

**Unofficial Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting, March 8, 2021**

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021, via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Cole, Andy Fletcher, Mary Killion, Becky Kindle, Brian Kollman, Barney Lindsay, Marcie Rodelo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dirk Dirksen, Cheryl Costello, Marie Shimer, Erin Stocker, Beth O'Hanlon, Aaron Gosiak, Dieter Waite, Matt Combe, David Norton, John Christy, Kyle Aurdahl, Jill Ledbetter, Stephanie Ewing, Kaira Rysdam, Ryan Keefauver, Rose Palmer

OTHERS PRESENT:

as per roster

Call to Order:

Chair Becky Kindle called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm via Zoom. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a quorum was established.

Delegations:

MCEA – Cynthia Hodgdon

OSEA – None

Consent Agenda

Motion: Andy Fletcher made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Brian Kollman seconded the motion.

- A. Approved minutes of the regular meeting of February 8, 2021;
- B. Approved Financial Report, District Enrollment, Employment Action and Licensed Staff Employment Action for 2021/22;
- C. 1st Reading of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies;
- D. Adoption of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies;
- E. Adoption of New, Revised or Rescinded AR's: JEA-AR(1), JEA-AR(2), JEA-FORM(1), JEA-FORM(2), JEA-FORM(3)

Ayes: Cole, Fletcher, Killion, Kindle, Kollman, Lindsay, Rodelo

Noes: n/a

Motion Passed

Superintendent Report

- **School Up-date** – Mr. Dirksen provided an update on where the district is at in support of the governor's newest efforts to get kids back in school.
Bussing: Working with the local health department, we will now count students on the bus by family group (total on the bus will be 28) not individual.
Elementary: After spring break students will attend a full day (8:00am – 3:00pm). We are hiring two online teachers who will conduct CDL for elementary students who choose not to return.
Secondary: After spring break we are planning to have students rotate to 4 classes per day. We will remain at 4 hours per day due to the high number of secondary students still in CDL and the square footage restrictions currently in place.
Athletics: Athletics are up and running, following COVID guidelines. It is good to have students participating in athletics, hard to replace those memories. We hope to be able to increase the number of fans attending games, if our COVID numbers continue to decline.
Testing: We are prepared for COVID testing if/when we need to do so (if we are in the high-risk category).
Volunteers: We will be allowing athletic volunteers to help at the secondary level. Elementary volunteers will have to be playground only at this time.
Lunches: After spring break we will not be delivering lunch to students on CDL. Students will need to come to school buildings to pick-up lunches.

- **Wheatridge STEAM Grant** – Community site council meetings have taken place with communities putting together plans to spend funds.
Boardman – Hire an additional elementary music teacher and a family and consumer services teacher at the secondary level. Irrigon – Hire a technology teacher at the secondary level; elementary schools are planning to build an outside learning venue as well as hire a STEAM teacher (cost permitting). Heppner – Will hire a K-12 STEAM teacher. District: Will hire a STEAM Teacher to be based out of the SAGE Center to host elementary students (6th grade) for week long on STEAM activities/projects and field trips. Funding will also be spent on equipment to upgrade all facilities. 1 million per year for 15 years (including lone).
- **Bond** – We are working with Dave Fishel with Wenaha Group to “kick start” the process for the May 2022 election. Piper Sandler will be sending out new tax rate information. The Bond Committee will start meeting again and in May we will be working with Pac/West Communications out of Hermiston to develop an initial community Survey.

Becky Kindle Board Chair took a moment to make the following statement:

On behalf of the Board I wanted to publicly commend our Superintendent, Administration and entire staff as they have performed above and beyond what we believed was possible during this difficult time. Being able to get our kids into the classroom as quickly as we did last fall and to continue to maintain that in each building took a lot of coordination, planning, communication and work for all involved and we are grateful to each of you for your efforts in getting us where we are today, even as you navigated the unknown and dealt with many challenges along the way.

Mr. Dirksen, in addition, we appreciate your ongoing leadership, communication and collaboration and believe that you have done a great job for the district again this year in navigating everything that came at us. The Board believes that you have performed above expectations this year in getting us to where we are today and we thank you for your commitment to our schools, staff and our students!

Director of Educational Services Report

- Due to COVID, textbook adoption was paused. Mr. Shimer provided the board with an update on the process moving forward.

Unfinished Business

- **MCSD 2021/22 School Calendar Options** – Based on a staff vote, calendar option #1 Pre-Labor Day start was favored over option #2 Post-Labor Day.

MCSD 2021/22 Calendar Options

Motion: Brian Kollman made a motion to approve calendar option #1 – Pre-Labor Day start for the 2021/22 school year.
Richard Cole seconded the motion.

Ayes: Cole, Fletcher, Killion, Kindle, Kollman, Lindsay, Rodelo

Noes: n/a

Motion Passed

New Business

- **Resolution #2020-21-09 – Unanticipated Revenue**
 - \$2,000.00 from Walmart Inc. to A.C. Houghton Elementary – no stipulations for use.
 - \$217.75 from Benevity Community Impact Fund to Sam Boardman Elementary – no stipulations for use.
 - \$15,000.00 from Columbia River Technologies to Riverside Jr/Sr High School for Pixellot cameras.

Resolution #2020-21-09 – Unanticipated Revenue

Motion: Richard Cole made a motion to approve the resolution for unanticipated revenue. Mary Killion seconded the motion.

Ayes: Cole, Fletcher, Killion, Kindle, Kollman, Lindsay, Rodelo

Noes: n/a

Motion Passed

- **MCSO Pension Obligation Bonds – Beth O’Hanlon**

Beth O’Hanlon with IMESD presented documents explaining the proposal to sell bonds to reduce the liability 75% or \$18,461,000 at 3.5% true interest cost (borrowing rate) or less.

- **Resolution #2020-21-10 – Sale of Pension Obligation Bonds**

Resolution #2020-21-10 – Sale of Pension Obligation Bonds

Motion: Brian Kollman made a motion to approve the resolution to precede with the next phases in the sale of pension obligation bonds. Richard Cole seconded the motion.

Ayes: Cole, Fletcher, Killion, Kindle, Kollman, Lindsay, Rodelo

Noes: n/a

Motion Passed

- **April Board Meeting** - Beginning with the April board meeting, Mr. Dirksen would like the board (if possible) to resume attending meetings in-person. To maintain social distancing, administrators and guests will continue to attend via Zoom.

Chair Kindle read the announcements:

- End of 3rd Quarter – March 18, 2021
- Spring Break – March 22-26, 2021
- Next Board Meeting, Monday, April 12, 2021 – Windy River Elementary

Chair Kindle adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheryl Costello, Board Secretary

Becky Kindle, Board Chair

Date Approved: _____

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