

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DISTRICT ELECTORS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014—ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA—7:00 PM**

(Not official until Board approved)

In Attendance: Board members present: *Debbie Ince-Peterson, Sheryl Holmgren, Pat Kastens, Dave Moore, Ryan Peterson, Kelly Bakke, and James Beistle.* Administration present: *Brandon Robinson, Jason Cress, Elizabeth Jorgensen, and Zack Fugate.* Others present: *Mike Bielmeier, Dawn Perkins, Aleta Anderson, Craig Zipperer, Shawn Perkins, Debbie Petzel, Jeff Pfaff, Jim Edgell, Jeanne Alling, Sam Rivers, Scott Hensiak, Rory Paulsen, Nicole Kovar, Mary Stirrat, Elliot Paulsen, Melanie Hogan, Sharon Stoll, Cara Holicky, Laura Ramich, Jennifer Cebery, Kara Holden, and Jaclyn Ahlgren.*

The budget hearing was called to order by Board of Education Chairperson Debbie Ince-Peterson, who extended a welcome and thank you to all in attendance.

Sheryl Holmgren nominated Debbie Ince-Peterson as Chairperson of the Annual Meeting, seconded by Elliot Paulsen. There being no other nominations, Pat Kastens moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot electing Debbie Ince-Peterson as Chair, seconded by Ryan Peterson. On nominations duly made and seconded, Debbie Ince-Peterson was elected to chair the Annual Meeting.

David Moore made a motion, seconded by Kelly Bakke to approve the Annual Meeting minutes of October 28, 2013 as written. Motion passed.

Debbie Ince-Peterson opened the budget hearing with an introduction of District Administrator, Brandon Robinson. The District Mission Statement and Goals for the 2014-15 school year were reviewed. Mr. Robinson also summarized the District Report Card, noting that Unity had the highest scores in the North and West Lakeland Conferences. Mr. Robinson also explained to the audience some of the important factors that go into creating the 2014-15 Proposed Budget and Levy.

Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2014-15 Proposed Budget and Levy. District Administrator Robinson gave the Treasurer's Report, reviewing the ending 2013-14 budget. June 30, 2014 year-end revenue and expenses were reviewed for all funds.

Review of the 2014-15 operational budget began with a comparison of 2013-14 to 2014-15 Basic Budget Information. The membership count showed a slight increase in enrollment, therefore the District lost \$247,291 in the declining enrollment exemption. General aid was down 8.59% from last year. The Proposed Levy was 2.19% under in comparison to last school year. Special notice was given to the fact that general aid has been reduced 67.9% since 2006. The revenue limit worksheet summary was also reviewed and gave a comparison from 2013-14 to 2014-15.

The budget plan was presented, listing budget changes and debt service information. It was noted that some district reductions along with staffing reductions created a savings of \$367,178, helping to balance the budget.

Closing the budget review, Mr. Robinson commented on Unity's decreased state aid, explaining that a large part of funding is based on property valuation. This is to our detriment, as property values in the District are higher than the state average.

The 2014-15 proposed budget was reviewed showing general fund revenue of \$12,595,513 and general fund expenditures of \$12,595,513.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairperson Debbie Ince-Peterson closed this portion of the budget hearing and brought forth resolutions on which to act.

Resolution No. 1. Ryan Peterson made a motion, seconded by Dawn Perkins to adopt the resolution that the School Board of the Unity School District be authorized to adopt a tax levy of \$10,629,242 for the 2014-15

school year (subject to equalized aid and certification of the levy in October, 2014); motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution No. 2. David Moore made a motion to adopt the resolution by the electors of Unity School District setting Board annual salaries at \$1400 each, with \$25 per diem per meeting and mileage at IRS rate; motion seconded by Mike Bielmeier. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution No. 3. Jim Beistle made a motion, seconded by Elliot Paulsen to authorize the Board of Education to sell property belonging to and no longer needed by the District. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution No. 4. Sheryl Holmgren made a motion, seconded by Kelly Bakke, to authorize the School Board to defend or prosecute any action in which the District is implicated, and to hire proper personnel for such action; motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution No. 5. A motion was made by Pat Kastens, seconded by Kelly Bakke to authorize the Board of Education to short term borrow funds as needed for cash flow purposes; motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution No. 6. Sheryl Holmgren made a motion, seconded by Ryan Peterson, that the 2015 Annual Meeting be held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday in October 2015 (October 26, 2015) preceded by the Budget Hearing; motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion and possible action on items from the floor under Wisconsin Statutes 120.10. No further discussion or comments were presented.

Jim Beistle made a motion, seconded by Dawn Perkins, to adjourn the meeting; motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned (7:30 p.m.).

Respectfully submitted,
Jaclyn Ahlgren
Recording Secretary

Kelly A. Bakke, Clerk