his attendance, along with Mrs. Ploeckelman, at the State Attorney General's Seminar on the Open Meeting Law on October 9, 2009. It was stated that committee and board meetings must be posted correctly. If a quorum (two members of a three person committee or four members of a Board of Education) is present at a gathering or meeting, it must be posted as a public notice at least twenty-four hours prior to the start of the meeting. When a committee of three meets and other board members also attend the meeting notice should include the statement "A quorum may be present. No Board action will be taken". If in doubt as to whether a meeting is or will occur, post it. Public Records Policy was also discussed. Personal email accounts used for Board of Education business become a matter for public record as well as video or telephone conferences.

Mrs. Ploeckelman attended the School Law Seminar on October 16th. Discussion centered on the publication of board agendas in newspapers and on websites.

Rick Weber, Chairperson of the Facilities & Transportation Committee, moved on the recommendation of the committee at a meeting on October 7th, to accept the bid in the amount of \$12,000.00 from Consulting with Clarity for an analog sound system to replace the current outdated sound system in the theater. Lavinia Bonacker spoke on behalf of the Colby Choir Parent Coalition and the Theater Users Committee reiterating the committee's recommendation to install a digital sound system as quoted by Audio Architects, Inc. for approximately \$20,000.00. She stated that in addition to the \$10,000.00 available from the district, she has received a \$2,000.00 grant, a memorial gift of \$5,000.00 for a digital system and word of donations in the amount of \$3,000.00 from community members and school theater user clubs and groups. Voice vote on the Facilities Committee recommendation to install an analog sound system in the theater. Motion carried.

The Facilities Committee recommended approval of the bid from Randy Schoelzel Carpentry to complete the siding on 18 feet of the South side and completely reside the East side of the Colby District/Education Center for \$10,460.00. Voice vote – Motion carried.

The Facilities Committee moved for approval of a bid in the amount of \$8,185.00 from Complete Control, Inc. to update the software regulating the heating system in the Colby Elementary School. Voice vote – Motion Carried.

Other items discussed by the Facilities Committee Meeting on October 7th and reported to the board include Pool Ductwork Insulation Replacement, Colby High School and Elementary Clock Systems; Riverview School at Neillsville roof repairs; battery replacement in thermostats at Riverview; development of a parking lot for the Riverview Office Park, a portion of which is leased with parking needed for approximately 25 vehicles, and replacement of all outdated pneumatic heating controls with digital thermostats, valve and damper actuators, and then rebalancing the system at the Colby Elementary. Savings in heating costs would be realized in being able to control the dampers, regulate the air exchanges, etc. The cost to upgrade the system to realize the savings is approximately \$60,000.00.

Mr. Oehmichen, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, reported that the Colby Support Staff Association has filed for mediation/arbitration to settle the 2009-2011 contract.

Samantha Penry, Psychologist, Donna Schmidt, Elementary, Mary Wussow, Middle School and Jennifer Krauss, High School Guidance Counselors reported to board members on a survey of Youth Risk Behaviors within the Colby School District. Students in the middle and high school were surveyed regarding the use of alcohol, cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamines, weapons on school premises, considering suicide, physical fighting, bullying and sexual activity. Our students are exposed to and participating in risky behaviors within our communities. Guidance counselors presented the district's

Comprehensive School Counseling Program. The program has four components: School Counseling Curriculum, Individual Student Planning, Responsive Services and System Support. Activities are outlined under each of the four components.

Motion by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Krueger, to approve the 2009-2010 General Fund Budget with estimated revenue of \$10,402,898.00 and expenditure of \$11,124,322.00. The deficit in this budget is \$721,424.00 which will be taken from cash balance. Voice vote – Motion carried. Discussion continued on deficit spending and the impact on the budget for 2010-2011. Monies will not be available in cash or fund balance to fund another \$750,000.00. Major cuts in staff, programs and other expenditures will be recommended for board consideration. The major increases in this year's budget were the increased costs of health insurance benefits and open enrollment, both are beyond the district's control at this time.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Tesmer to approve the property tax levy in the amount of \$2,434,580.00 with a mill rate of 7.95 per thousand dollars of valuation. Voice vote – Motion carried. The tax levy is reduced from the 2008-2009 levy by \$174,636.00 or 6.69%.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Tesmer, to approve a bid from Midway Plowing Service for snow removal at district facilities. Voice vote – Motion carried.

The Board discussed Neillsville Property Needs. Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Haas, to advertise for bids to create a parking lot at Riverview Office Park in Neillsville. Voice vote – Motion carried. Mr. Weber and Mrs. Krueger will visit the site to assist in outlining the specifications.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Oehmichen, to hire a caretaker for seven hours per week at \$10.00 per hour to adequately inspect the Neillsville Properties. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Oehmichen, seconded by Mr. Weber, to ask for quotes to close and winterize the Riverview School building for the winter. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Other needs at the Neillsville Properties include: Riverview School – Tree removal, roof repair/scupper redesign, downspouts, gym roof reseal, siding replacement, repaint. If a tenant leases then windows would need replacement, asbestos removal in the gym and refurbish the upper parking lot. Ganderhouse – Subdivide lot and sell house “as is”. Riverview Office Park – Replace West entry sidewalk and repair handicapped door call station.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mrs. Krueger, to convene in closed session per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. 9.01 Personnel-Hiring; Personnel – Negotiations with Colby Education Association and Colby Support Staff Association. Roll call vote – Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Oehmichen, to move from closed session and to reconvene in open session as previously announced. Voice vote - motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Krueger, to approve hiring Trisha Colby Schwantes as Instructional Aide at Little Stars PreSchool, Ginger Kauth as ELL Aide at Colby Elementary and Middle School and Elizabeth Klimpke as Grade 1 SAGE Teacher for 1st semester. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Krueger, seconded by Mr. Weber, to approve hiring Nate Saeger as Varsity Baseball Coach, Nicole Jodarski as CHS Assistant Track Coach and Rick Golz as Colby M.S. Boys Basketball Coach. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Scheduled Meetings: Facilities Committee – October 28, 2009 – 4:00 p.m. at Neillsville Parking Lot.
Regular Board of Education – November 16, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. CDEC

All business being completed, Mr. Engel declared the meeting adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

William Tesmer, Clerk

Chris Thieme, Reporting Secretary