

**Preliminary Business**

**Elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

Pam Glenn opened the floor for nominations of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2023-24 school year. Kaiger Braseth nominated Pam Glenn as Board Chair. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Pam Glenn then nominated Kaiger Braseth as Vice-Chairman. Ken Patterson seconded the motion which also passed unanimously. Board Chair Glenn called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and welcomed guests. Those present were Katie Burright, Dawn Treat, Tim and Jenny Phelps, Kristen Kruse and Drew Williams.

**Agenda Changes**

It was noted that there were some additional action items to be added to the agenda; hiring of a bus driver, approval of an additional volleyball coaching position and authorization of “seed” money for the track project.

**Consent Agenda**

There were no questions regarding the bills paid, Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the minutes and bills paid. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Reports**

**Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Waite reported that districts will no longer be able to purchase diesel buses after December of this year. The state is pushing natural gas, electric and gasoline engines. Superintendent Waite noted that he has concerns with all three of these options and would like the Board to have a conversation about purchasing another diesel bus before they are no longer available. He would also like the Board to begin thinking about the best use of the existing locker rooms once the new ones are completed. He noted that the new toilet partitions would need to be purchased as the existing toilet partitions could not be repurposed for various reasons. Superintendent Waite expressed concern that some of the old lockers will not be in good enough shape to repurpose for the new locker rooms.

It was reported that the audit was completed the previous week and Superintendent Waite thanked Teresa Dewey for her efforts with this annual process.

**Maintenance/Transportation Report**

Drew Williams reported that, if the Board was interested in purchasing another diesel bus, it would need to be done within the next three to four weeks. Mr. Williams expressed concern about the poor mileage and longevity of gas engines and also the lack of facilities for electric and natural gas buses. He encouraged the Board to consider the purchase of another diesel bus. He reported that the drivers will be attending a core training in Elgin. The IPM Coordinator training was held here in Imbler the previous week. He reported that the inspection went well. At the recent PACE training he attended, it was reported that pea gravel is no longer an acceptable fall protection material for playgrounds with platforms over 5'. The recommendation is that it be replaced with bark or repurposed rubber. PACE will be inspecting facilities within the next year.

Discussion turned to the bus situation. The Board expressed their frustration with the elimination of diesel buses and the increased cost and decreased efficiency of gasoline engines. The lack of infrastructure in our area for natural gas and electric buses was also discussed.

### **New Business**

#### **School Fees Discussion**

Superintendent Waite informed the Board that the trend across the state is the elimination of standard school fees. He noted that he felt that he did not want any student to not be able to take a specific class due to fees. It was noted that the school fee structure has not been changed in many years and, while the fees may have been necessary in past years, the additional grant funds currently available to schools, most fees are not necessary to cover the cost of classes. Superintendent Waite proposed that fees would continue to be charged for extracurricular activities such as; athletics, FBLA, FFA, etc. Kaiger Braseth stated that he would be in favor of changing the fee structure and asked that an updated fee schedule be presented at the next meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **Locker Room Project**

Superintendent Waite reported that the painting of the locker rooms will need to take place the second or third week of August. The walls and ceiling will need to be painted along with an epoxy coating on the floor. It was determined that time was a factor and that, in order to get the painting done for the project to continue to move forward, bids would be obtained. Repurposing of the old lockers was also discussed. Superintendent Waite will obtain bids for replacement lockers to determine which route to go; repurpose or purchase new.

Discussion turned to future use of the existing locker rooms. Drew Williams stated that he would like to see some storage for tables and chairs and custodial supplies and equipment. He reported that, technically, the bus barn is not to be used for anything other than bus related uses and he noted that there are a lot of items currently being stored in the bus barn. Superintendent Waite suggested completing the locker room project and then determine how much money the Board wants to spend on refurbishing the existing locker rooms. Kaiger Braseth stated that there is a lot of usable space there and maybe it could be repurposed as a music room and/or meeting room. He would like to continue the conversation so that the space can be utilized sooner than later.

#### **Track Project Update**

Dawn Burright expressed her appreciation to the Board for their support of the project. She noted that they raised nearly \$14,000 from the Independence Day Run. She stated that they hope to continue the run annually to help provide funds for the maintenance of the track once it is completed. It was reported that the committee has established a bank account for their fundraising efforts and a chili cook-off has been planned with the local grange hall.

Kaiger Braseth stated that he would be in favor of donating \$15,000 “seed” money to show the district’s support for the project and noted that it is critical for obtaining grants to show the District is in support of the project with matching funds. Superintendent Waite suggested having further conversations to determine how much the Board is willing to contribute as matching funds.

**Union County School District #11**

**July 18, 2023**

**Board Minutes - Page 3**

**Action Items**

**Designations for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year**

Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the following designations:

Chief Administrative Officer - Randy Waite

Deputy Clerk - Teresa Dewey

Budget Officer - Randy Waite

Custodian of Funds - Randy Waite

Legal Counsel - Garrett, Hemann, Robertson, Jennings, Comstock & Trethewy P.C.

Official District Auditors - Connected Professional Accountants, LLC

Insurance Agent of Record - Wheatland Insurance

Depositories of Funds - Banner Bank and Local Government Pool

Establish Regular Monthly Meetings - Third Tuesday of each month

Ken Patterson seconded the designations, which were unanimously passed.

**Approve Policies Presented in June**

Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the policies as presented. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Approve Staff Hiring**

Superintendent Waite recommended the hiring of Glen Olson as Bus Driver. Kaiger Braseth moved to approved the hiring. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

**Approve Additional Volleyball Coaching Position**

Superintendent Waite reported that Coach Teeter expects to have over 30 high school volleyball athletes and would like the Board to consider adding another paid coaching position if that happens. Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the addition of an additional coach in the event there are more than 30 high school volleyball athletes. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Approve Contribution to the Track Project**

Ken Patterson moved to approve a pledge from the District of up to \$15,000 for the hiring of a grant writer for the track project. Kaiger Braseth seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**Members Present**

Kaiger Braseth, Pam Glenn and Ken Patterson (virtual).

**Others Present**

Randy Waite, Superintendent and Teresa Dewey, Deputy Clerk.

---

Chairman

---

Deputy Clerk