

Rural Vista U.S.D. 481 Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Hope, Kansas
7:00 p.m.

Present: Board Members--Duane Blythe, Esther Dillon, Larry Goracke, Vicki Gruber, Theresa McCreath and Jim Barten

Absent: Board Member—Casey Riedy

Others Present: Renae Hickert, Mike Teeter, Brad Kempf, Chris Brown, Susan McConnell, Rachel Woods, Steve Reidy, Joann Kahnt, Amy Coup, John Rickner, Shelby Sizemore, Debbie Linder

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jim Barten, School Board President.

Appointment of Temporary Board Clerk

Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded to appoint Brad Kempf as temporary board clerk.

Passed 6-0

Approval of the Agenda

Vicki Gruber moved, Theresa McCreath seconded the approval of the agenda with the following additions:

Old business—former district office building

New business--district nepotism policy

Passed 6-0

Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded the approval of the consent agenda.

Passed 6-0

Citizen Open Forum

Mr. Teeter introduced the new Hope teachers:

Preschool: Amy Coup

High School Art: Rachel Wood

Vocational Agriculture: John Rickner

First Grade: Susan McConnell

Hope K-12 P.E.: Chris Brown

John Rickner and Shelby Sizemore addressed the board about the desire to take Hope FFA to Nationals in Indianapolis from October 18-21. Mr. Rickner asked for board approve for the trip. This item was moved to new business.

Steve Riedy asked the board to change eligibility policy for students in the district. He discussed that eligibility should change once the student grade was recovered. This allows student with "F" grades to turn in assignments, improve grades and become eligible sooner for activities. Board set the administrative team on a fact finding mission to see what the district teachers thought about the policy.

Mike Teeter shared news concerning events at the Hope Schools.
Brad Kempf shared news concerning events at the White City Schools.

Recess

Larry Goracke moved, Duane Blythe seconded 10 minute recess to set up IDL equipment for White City viewing 7:30p.m.

Passed 6-0

Board returned from recess at 7:40.
Casey Riedy joined the meeting.

Old Business

Comark

Superintendent Hickert told the board that Wells Fargo has requested that some of the Comark property to be sold so money owed to them can be repaid. If this happens the district may see some money owed to them.

Liquidated Damages – Mrs. Sweeney/ Ms. Shook

Superintendent Hickert told the board that the district has received payments from both teachers for breaking of contract.

Sealed Bus Bid

One bid (1005.00) was received for the 1995 International bus.

Vicki Gruber motioned, Theresa McCreath second to deny the bid and list the bus on craigslist.com and giving Superintendent Hickert (with consultation of Jim Barten, BOE president) the ability to accept a purchase price.

Passed 7-0

Efficiency Review Study

Superintendent Hickert told the board the efficiency review contained some data errors. After errors were fixed the board should review the study and recommend items which will be beneficial for the district.

Former Board Office Building

Superintendent Hickert was approached by the engineering firm, RVW, to see if the district was interested in renting the former district office. Duane Blythe added that if the district wants to keep the building the board should consider bringing in revenue and the district should call the company's

current landlord in Council Grove for a reference. Tyner Insurance agent was consulted on lessor risk insurance and an engineer was consulted about ADA requirements. Superintendent Hickert also consulted with school board attorney concerning the statutes concerning leasing district property. The board discussed having at least a one year lease with with a security deposit. Board gave approval to Superintendent Hickert to look into renting the building further with the consultation of board president.

Passed 7-0

New Business

KASB Fall Education Summits

Superintendent Hickert informed the board of the opportunity to go to the KASB Summit. If a member would like to intend they need to contact the board clerk.

Credit Card

Superintendent Hickert recommended to the board to stay with UMB and switch to their Business Rewards Card.

Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded to keep UMB as the credit card provider for the district.

Passed 7-0

Adult Lunch Prices

The current adult price of \$3.00 does not meet the minimum lunch price equity requirements. A transfer of \$1102.50 to the Food service will meet the requirement.

Larry Goracke motioned, Theresa McCreath seconded the approval of transfer of funds.

Passed 7-0

Job Descriptions

Superintendent Hickert updated the board on the current and proposed job descriptions for the board clerk and district treasurer.

Board Member Boundaries

Superintendent Hickert informed the board that once the census data is available to the district that the board will need to look at redistricting the boundaries for board elections.

Nepotism Policy

Superintendent Hickert addressed the district's nepotism policy and concerns of the policy not being followed at this time. Jim Barten stated that the board needs to change or get rid of the policy. Duane Blythe discussed that the board did not have a nepotism policy from 1997-2007 because the small rural environment of the district made hard to avoid hiring family members of the board. In 2007, the board approved nepotism the policy unknowingly because of the search for superintendent had higher priority. Vicki Gruber asked if a conflict of interest clause would be better suited for the district. Esther Dillon stated that the nepotism policy is not in the best interest of the district.

Esther Dillon moved, Theresa McCreath seconded the nepotism policy be deleted from the USD 481 board policies.

Passed 5-2

Larry Goracke and Jim Barten voting no

Hope FFA Trip to Nationals

The board discussed the FFA trip to Indianapolis from October 18-21. The district will pay for the first tank of gas on the trip and the rest of the money will come the FFA Activity fund.

Duane Blythe moved, Vicki Gruber seconded to allow the Hope FFA to go on their trip to nationals.

Passed 7-0

Executive Session:

Casey Riedy moved, Vicki Gruber seconded, to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing student matters commencing at 9:10 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:15

Passed 7-0

The Board returns to open session at 9:15 p.m.

Casey Riedy moved and Vicki Gruber seconded to accept the following out-of-district students conditionally:

Haylee Weeks
Gabriel Jarvis
McKenzie Cox
Austin Loving
Alyssa Loving
Joshua Loving

Passed 7-0

Casey Riedy moved, Theresa McCreath seconded, to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing non-elected personnel commencing at 9:15 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:35 p.m.

Passed 7-0

Board returned to open session at 9:35 p.m.

Casey Riedy stepped out due to conflict of interests 9:37 p.m.

Vicki Gruber moved to accept the following substitutes:

Kyle Lorson
Renaë Riedy
• Lorrie Adkins (secretary)

and the following supplemental contracts:

Marlene Teeter: Hope High School Head Volleyball
Tara Scarce: Hope High School Volleyball Assistant
Vernetta Hammersmith: Hope Junior High Scholars Bowl
Shelly Cunningham: White City Junior High Volleyball, Junior Class Sponsor
Krystal Griem: White City Forensics, Yearbook and HS Scholars Bowl

and the reduction of hours for Barb Stroda, District Treasurer.

Passed 5-1
Larry Goracke abstaining

Larry Goracke moved, Duane Blythe seconded, to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing student matters commencing at 9:40 p.m. and returning to open session at 9:45.

Passed 7-0

Board returned to open session at 9:45 p.m.

General Discussion

Duane Blythe moved, Esther seconded the Board of education recessed from 9:45-9:55 for travel to old district office for tour of the facility.

Passed 7-0

Board returned from recess at 9:55.

Adjournment:

Duane Blythe moved to adjourn. Vicki Gruber seconded.

Passed 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:15

Board President---Jim Barten

Board Clerk---Brad Kempf

Date Approved: