

River Valley Board of Education
RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
15480 Three Oaks Road
Three Oaks, MI 49128

Regular Meeting – RV Middle/High School Library
Monday, July 19, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: J.C. German, Michael Ehlert, Ronald Petro, Fred Knutel, Vickie Wagner, Vicky Pfauth, Blane Hillman.

- 1.0 Call to Order**
President J. C. German called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**
President German led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3.0 Appoint Acting Secretary**
Ronald Petro was appointed acting secretary.
- 4.0 Approval of Agenda as Presented**
Moved by Knutel, supported by Pfauth, to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.
- 5.0 Public Comment on Agenda**
None.
- 6.0 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 21,2010 and Special Meeting minutes of July 12, 2010**
Moved by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to approve the minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried
- 7.0 Board Committee Reports**
 - 7.1 Buildings and Grounds** - Mr. Schroeder reported that the next Citizens Committee Meeting will be held in the M/HS Library on July 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.
 - 7.2 Curriculum/Policy** – It was identified that the board packet contained NEOLA recommended Board Policy updates which required review. The update contains proposed changes regarding military leave, “sexting” and discrimination. The Curriculum/Policy Committee is to make a recommendation on the changes at the next Board meeting with Board action to follow. Board Members are to share their comments, on the proposed changes, with Mr. Schroeder.
- 8.0 Correspondence**
None
- 9.0 Old Business**
None
- 10.0 New Business**
 - 10.1 Organization of the River Valley Board of Education for the 2010 - 2011 Fiscal Year**
 - 10.1.1 Election of Board of Education Officers**
President – Fred Knutel nominated J. C. German to serve as President, supported by Ehlert. All ayes. Motion carried. Mr. German will serve as President.

Vice President – Fred Knutel nominated Mike Ehlert to serve as Vice President, supported by Hillman. All ayes. Mr. Ehlert will serve as Vice President.

Treasurer - Vickie Wagner nominated Victoria Pfauth to serve as Treasurer, supported by Petro. Motion denied (5 to 2 – Wagner, Petro)

Fred Knutel nominated Ron Petro to serve as Treasurer, supported by Hillman. Motion carried (5 to 2 – Wagner, Petro). Mr. Petro will serve as Treasurer.

Secretary – Following a discussion of the responsibilities of the Secretary and identification that templates would be developed to make taking meeting notes easier, Ron Petro nominated Victoria Pfauth to serve as Secretary, supported by Hillman. All ayes. Motion carried. Ms. Pfauth will serve as Secretary.

10.1.2 Appointment of Membership to Standing Board Committees

The following appointments were made to standing committees by President German

10.1.2.1 Buildings and Grounds Committee

Michael Ehlert – Chairperson
Ronald Petro
Blane Hillman

10.1.2.2 Curriculum/Policy Committee

Vickie Wagner – Chairperson
Fred Knutel
Victoria Pfauth

10.1.2.3 Finance Committee

Ronald Petro – Chairperson
Michael Ehlert
J. C. German

10.1.2.4 Personnel Committee

Fred Knutel – Chairperson
J. C. German
Victoria Pfauth

10.1.3 Appointment of Representative and Alternate to the Berrien /Cass County School Board Association.

President German appointed Fred Knutel as the Representative and Ronald Petro as the Alternate.

10.1.4 Appointment of Board Designated Hearing Office.

President German will continue to serve as the Board Designated Hearing Officer.

10.1.5 Selection and Designation of Bank Depositories.

The following banking institutions were recommended for use by the River Valley School District by the Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak:

Chase Bank, Bridgman MI
Chemical Bank Shoreline, Three Oaks MI
Fifth Third Bank, Three Oaks, MI
Honor Credit Union (formerly Berrien Teachers Credit Union) St. Joseph, MI
Horizon Bank, Three Oaks, MI
Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus, Lansing, MI
United Federal Credit Union, St. Joseph, MI

It was also noted that accounts are maintained with the Berrien Community Foundation in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to use the banking institutions per the Business Manager's recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

10.1.6 Consider Approval of General Legal Counsel and Independent Auditor for District for 2010-2011

Recommended by Business Manager Capiak that the school district continue to use the Thrun Law Firm as its legal counsel for 2010-2011.

It was also recommended by Business Manager Capiak that the school district continue to use Schaffer and Layher, Certified Public Accountants of St. Joseph, Michigan as its independent auditor for 2010-2011.

Motion by Ehlert, supported by Pfauth, to use the Thrun Law Firm and Schaffer and Layher as per the recommendation. All ayes. Motion carried.

10.1.7 Appoint Board Member to Negotiations Team

Following a brief discussion, President German appointed himself and Vicky Pfauth to continue in their role as Board members on the Negotiations Team.

10.1.8 Appointment of MASB Legislative Liaison and Alternate

Following a brief discussion President German appointed Fred Knutel and Vicky Pfauth to serve as the MASB Legislative Liaison and alternate respectively.

10.2 Consider Approval of Student Tuition Rates for 2010-2011

After reviewing the tuition rates set by the district in 2007-2008, Cheryl Capiak recommended that these rates remain the same for the 2010-2011 school year. These rates are \$2500 for out of state students. In state students, that come to the district outside of the School of Choice window, would pay \$1. It was noted that as the district is out of formula, we currently receive no state aid based on our student population. Moved by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to keep the student tuition rates the same for the 2010-2011 school year. All ayes. Motion carried.

10.3 Consider Approval of the Accounts Payable for July 2010 and the Treasurer's Report for June 2010

The Accounts Payable and Treasurer's reports were reviewed by Cheryl Capiak. It was noted that changes in the state's accounting rules required that the funding for officials, at athletic events, be carried as part of the General fund. This change has been completed. It was noted by Capiak that the Food Service fund has been well managed by Teri Brown with excellent cost control while maintaining a good revenue from this program.

Moved by Hilman, supported by Knutel, to accept the Accounts Payable and Treasurer's reports as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

10.4 Consider Approval of Request for Overnight Football Camp – August 9-11, 2010 at Tower Hill Camp

A request from Varsity Football Coach, Jeff Degner, was presented by Superintendent Schroeder for the Board to approve an overnight football camp at the Tower Hill Camp for the High School Football team. The camp is for both High School and Middle School students. However, Middle School students would return to their homes each evening following the day's activities. The camp is funded by the students with no cost to the district.

Moved by Wagner, support by Pfauth, to approve the request as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

11.0 Items for Discussion Only

None

12.0 Announcement

12.1 Pennies for Patients

Mr. Schroeder was pleased to announce that River Valley elementary school students, in support of the Pennies for Patients program, raised a total of \$686.23. This is a program of Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc, and the gift was gratefully received.

13.0 Hearing of Persons Present

None

14.0 Motion to go into Closed Session to Discuss Negotiations.

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to go into closed session at 7:33 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

15.0 Motion to return to Open Session

Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to return to Open Session at 7:43 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried

16.0 Consider Approval of SEIU Contract Language

Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to approve the contract with SEIU as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

17.0 Adjournment

Moved by Wagner, supported by Ehlert, to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ronald Petro, Acting Secretary
River Valley Board of Education