



**GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 304
227 NORTH FOURTH STREET, GENEVA, KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Board of Education Finance Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2015, at Williamsburg Elementary School, 1812 Williamsburg Avenue, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Bylaws 0163 & 0164)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dave Lamb.

Committee members present: Dave Lamb, Kelly Nowak, Tom Anderson.
Absent: Bill Wilson.

Staff present: Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Leslie Juby, Mary Stith, Mark Grosso, Mary Torrance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Bylaw 0167.3)

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Bylaw 0168.1)

3.1 November 9, 2015

Motion by Nowak, second by Anderson, to approve the minutes as presented. Ayes, three (3) Anderson, Lamb, Nowak. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1) Wilson. Abstained, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION (Bylaw 0155)

4.1 Transportation Bid review

Donna Oberg reported that the District is in the second year of a 2-year bus buyback agreement, and buses will be returned at the end of this school year. In November, transportation went out to bid, and three vendors placed bids. They were Midwest Transit Equipment, Midwest Bus Sales, and Central States Bus Sales. Midwest Transit, our current vendor, came in the lowest at \$82,100 per unit with an 86% buyback. This would give us a net 2-year cost of \$563,206. Ms. Oberg is recommending that this bid be approved by the Board at their meeting.

Comments, questions, concerns: Have we been happy with Midwest Transit? (Yes we have.) Assuming we get transportation reimbursement, what is it that we get back at the end of the year? (Not sure.) Is it 90% or higher? (Yes, but don't know exact amount.)

4.2 PTAB Information

Donna Oberg reported that there is pending litigation on 2015 appeals. She shared that Walgreens has filed an appeal for their 2013 (\$55,000) and 2014 (\$56,000) taxes; Delnor Fitness Center filed an appeal for their 2013 (\$112,745) and 2014 (\$111,669) taxes; and Geneva Nursing Rehabilitation Center filed an appeal for their 2014 (\$14,000) taxes. All appeals are pending because the State of Illinois does not have a budget in place, so there is currently no budget for the PTAB Board to hear appeals. She also shared that Delnor Hospital has filed for tax exemption, and they are currently paying about \$228,000 a year in taxes. The Living Well Resource

Center also filed for tax exemption, and they currently pay about \$117,000 a year in taxes.

Comments, questions, concerns: With two years of assessments, if they are both approved, would we get hit all at once? (Yes we would.) We do need to look into why the two businesses have applied for tax exemption. (These have been forwarded to our legal counsel.)

4.3 E-rate Information

Donna Oberg shared that she has received information on the e-rate grant through the FCC. There are two categories, and we have always submitted for Category 2, which is an E-rate for digital transmission services, voice services and internet services. Category 2 E-rate is now available but designated only for internet services. We would get 40% of our cost back from the FCC on Category 2. Over the last 8 years, we have received \$227,000 through E-rate. This year there is a category two, which will be part of the Technology Plan that's presented to you in February. It's \$150 per student and then discounted based on the districts low income. We would get approximately \$60 per student as a discounted rate. Over the course of five years we could receive \$360,000 funding for Category 2 E-rate.

4.4 Special Education Transportation

Donna Oberg reported that the special education transportation has come before the Finance Committee and the full Board. The Director of Transportation has reworked the numbers, and we now will be taking a total of 30 students back from outsourcing. This would be a savings of about a \$176,000 per year if we purchased new buses. Leasing might be slightly more of a cost savings. We will contact Batavia and St. Charles to discuss the possibility of sharing student transportation.

Comments, questions, concerns: Keep in mind our bus routes and combining jobs when you think about adding a full-time versus a part-time person. Other districts do a Meet and Greet with their driver's so that students and parents can meet their bus driver, and this would be great for our district to consider.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 January

- Audit Presentation/Discussion
- Bond Abatement
- Facility Capital Plan

6. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL BOARD (Bylaw 0155)

None.

7. INFORMATION

7.1 Legislative Update

There is nothing new to report at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:54 p.m., motion by Anderson, second by Nowak, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

William R. Wilson CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY _____
Dr. Kent Mutchler

Bonnie J. Johnson RECORDING
SECRETARY