

**TREMONT COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #702**  
**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**  
**Thursday, August 10, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**

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**Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.**

Roll Call -	Ropp –present	Sumer –present
	Smith - present	Kilgus –present
	Kaiser –present	Gierich -present
	Ulrich - present	

**Persons Desiring to Address the Board** – Mr. Kaeb addressed the Board with concerns of traffic flow around the grade school. Mr. Whightsil also was in attendance and introduced himself as a new teacher in the high school.

**Consent Agenda –**

1. Approval of previous meeting's minutes as published/corrected
2. Acceptance of treasurer's report
3. Approval of activity fund
4. Approval of bills, payroll, and Imprest Fund
5. Approve student handbooks
6. Designate depositories – Tremont Community Bank, First National Bank in Tremont and PMA Financial Network
7. Approval of agenda

Motion by **Ropp** to approve the consent agenda. Second by **Gierich**.

Roll Call -	Ropp –yea	Sumer –yea
	Smith –yea	Kilgus –yea
	Kaiser –yea	Gierich –yea
	Ulrich - yea	

Motion Carried: 7-0

**Correspondence Received** – Thank you card from Kilgus Family; Brad Watson email regarding Edwards Power Plant Closure by Removal concern

**Reports**

**Principals/Directors**

The principals were not in attendance but provided written reports.

**Superintendent**

The superintendent presented his written report updating the Board on the approval of the application for a Digital Equity Grant. With these funds we will pay off a 2-year lease for chromebooks and laptops, purchase additional chromebooks, laptops and iPads as well as purchase 21 Smart Boards which will completely furnish the grade school and middle school and also provide the high school with a few. Mr. Berry also shared some assessment data with the Board and gave an update on the MS/HS Library project.

**Other**

No updates from the Facilities Committee.

## **Old Business**

### **Information Items**

#### **Monthly Financial Discussion**

Mr. Berry updated the Board on cash flow and fund balances. The district will be in Tier 1 for EBF again this year. Last year, we were at 68% adequacy and the cutoff for Tier1/2 was 73%. This year, we are at 73% adequacy, but the cutoff increased to 77%.

#### **Summer Projects Update**

Mr. Berry updated the Board on the summer maintenance projects, some of which are still ongoing.

#### **Board Retreat**

Plans for the upcoming board retreat were discussed.

### **Action Items**

#### **FY24 Tentative Budget**

Motion by **Kilgus** to adopt a working budget for FY24 as presented by Superintendent Berry. Second by **Sumer**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried: 7-0

#### **FY24-25 Salary Agreement**

Motion by **Smith** to adopt the proposed FY24-FY25 Salary Agreement as presented. Second by **Gierich**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea

Smith –yea

Kaiser –yea

Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea

Kilgus –yea

Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

## **New Business**

### **Information Items**

#### **Staffing**

A list of staff changes was provided.

#### **PRESS Plus Issue 112**

Mr. Berry provided a synopsis for the latest Press Plus updates.

#### **Edwards Power Plant Closure by Removal**

Mr. Berry shared an email regarding a plan to haul coal ash through Tremont. The Board can submit a letter to the Illinois EPA expressing concerns and objecting to the proposed plan.

### **Action Items**

#### **Resignations**

Motion by **Ulrich** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Claire Galletti as HS Biology Teacher, effective August 1, 2023.

Second by **Kaiser**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Gierich** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Rachel Bleich as MS Special Education Teacher, effective August 1, 2023.

Second by **Sumer**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Kaiser** to ratify the acceptance by the Superintendent of the resignation of Denise Teaney as a Bus Driver effective immediately.

Second by **Kilgus**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried: 7-0

### **Employment**

Motion by **Sumer** to employ Mitch Whightsil as a HS Business Teacher for the 2023-24 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Smith**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea

Smith –yea

Kaiser –yea

Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea

Kilgus –yea

Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Ropp** to employ Jacinda Shoot as a HS Biology Teacher for the 2023-24 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Kilgus**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea

Smith –yea

Kaiser –yea

Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea

Kilgus –yea

Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Kilgus** to employ Joy Schwarting as a HS Ag Teacher for the 2023-24 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Kaiser**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea

Smith –yea

Kaiser –yea

Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea

Kilgus –yea

Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Sumer** to employ Joy Schwarting and Jenny Schweigert as FFA co-sponsors for the 2023-24 school year, per salary agreement. Second by **Ropp**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea

Smith –yea

Kaiser –yea

Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea

Kilgus –yea

Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Kaiser** to employ Janet Tisdale as a part-time Turk Center Teacher per salary agreement.  
Second by **Gierich**.

Roll Call -	Ropp –yea	Sumer –yea
	Smith –yea	Kilgus –yea
	Kaiser –yea	Gierich –yea
	Ulrich - yea	

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Ropp** to employ Shannon Kult as a part-time Teachers Aide for the 2023-24 school year per salary agreement. Second by **Smith**.

Roll Call -	Ropp –yea	Sumer –yea
	Smith –yea	Kilgus –yea
	Kaiser –yea	Gierich –yea
	Ulrich - yea	

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Ulrich** to employ Gail Williams as a part-time Cafeteria Aide for the 2023-24 school year per salary agreement. Second by **Kaiser**.

Roll Call -	Ropp –yea	Sumer –yea
	Smith –yea	Kilgus –yea
	Kaiser –yea	Gierich –yea
	Ulrich - yea	

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Smith** to employ Erin Pulliam as a part-time summer maintenance assistant at a rate of \$13.50/hour. Second by **Kilgus**.

Roll Call -	Ropp –yea	Sumer –yea
	Smith –yea	Kilgus –yea
	Kaiser –yea	Gierich –yea
	Ulrich - yea	

Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion by **Gierich** to approve Shari Scully, Brittany Hertenstein and Melody Genusa as new subs for the 23-24 school year. Second by **Sumer**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Motion Carried: 7-0

Adjourned to Closed Session: **9:07 p.m.**

**Closed session – under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee.**

Motion by **Ropp** to adjourn to closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee.

Second by **Sumer**.

Roll Call -

Ropp –yea  
Smith –yea  
Kaiser –yea  
Ulrich - yea

Sumer –yea  
Kilgus –yea  
Gierich –yea

Motion Carried: 7-0

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:30 p.m.

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Robert Ropp, President

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Renee Kaiser, Secretary