

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
NOVEMBER 10, 2014
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 5:30 PM on Monday, November 10, 2014. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Gore.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Malinee called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Members Absent: Loucks

Staff Present: J. Henry, J. Logsdon, W. Choate, V. Malinee, M. Sample, T. Launius

Visitors Present: Several visitors (See attached sign-in sheet)

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

President Gore welcomed the visitors and asked for any visitor's comments. Michael McKee asked to address the board members regarding some issues with the football program. He acknowledged to board members that he had resigned. Mr. McKee indicated that he encountered some barriers to his vision and expectations for the football program. Mr. McKee asked that the board be a part of the interview process when employing coaches and sponsors to enable the candidate and board to know and understand the expectations of all involved. Discussion followed regarding the barriers mentioned and possible solutions. Board consensus was to not act on the matter, and to encourage Mr. McKee to meet with the athletic director and high school principal to discuss these issues further. Mr. McKee asked if a board member would be willing to be a part of the meeting. Board agreed to have one board member be in attendance.

REPORTS

SEA: No report.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: No report.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Logsdon, Elementary/JH Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, recognition of the S-V JH Boys' baseball team, recent

events/activities, and upcoming activities. The most recent copies of the S-V Happenings were presented to the board members.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mr. Choate, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, "Super" Students program, past events, and upcoming calendar entries. Mr. Choate informed the board members that due to changes from the Illinois State Board of Education in how credits are given for some classes, he will be reviewing the high school curriculum and course credit procedures, and indicated that there may be some possible revisions. Discussion followed regarding the high school computer classes, additional dual credit classes and additional AP classes.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - a. Approval of a Regional Safe Schools Letter of Agreement;
 - b. Approval of an American Red Cross Shelter Agreement.
2. The transportation bid specification preparation meeting with interested transportation contractors was held on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at 9:00 AM. Based on the discussion at that meeting, Superintendent Henry expects to have draft bid specifications ready in December, and anticipates awarding a transportation bid for 2015-2016 (and beyond) in February of 2015.
3. In late October, 2014, Superintendent Henry was contacted about the possibility of expanding the district's character coaching activities to include girls' sports. He outlined the framework of how that component of our boys' sports developed, and indicated that he has seen some forward progress in this area. Mr. Basso is currently in the process of 1) working with the applicable coaches and proposed volunteer assistant coaches; and 2) helping all individuals involved develop a consistent, character coaching framework. It is anticipated the recommendation of approval of additional volunteer assistant coaches at the regular December, 2014, meeting.
4. Information regarding the 2014 tax levy, including the adoption of the tentative tax levy resolution for 2014, was included in the board packet. Additional information (statistical data) for consideration is attached to this report. As the board considers the tax levy for 2014, Superintendent Henry strongly encouraged board members to utilize the following five (5) guiding principles (as the board has discussed in detail in the last 84 months):
 - Realization that the levy is based on unknown (projected) property values;
 - Realization that this year's levy represents next (fiscal) year's local revenue;
 - Realization that each year's levy impacts all future years' levies;
 - The need of the board to determine the appropriate balance between the fiscal responsibility (Is the board levying enough to meet budgetary needs?) and fiscal excess (Is the board levying too much to meet budgetary needs); and

- Realization that it is widely believed that the State of Illinois will further reduce school revenues and possibly increase school expenses (e.g. pension cost-shift) in the coming months/years.
5. On October 28, 2014, a Freedom of Information Act request from Jim Watts of the Union Election Integrity Unit was received. On November 10, 2014, the district's response was sent (copies of both the request and the district's response were submitted to board members).
6. During the 2014-2015 school year, the district will need to conduct employment searches for two key positions in the school district. In both cases, new employees will need to have some time to work in tandem with retirees. Superintendent Henry recommended the following employment timeline for each:

POSITION	POST DATE	APPLICATION DUE DATE	APPLICATION REVIEW/INTERVIEWS	EMPLOYMENT
Principal (SVHS)	October 14, 2014	December 1, 2014	December, 2014/ January, 2015	January/February, 2015
District Maintenance Supervisor	November 10, 2014	December 5, 2014	December, 2014	December, 2014/January, 2015

(Updated November 10, 2014)

7. A copy of the following newsletters was presented for board review:
- Illinois School News Service (November 10, 2014)

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacy approving the minutes of the previous meeting: October 14, 2014 (Regular Board Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$262,579.20 and salaries in the amount of \$383,061.42; approval of the Regional Safe Schools Program Letter of Agreement; and approval of the American Red Cross Shelter Agreement, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Henry presented an executive summary for the 2014 tax levy.

ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE TAX LEVY RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Stacey to approve a Resolution Regarding Estimated Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2014 (Tentative Tax Levy), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:01 PM, a motion was made by Robbins and seconded by Stacey to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57)

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 8:12 PM, a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT NOTICE (WITCHER, TERRY): Superintendent Henry informed the board members that Terry Witcher, Maintenance Supervisor, has informed him that he will be retiring a little earlier than originally planned. Mr. Witcher will be retiring effective December 31, 2014. Discussion regarding the posting and advertising of the vacancy with a December 5, 2014, deadline for applications, and an expected employment of replacement in December or January.

POSTING OF POSITION(S): A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Kelly to post the following position:

- District Maintenance Supervisor

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Teresa Stacey informed the other board members that the posting of scholarships available on the district website has helped distribute the information.

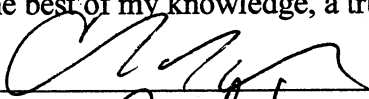
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Stacy to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

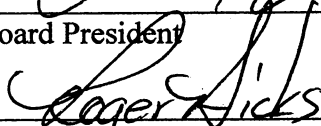
The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 5:30 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary