

**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #16**  
**NEW BERLIN, ILLINOIS**  
**April 14, 2025**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

President Neuman called the Special Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members Kotner, Gordon, Marr, Mann, and Bishoff were present. Member Beard was absent.

President Neuman opened the floor for public comment, of which there was none.

President Neuman opened the floor for adjustments to the agenda, of which there were none.

A motion was made at 6:00 p.m. by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Kotner to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of litigation matters. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea.

A motion was made at 6:12 p.m. by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Mann to return to open session. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea.

A motion was made by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Marr to approve the resolution authorization execution of the settlement agreement and Claim release related to Sangamon County Case (2019-MR-526). The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea. After the vote, President Neuman stated that the Board of Education has reached a resolution with Country Mutual Insurance Company regarding insurance coverage for litigation filed by Michelle Denault, formerly known as Michelle Stolleis Forbes, which was filed against the Board of Education and former employee, CO Smith. She stated that the Board felt the agreement was in the best financial interest of the District.

A motion was made by Member Marr and seconded by Member Kotner to approve the resolution authorization execution of a release, settlement agreement, and covenant not to sue related to Sangamon County Case (2018-L-168). The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea. After the vote, President Neuman stated that the Board of Education has reached a settlement resolving the litigation filed by Michelle Denault against former employee, CO Smith, and the Board of Education. While the Board denies any liability, we believe this resolution is in the best interest of all parties and allows the community to move forward.

A motion was made by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Bishoff, at 6:14 p.m., to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of security and employee matters. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea.

A motion was made by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Bishoff at 6:47 p.m., to return to open session. The motion passed on a roll call vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea.

A motion was made at 6:47 p.m. by Member Gordon and seconded by Member Mann to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed on a voice vote, 6-0. President Neuman, Members Kotner, Mann, Gordon, Marr and Bishoff voted yea.

The meeting ended at 6:47 p.m.

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Secretary

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President