

River Valley Board of Education  
**RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
15480 Three Oaks Road  
Three Oaks, Michigan 49128  
www.rivervalleyschools.org

**Regular Meeting – RV Middle/High School Library**  
**Monday, August 29, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

**Members Present**

J.C. German, Michael Ehlert, Victoria Pfauth, Ronald Petro, Blane Hillman, Fred Knutel, Vickie Wagner

**Administrators Present**

Superintendent William Kearney, MHS Principal Wayne Warner, Elementary Principal Heidi Clark

**1.0 Call to Order**

President 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 Approval of Agenda as Presented**

Moved by Hillman, supported by Knutel, to approve the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of August 29, 2011 as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**4.0 Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

**5.0 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2011, Special Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2011 (Open & Closed Session), and Work Session Minutes of August 22, 2011**

Moved by Wagner, supported by Ehlert, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2011, Special Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2011 (Open & Closed Session), and Work Session Minutes of August 22, 2011. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**6.0 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Kearney provided the Board of Education with an update on the following:

- The boiler project at Chikaming.
- The District is in the process of getting classroom locks installed at Three Oaks Elementary.
- New Teacher orientation took place on August 29, 2011 and all staff will report to work on August 30, 2011.
- The Board will hold a Rules and Responsibilities Workshop on September 12, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Confirmation has been received from the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB). Dinner will be provided.
- The Superintendent placed a follow-up call to an individual that replied to a survey that was included in our recent newsletter.
- Information was received regarding the mobile food pantry sponsored by The Pokagons. River Valley will host the mobile food pantry in October at River Valley Middle/High School. There will also be two additional dates at River Valley Middle/High School sponsored by a community church.

**7.0 Board Committee Meeting Reports**

**7.1 Personnel – August 22, 2011**

Fred Knutel, Personnel Committee Chairperson, reported that the Committee met on Monday, August 22, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The Committee discussed the following administrative recommendations: Kindergarten Teacher, Fourth Grade Teacher, Teacher Assistant, Transportation Supervisor, Middle

School Volleyball Coach, High School Cheerleading Coach, and Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach. He also announced that the Personnel Committee received an additional recommendation for a Preschool Teacher Assistant on Monday, August 29, 2011.

## **8.0 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

## **9.0 Old Business**

## **10.0 New Business**

### **10.1 Approval of the Accounts Payable Report for August 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for July 2011**

Moved by Petro, supported by Hillman, to approve the Accounts Payable Report for August 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for July 2011 as presented by the Business Manager. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **10.2 Recommendation to Hire a Kindergarten Teacher**

Amanda Lynch was present in the audience. Superintendent Kearney introduced Ms. Lynch to the Board of Education.

Moved by Knutel, supported by Wagner, to approve the employment of Amanda Lynch for the Kindergarten teaching position at Three Oaks Elementary, effective August 29, 2011, pending background checks and physical/drug screen results as recommended by the Elementary Principal and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **10.3 Recommendation to Hire a Fourth Grade Teacher**

Brad Hoekstra was present in the audience. Superintendent Kearney introduced Mr. Hoekstra to the Board of Education.

Moved by Pfauth, supported by Knutel, to approve the employment of Brad Hoekstra for the Fourth Grade teaching position at Three Oaks Elementary, effective August 29, 2011, pending background checks and physical/drug screen results as recommended by the Elementary Principal and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **10.4 Recommendation to Hire a Teacher Assistant**

Moved by Knutel, supported by Wagner, to approve the employment of Amber York for the Teacher Assistant position at Chikaming Elementary, effective August 30, 2011, pending background checks and physical/drug screen results as recommended by the Elementary Principal and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **10.5 Recommendation to Hire a Preschool Teacher Assistant**

Moved by Knutel, supported by Pfauth, to approve the employment of Rochelle Ravenscroft for the Preschool Teacher Assistant position at Three Oaks Elementary, effective September 12, 2011, pending background checks and physical/drug screen results as recommended by the Elementary Principal and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **10.6 Recommendation to Hire a Transportation Supervisor and Approve a Contract**

Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to approve the employment of Richard Fatter for the Transportation Supervisor position effective August 29, 2011, pending background checks and physical/drug screen results as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and to approve a one year contract. Trustee Knutel – abstained. Motion carried (6-0).

### **10.7 Recommendation to Hire a Middle School Volleyball Coach #1**

Trustee Wagner asked Secretary Pfauth if she was going to abstain from voting on the recommendation for middle school volleyball coach #1. Secretary Pfauth responded that she will abstain as she is listed as one of the references on Ms. Kanous' application.

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Petro, to approve the employment of Tammy Kanous as Middle School Volleyball Coach pending background checks and drug screen results as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent of Schools. Secretary Pfauth – abstained. Motion carried (6-0).

**10.8 Recommendation to Hire a Middle School Volleyball Coach #2**

Moved by Petro, supported by Pfauth, to approve the employment of Jade Stell as Middle School Volleyball Coach pending background checks and drug screen results as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**10.9 Recommendation to Hire a High School Cheerleading Coach**

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Pfauth, to approve the employment of Tina Scurek as the High School Cheerleading Coach pending background checks and drug screen results as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**10.10 Recommendation to Hire a Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach**

Moved by Knutel, supported by Hillman, to approve the employment of Morgan Olmstead as Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach pending background checks and drug screen results as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**12.0 Items for Discussion Only**

Trustee Wagner questioned former Superintendent Robert Schroeder how a certain individual received a 40% increase (\$25,000) over a three year period. Schroeder responded that the Administrative Index is based on the Teacher Salary Contract and there was an adjustment made for insurance this year. He also mentioned that they also looked at the salaries of other Business Managers and concluded that River Valley's Business Manager is in the middle. Schroeder said that this information went to the Finance and Personnel Committee. Wagner also questioned the Personnel and Finance Committee if they were aware of this increase. Personnel Chairperson Fred Knutel stated that he was not aware of the increase. Personnel Committee Member German noted that he was not aware of the exact dollar figures. Wagner further expressed her concern on how this information was not presented to the Board of Education in a forthright manner.

A brief discussion was held on the Superintendent's evaluation format. The Board unanimously recommended that we use the MASB format. The Board will review the evaluation format at the Work Session in September.

Trustee Wagner thanked Superintendent Kearney for providing the Board with the Weekender (a weekly Board update). Board members expressed their appreciation and commented that they look forward to receiving the update each week.

Superintendent Kearney asked the Board of Education if they had any additional Board Goals. At the last Board Meeting, the Board suggested the following: improve student achievement, public relations with the community, and communication. President German recommended that the Board concentrate on three goals. Secretary Pfauth asked the Superintendent to include how these goals will be quantifiable.

Trustee Hillman announced that he and Trustee Wagner are looking at options to place the RV logo on the water tower. President German asked if he could also assist.

Middle High School Principal, Wayne Warner, expressed his thanks to The Pokagons for making available reference materials to the River Valley School District.

**13.0 Adjournment**

Moved by Wagner, supported by Hillman, to adjourn the Regular Meeting for August 29, 2011 at 7:33 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

---

Victoria A. Pfauth, Secretary  
River Valley Board of Education

VAP/bb