**USD 237 Board of Education Regular Meeting**

**Board Minutes for Monday November 14, 2022**

**216 S. Jefferson, Smith Center, KS 66967**

**Smith Center Board of Education Meeting Room**

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER 7:02 PM**

**Present for the call to order, President Theron Haresnape, Jessica Weltmer, Bob Dietz, Marty Hanson, Libby McDonald, Sara Pruden and Steve Overmiller. Superintendent Dustin McEwen, Board Clerk Roberta Reinking, Principal Michelle Stamm and Transportation Director Steve McNary. FFA sponsor and teacher Monica Wagner and FFA member Kaley Wagner.**

**ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – ADD/DELETE**

**Bob Dietz made a motion to approve the Agenda with the exception of moving consensus item 3f to 5b, Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote 7:04 PM**

**ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF CONSENSUS ITEMS**

1. **Minutes of the October 10th, 2022 Regular Meeting**
2. **Approval of November 14th. 2022 Statements**
3. **Approval of Jr Sr. High School Building SITE Council Members**
4. **Approval of Elementary School Building SITE Council Members**
5. **Approve the Resignation of Kathi Eustice from Food Service**
6. **Approval of Donation from Srader Foundation for FFA – move to 5b**

**Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve the Consensus items, Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 7:05 PM**

**ITEM 4. PUBLIC FORUM**

**No public forum tonight**

**ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF FFA APPLYING FOR A GRANT FOR A GREENHOUSE**

**Kaley Wagner presented the board with the Greenhouse Proposal. They are looking to put up a 20x30 Greenhouse just north of the Tennis Courts, it would require shutter fan, heater and tables. At this time, they have secured a $10,000 Grant from the Srader Foundation, they have $10,000 from the FFA Labor Auction, $5,000 from Monsanto, they are planning a seed sale in the spring to help with the cost and they are in the process of applying for a Grant from Smith County Community Foundation. They have asked the board to pay for getting the electricity, water, cover the insurance costs and pay the future utilities for the greenhouse. Monica Wagner said they would like to get started on the concrete pad before winter, the electricity, water and put the down payment on the greenhouse.**

**Easton Hrabe arrive at the meeting. 7:15 PM**

**The board discussed the project, the recommendation from the board is to go ahead and get started on the project, FFA has enough money to pay for the project right now. Submit the application for the Smith County Community Foundation Grant and come back to the next board meeting with remaining costs and that will give the board a better idea of the final costs of the project.**

**Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve moving forward with the project, the district covering future utilities and Insurance, Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 7:32 PM**

**ITEM 5b. APPROVAL OF GRANT FROM SRADER FOUNDATION FOR FFA GREENHOUSE**

**Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve the grant from the Srader Foundation for the Greenhouse, Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 7:33 PM**

**Monica and Kaley Wagner thanked the board and left the meeting.**

**ITEM 6. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL ON PURCHASE OF BUS**

**Steve McNary talked to the board about the purchase of a 53-passenger yellow bus. The purchase of a bigger yellow bus will provide the district with a spare bus for routes and could be used for some activity trips. Current regulations, dealing with the age of the bus, will not allow our current spare bus to be utilized for routes come fall of 2023. The process from ordering to delivery of a new bus is reported to take from 12-18 months and the final price can increase some from the time the bus is ordered. The district can decline the bus if the final price increases beyond what the district is willing to pay. Mr. McNary also recommended the district purchase a suburban and look at the possibility of a car. The suburban’s put on a lot of miles, so replacing one every few years is necessary. An additional car could help reduce mileage on our current suburban fleet. Future needs will include an activity bus to replace the Redmen bus, but it is currently running well. He also mentioned that if the district would need to run a handicap bus, the current handicap bus runs, but has aged out.**

**Bob Dietz made a motion to approve moving ahead on the purchasing process for a bus and suburban, Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:02 PM**

**Steve McNary left the meeting.**

**ITEM 7. APPOINTMENT FO 2023-2024 BOARD OF EDUCATION’S NEGOTIATING TEAM MEMBERS**

**Bob Dietz made a motion to approve Theron Haresnape and Jessica Weltmer for another term as BOE negotiations team, they both accepted, Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:06 PM**

**ITEM 8. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF CLASSIFIED STAFF STARTING WAGE**

**Jessica Weltmer made a motion to approve increasing the hourly classified staff starting wages $0.25/hour, this includes food service $11.25/hr, para’s $11.25/hr and custodial $12.25/hr, Marty Hanson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:12 PM**

**ITEM 9. REPORTS**

1. **Bob Dietz, NCKSEC Interlocal #6 36 Report – Bob didn’t have anything to report this month.**
2. **Greg Koelsch, SCHS Principal – Greg was at Principal’s meeting out of town**
3. **Michelle Stamm, SCE Principal – Michelle wanted to mention the in-service today, she thought it went really well and had a lot of good topics.**
4. **Dustin McEwen, Superintendent – Mr. McEwen reported that the in-service today was a full day covering: Fastbridge, IXL, StopIt Solutions, Narcan Training, IPS, KESA work and grade level/subject level planning time.**

**Mr. McEwen reported information from the November Kansas State Board of Education Meeting. The Kansas State Board of Education made changes to graduation requirements that will impact the class of 2028. The number of overall credits remains 21, but the required credits have been adjusted slightly. The class of 2028 will also be required to have two or more post-secondary assets and to complete the FASFA. The FASFA requirement has an opt-out provision. Superintendent McEwen, also reported that the State Board of Education endorsed a recommendation from the Kansas Advisory Council for Indigenous Education for Kansas K-12 non-tribal schools to retire American Indian themed mascots. Mr. McEwen informed the USD 237 BOE that the Kansas State Board of Education does not have the authority to require local school board to change their mascots. The recommendation does not impact school accreditation or funding.**

**Mr. McEwen also reported that the new hot water heater and water softener needed at the Jr/Sr high school will soon be installed. The SCE school’s HVAC user interface software is in the final stages and training on how to use the new software will be underway soon. The district will soon launch a grant funded program called StopIt Solutions. StopIt Solutions System will provide students (4th through 12th) with an avenue to report incidents of bullying, violence or other inappropriate behaviors. Mapes and Miller will be in the district November 15 to preform our financial audit. Last week the district finished up with the School Nutrition Program administrative review.**

**ITEM 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

**Steve Overmiller made a motion to go into Executive Session – Personnel, non-elected personnel exceptions, pursuant to KOMA, for 10 minutes with open meeting to resume at 8:59 PM. The Board invited Mr. McEwen to remain in the closed meeting with the Board Members. Bob Dietz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 8:49 PM**

**Roberta Reinking and Easton Hrabe left the closed meeting.**

**Roberta Reinking and Easton Hrabe returned to the open meeting. 8:59 PM**

**ITEM 11. BOARD COMMENTS**

**Sara Pruden and Libby McDonald discussed some of the topics from the meeting over the weekend.**

**A thank you for the Srader Foundation for the FFA Greenhouse was passed around for the board members to sign.**

**ITEM 12. BOARD ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**ITEM 13. ADJOURN**

**Bob Dietz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sara Pruden seconded the meeting. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. 9:04 PM**

**…..”it shall be my constant endeavor to devote time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a school board member so that I may render effective and credible service…..”**

**School Board Member Code of Ethics**

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Theron Haresnape, President Roberta Reinking, Clerk

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Date

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