**LIBERAL R-II SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**

**January 27, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Liberal R-II School District was held on Wednesday January 27, 2021 in the Board of Education Office. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Brian King.

**Members Present:** Brian King (2021), President

Christie Ulrich (2023), Vice-President

Bryce Barton (2022)

Chris Morrow (2023)

John Simpson (2021)

Tonya Suschnick (2022)

Brian Williams (2023) *- ABSENT*

**Others Present:** William Harvey, Superintendent

Nicole Ruddick, HS / MS Principal

Rachel Miller, HS / MS Assistant Principal

Leticia Fry, Elementary Principal

Travis Walton, Athletic Director

Wendy Rose, Board Secretary

Pam Clemensen, Senior Class Sponsor

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**Motion** by Barton, seconded by Suschnick to approve the presented agenda for the regular January 27, 2021 meeting with the following additions in Unfinished Business: (B) Considering a cooperative agreement with Bronaugh for the 2021 softball season and (C) Consider approving the Senior trip in April 2021. Motion carried 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Motion** by Suschnick, seconded by Simpson to approve the open session minutes from the regular meeting held on December 22, 2020. Motion carried 5-0-1, Ulrich abstained.

**B. Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Ulrich to pay the January 2021 bills as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

**C. Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Ulrich to approve the monthly bank statement from December 2020. Motion carried 6-0.

**D. Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Suschnick to transfer $105,000 from the MoSIP Bond Account to the NOW account. Motion carried 6-0.

**E. Motion** by Ulrich, seconded by Suschnick to transfer $48,915 from debt service to the NOW account to reimburse the district for the MOHEFA payment. Motion carried 6-0

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**C.** Pam Clemensen presented plans for the upcoming Senior Trip scheduled for April 7-11th to the Florida / Alabama coast. There are 18 students (8 girls, and 10 boys) signed up to go. Reservations have been made for a charter bus for travel and for a duplex house to lodging. A final itinerary hasn’t been set but tentative plans include a dolphin cruise, deep sea fishing,

January 27, 2021

Open Session

Page 2 of 4

parasailing and beach time. The class has raised a large percentage of their money and they will have four more home games for concession sales before the end of the season.

**Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Simpson to approve the presented plans for the Senior Trip to Alabama / Florida Coast on April 7-11, 2021. Motion carried 6-0.

**BUILDING PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

**Elementary**

Mrs. Fry reported enrollment for the elementary at 118 for in class students and 7 for distant learners. Students in 4-6th grades have been preparing for the upcoming Spelling Bee that will be held virtually so parents can watch from home. The next Title I family night will be held on February 4th via Zoom with parents and students celebrating Valentines Day.

**Middle School / High School**

Mrs. Ruddick reported enrollment for the middle school at 90 for in class students and the high school has an enrollment of 109 in class students. There are 11 distant learners and 2 virtual learners for both schools. MS and HS Scholars bowl have started to attend meets. There are 18 archery students that participated in the first meet of the year at Billings earlier this month. FFA is having their end of the year banquet from last year at the high school tonight due to it being canceled last spring. Basketball Homecoming will be February 5th.

**Athletic Director**

Mr. Walton updated the board on the current basketball seasons. The varsity girls placed 5th at the Golden city tournament and 4th in the Tony Dubray tournament. The varsity boys placed 4th at the Golden City tournament and 5th in the Tony Dubray Tournament. Mr. Walton reported that the tournament went very smoothly and the school received many compliments on the new gym. The gate revenues were the best they have been for several years; it possibly may have helped to schedule the girls and boys on opposite nights.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Harvey reported that district is up approximately $150,000 when compared to last year at this time. Revenues are up from the help of the Small Schools Grant the district has been receiving this year.

Board election filings have ended for the April 6, 2021 election. There are three candidates who have filed; Brian King, John Simpson and Denise James.

The high school FEMA storm shelter is completed, except for the awning to cover the south doors of the shelter. The awning is still at the suppliers but should be here soon. One more area being looked at is extending the padding on gym walls for safety purposes, which would be an extra small cost.

The elementary FEMA project has seen lots of progress over the last several weeks. The outer walls of the gymnasium are complete on three sides and most of the masonry work is almost completed. The steel structure of the offices and lobby area are going up and the construction teams have been working on the roof every day that the weather allows.

January 27, 2021

Open Session

Page 3 of 4

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A.** The board reviewed all bids received for new bus purchases which included the following:

* Midwest Transit of Nixa Primary Bid: New 2022 IC/CE 71 passenger with a 5-year lease for $93,506 plus an extra charge for extended warranties for body / chassis and tow.
* Midwest Transit of Nixa Alternate Bid: New 2021 Stock Bus IC/CE 77 passenger with a 5-year lease for $87,808 plus an extra charge for extended warranties for body / chassis and tow.
* Central Bus Sales Inc. 2022 Blue Bird Vision 71 passenger with a five-year lease for $89,764

Midwest said they had a couple of the 2021 model 77 passenger stock buses available. The 2021 buses would be ready to go within the next six weeks but any of the 2022 models would be next fall before they were ready. Mr. Harvey said whichever new bus they purchased would be used a s trip bus and the 14-2 and then the 19-1 would be moved to a route. The 77 passenger buses are 16 inches longer and include an extra row of sears. The wheel base is the same but could possibly be harder to handle on a daily route that had many turn arounds and stops. The board would like to see some prices on a smaller bus 55-65 passengers and what that cost would be to the district.

**Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Ulrich to accept Midwest Transits alternative bid and purchase one of the 2021 Stock Bus model IC/CE 77 passenger with a 5-year lease for $87,808 and to also purchase the extended 5-year warranties on body / chassis and tow for an additional $3,060. Motion carried 6-0.

**B. Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Barton to approve a softball cooperative with Bronaugh for the 2020- 2021 season. Motion carried 6-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Barton to appoint the following staff and board members to the 2021-2022 Salary Committee: Rachel Miller, Brandi Goodell, Phillip Vore, Kerri Brunk, Brian Williams and Bryce Barton. Motion carried 6-0.

**B.**  Mr. Harvey put together one calendar proposal for 2021-2022 school year which is very similar to this year’s calendar. He sent it to the staff asking for their opinions on anything that they would like to see changed. He gave the board a copy for them to review before next month when it will need to be approved.

**C. Motion** by Barton, seconded by Suschnick to hold the next regular board meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

January 27, 2021

Open Session

Page 4 of 4

**Motion** by Suschnick, seconded by Barton to go into closed session in accordance with Missouri State Statute 610.021 for the purpose of exception #3 (hiring, firing, disciplining and promotion of personnel) and #13 (Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees). Roll Call Vote: Barton-yes, King-yes, Morrow-yes, Simpson-yes, Suschnick-yes and Ulrich-yes. Motion carried 6-0. **(7:25 p.m.)**

**Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Morrow to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0.

**CLOSING TIME: 8:00 p.m.**