

EUREKA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Of April 22nd, 2015

Board Room, Eureka Elementary School, Nevada
Room 8 Crescent Valley Elementary School, Nevada
Meeting sites connected by Interactive Video

5:30 p.m. – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Bacon-Bowling.

Roll Call

Present:

Kathy Bacon-Bowling, President
Robin Hicks, Member
Darla Baumann, Member
Terrilynn Brown, Member

Greg Wieman, Superintendent
Susan Squires, Elementary Principal
Dan Wold, High School Principal
Mike Rebaleati, Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mike Rebaleati to adopt the agenda.
Motion carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Bacon-Bowling read the following: Comments may be made by members of the public on any matters within the authority of the Board. Please note that Public Comment will be taken on any item on this Agenda marked “**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**” before action is taken on such items, and members of the public are encouraged to comment on such items at the time they are being considered. Although members of the Board may respond to questions and discuss issues raised during the period reserved for Public Comment, no action may be taken on such a matter until the matter is placed on an agenda for action at a meeting of the Board. In making Public Comment, speakers are asked to identify themselves for the record and to limit their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. Members of the public who desire to have an item placed on an agenda of the Board are asked to submit their request and any supporting information to the Superintendent for review five (5) days prior to the date of a Regular Meeting of the Board.

Public Comment called for by President Bacon-Bowling.

No public comment.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

1. *Discuss, approve, or deny accepting Letter of Resignation from High School Industrial Arts Education Teacher Craig Smith effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year.*

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown, seconded by Robin Hicks to accept the Letter of Resignation from Craig Smith. No Public Comment. Motion carries

2. *Discuss, approve, or deny reducing a certified staff position at Eureka County High School (Reduction in Force or RIF). District administration is proposing a reduction in the number of certified staff by reducing one full-time special education teacher. This recommendation is made due to a reduction in the program and school enrollment. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Superintendent Wieman explained that the person that currently has the job has already transferred to Eureka Elementary School, and there is no need to fill the vacancy created at the High School.

Motion made by Mike Rebaleati, seconded by Robin Hicks, to reduce a certified staff position at Eureka High School. President Bacon-Bowling called for public comment. Garney Damele expressed her concern with the staff reduction because she thinks that the current position is important to special education students. She thinks that it is important to have a full-time special education student that is there four days a week. Dr. Wieman said that the current special education staff member would be at the High School three days a week, with other coverage the fourth day to make sure there is adequate coverage. Mrs. Brown asked again to make sure that there would be four day coverage. Dr. Wieman said that for the fourth day, there is on-line curriculum that is used for students, "Study Island". Principal Wold said that one day a week, some students use this program as self-guided study. Principal Wold said that the position that they are advertising for computer science would oversee the special education students on the fourth day, with the help of the instructional aides. For this fourth day, the supervising teacher would not be a special education teacher. Other scheduling situations were explained by the Principal. Robin Hicks asked for clarification – three days a week students are in special education and one day a week they are utilizing the online program? Principal Wold confirmed this. Dr. Wieman said that the District has IEP compliance across the board. The remaining special education teaching position will be three quarters time or will be extended to full-time. Mrs. Hicks asked Superintendent Wieman if the remaining special education teacher would become a full-time teacher with the Superintendent replying that a full-time teacher would be scheduled if the need arose. Mrs. Hicks also asked if a special education teacher from the high school would still travel to Crescent Valley one day a week. Dr. Wieman said that he wanted to get away from sending the teacher to Crescent Valley one day a week, and that he had an additional recommendation in agenda item #5. By referring to agenda item #5, he isn't recommending necessarily a special education teacher, but it means additional support to make sure things are in compliance and to make sure that students are getting the services they need. The staffing at Eureka High School for special education would go from two days a week to three days a week, and possibly four days a week because the other special

education teacher who is three quarters time, will not be going to Crescent Valley each week. Principal Wold talked about the various teaching combinations that may be possible when hiring new staff members. Other discussion for clarification continued for several more minutes. Mike Rebaleati suggested that the Board could always add the position back into the staffing tally if it proved necessary in the future. President Bacon-Bowling reminded the group that there was a motion and a second on the floor and called for a vote. Board members Robin Hicks and Mike Rebaleati voted 'Aye', Terrilynn Brown abstained from voting and Darla Baumann voted 'Nay'. President Bacon-Bowling voted 'Aye' for the record. Motion carries

3. *Discuss, approve, or deny reducing a certified staff position at Eureka County High School (Reduction in Force or RIF). District administration is proposing a reduction in the number of certified staff by reducing one full-time Industrial Arts Education teacher to one-third (1/3) of a position. This recommendation is made due to a reduction in the program and school enrollment. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Superintendent Wieman explained that there is only a need for one third of a position. The current teacher has submitted a letter of resignation. Combination positions were discussed and Dr. Wieman explained that there is a program of alternate licensure in Nevada. This program provides a plan to achieve the proper credentialing in a certain time period. Principal Wold and Superintendent Wieman described combination difficulties to achieve the staffing that would assist in filling the current vacancies. Difficulties in filling a partial contract in industrial arts was discussed. However, administrators are hopeful that other applicants with additional credentialing could also hold an industrial arts endorsement and could provide the necessary instruction. Darla Baumann said that this position is important to her because these classes are important to some of the high school students. Dr. Wieman stressed that the enrollment does not support a full-time position. The possibility of using a person in the community was discussed. Dr. Wieman doesn't want to make industrial arts a full-time position if there is not a need. Principal Wold told the group that he had asked the students what classes they would like to take, that are not currently offered. He said about 20 10th through 12th grade students said that they would like more computer classes. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati, seconded by Terrilynn Brown to reduce the Industrial Arts position to one third of contract, with the stipulation that administration continue to search to satisfy the need for welding instruction at the high school. No Public Comment. Motion carries with Darla Baumann voting 'Nay' and President Bacon-Bowling voting 'Aye' for the record.

4. *Discussion and possible action regarding Fiscal Year 2016 Budget for Eureka County School District. The Board will discuss department budgets for the following: Eureka Elementary School, Crescent Valley Elementary School, Eureka High School, Operations & Maintenance, Janitorial, Transportation, Technology, Hot Lunch, Special Education, Athletics, and other District undistributed expenditures. Also to be discussed will be revenue sources for all funds, ending fund balances for all funds, Capital Projects Fund, Building & Sites Fund, and other Special Funds. Action that may be taken may be the addition or deletion of requested departmental requests. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Finance Officer Lisa Jones presented an overview to the Board regarding the budget requests for next year's budget. A hand-out was provided to show the board the ending fund balances over a seven year period. The hand-out demonstrated an over \$10M swing between the highest and the lowest ending fund balance as an illustration of the deterioration of the ending fund balance. Other budget hand-outs that demonstrated each of the major governmental funds and their current balances and revenue sources was discussed. Mike Rebaleati suggested that the Board disregard the Department of Taxation's projections for net proceeds. He recommends that the Board state a position of zero net proceeds as a conservative position, in case they are not received as projected. Mr. Rebaleati suggested augmenting the budget later if the net proceeds is received. The Board agreed that they would like the final budget filed without the use of the net proceeds as indicated in the tentative budget. The Board also decided to reduce the sales tax revenue from \$1.3M to \$1M, due to a flat sales tax environment. Mrs. Jones also informed the Board that she will increase the transfer to the special education fund by \$200,000. All of the major governmental funds were discussed, along with the proposed projects that have been requested. The Board asked questions about textbook expenses, softball and baseball uniforms, staff travel, administrative and board travel, computer and technology expenses, security cameras, new interactive video equipment needs, smart boards, and other proposed purchases. Mike Rebaleati asked about whether the District was scheduling any basketball tournaments. Elmer Porter, Athletic Director, replied that the District is looking at a junior high tournament, but there is no room in the schedule for a high school tournament, and that the costs for the junior high tournament are included in his budget request. The special education budget was discussed with several board members asking questions. Mike Rebaleati asked the transportation director, JD Damele, about the use of vans or Suburbans instead of school buses for some of the smaller athletic teams. Mr. Damele explained that the 15 passenger vans were not allowed for student transport anymore. Mrs. Jones discussed the retirement system increases and health insurance costs. Mr. Rebaleati discussed the assessed valuation of the county and that it can fluctuate up and down and the school needs to be mindful of that. In conclusion, Mr. Rebaleati asked about the proposed reading program at the elementary schools. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati, seconded by Robin Hicks, to remove the net proceeds revenue from the FY16 budget, and reduce the Local Schools support tax, adjust the capital projects fund to reflect what fiscal year the projects can be completed in, and add money for athletic uniforms, and increase the special education transfer from the general fund. No Public Comment. Motion carries

President Bacon-Bowling called for a 10 minute break
The meeting resumed at 7:39 p.m.

5. *Discuss, approve or deny the current and possible future School District facilities in the Crescent Valley area. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Terrilynn Brown said that she would like to see an architect proceed with the feasibility of evaluating the Crescent Valley School for remodel.

Dr. Wieman said that at the current time, he thinks that it is more of a program problem than a facilities problem. Mrs. Brown said that she would still like to see an architect retained for a study. Mike Rebaleati said that he would like to see this project placed on the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati, seconded by Terrilynn Brown to acquire an architect to review the feasibility and cost to remodel the Crescent Valley School, with the decision to proceed coming back to the Board before anything else is decided. President Bacon-Bowling called for Public Comment with Mindy Filippini in Crescent Valley responding. Ms. Filippini said that she is happy that the District will look into the remodel concept. She said there is not enough room for the kids in the multi-purpose room if they stay in during recess. No additional Public Comment. Motion carries

6. *Discuss, approve, or deny District Administration proposal to add an Assistant Principal position at the Crescent Valley Elementary School. This position may be combined with a partial teaching position. The estimated cost for this additional position may be \$90,000 plus 5% for additional responsibility, plus benefits. Salary cost will be determined by ranking on the district's salary scale for an administrative degree. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Superintendent Wieman said that there is not an adequate physical education program at the school and the students there need a better athletic experience at the school. He would like to see participation in athletics be better at the Battle Mountain High School. He is also looking at administrative coverage at the school and feels that additional coverage is necessary. He is looking at a position that would be an Assistant Principal and would be primarily an administrative position but with a contract that would be shorter in length than the other administrators. This position would also be someone that could fill the physical education void at the elementary level, and would be nice if they were certified in special education but if they are not, make sure that the school is compliant. Also, this person could perform a counselor function. This person could also fulfill the needs of the after-school program and provide oversight for curriculum. Dr. Wieman said that he thinks that they can account for about \$50,000 of the costs of this position by cutting in other places. The elementary principal would take over the afterschool program in this school, which would also save money. Terrilynn Brown said that she brought this to the Board earlier and she thinks that it would benefit the school. Darla Baumann said that is why they hired three administrators instead of two so that coverage could be provided in Crescent Valley. President Bacon-Bowling reminded the group that one of the administrators previously was a school counselor, and that one of his roles was to provide counseling services so in the past they did not have three administrators. Robin Hicks said that she thinks that the District is overloaded and she is concerned about the revenue shortfall. Mrs. Hicks pointed out that attendance is down and current staff members have picked up additional duties and she pointed out that other rural areas have only one administrator for K-12 schools. Under the present circumstances, she won't support adding additional administration. Motion made by Terrilynn Brown to approve the position. Mike Rebaleati asked what teaching assignment would this position perform. Dr. Wieman indicated that they would teach p.e. and recreation. Principal Squires said that there are two handicapped students at the school and they follow the IEP the way the law asks them to follow it but they are not serviced appropriately. She said that the aides assigned to the student are only checked on once a week. Mike Rebaleati

asked how the position request fulfilled the special education needs, because that is not what was being asked for. Mike Rebaleati said that he doesn't think that the request is structured right. Mrs. Hicks said if the request is for special education, then the focus should be on special education. Terrilynn Brown said that she is having a hard time because the discussion earlier was about how reducing the Industrial Arts position and how that would affect a few students, but she thinks that this effect is the same in Crescent Valley. Motion was seconded by Mike Rebaleati so that there is a clear direction. No additional Public Comment. Motion does not carry with Robin Hicks, Darla Baumann, and Kathy Bacon-Bowling voting 'Nay' and Terrilynn Brown and Mike Rebaleati voting 'Aye'.

7. *Discuss, approve, or deny authorizing Summit Engineering Corporation to perform Civil Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering, Surveying, for the high school parking lot project. Estimated cost as provided by Summit Engineering is \$85,475 plus time and materials for reimbursable expenses. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Dr. Wieman explained that the District needs to finish the parking project for the new facility and explained that the football field parking lot is sloughing off and creating problems. This is a continuance of a plan that was decided on when the gymnasium project was formulated. This is the last phase of the gymnasium construction. The areas in the design proposal were discussed. The grade needs to be improved and a lot of earthwork needs to be done for the project. Mike Rebaleati said that he thinks that they need to finish what was started. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati to approve the engineering proposal. Winnona Eversgerd asked if there was a cheaper way to do it because the proposal will require additional expenses. She doesn't think that it feels right to do parking lots and they Board just said no to helping kids in the last motion. President Bacon-Bowling said that they inherited these projects and she feels like it is a safety issue because some of the large events require that people park all over and it is unsafe. Dr. Wieman asked if people could separate themselves from the need for this project from the last agenda item because there is a real need to repair the sloughing off of the dirt parking at the football field. Principal Squires said that she is disgusted that the District cannot service the children the way we need to service them and pursue putting up a parking lot. President Bacon-Bowling reminded Mrs. Squires that the comparison between a salary which is an ongoing cost verses parking lots expenses which are a one-time cost. Mike Rebaleati stated that he believes that the parking lot costs should have been included with the original project and he feels like the project was poorly planned. He hopes that in the future there will be a discussion on how net proceeds revenue is spent in the future. No additional public comment. The vote on the motion previously made and seconded was unanimous. Motion carries

8. *Discuss, approve, or deny authorizing Jensen Engineering Inc., Electrical Engineers, to engineer and design lighting needed for high school parking lot project. Estimated cost as provided by Jensen Engineering for the lump-sum fee of \$5,900. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Dr. Wieman explained that this is an additional proposal for the parking lot project, specifically for the electrical design for parking lot lighting. Motion made by Mike

Rebaleati, seconded by Terrilynn Brown to approve the engineering proposal for parking lot electrical and lighting design. No Public Comment. Motion carries

9. *Discuss, approve, or deny authorizing the installation of window tinting at the new gymnasium facility. One proposal has been received (with several others expected) for 98 windows and 3 doors in the amount of \$24,000. Agenda item provides for authorizing the Superintendent to select from all responsive vendors, the most desirable proposal in the same price range. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**. Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Dr. Wieman described the need for window tinting due to glaring sunlight exposure on the basketball court. He would like the authority to review any other proposals that may arrive, but so far receiving interest from vendors has been challenging. It is likely that only one more vendor may respond to the invitation to submit a proposal according to the Superintendent. It was felt that the tinting will also provide UV protection for the interior surfaces of the gymnasium. Sheriff Logan asked the group to consider evaluating the road hazard that may be caused by the reflective material for drivers driving on the roads around the gym. The guarantee for the product is 15 years. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati, seconded by Terrilynn Brown to approve the window tinting proposal not to exceed \$24,000. No Public Comment. Motion carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

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No Public Comment

Adjournment

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown, seconded by Mike Rebaleati to adjourn meeting. Motion carries

Next meetings announced for May 12th, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

