

**Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of the
Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois
held in the Board Room at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061 at
7:00 p.m. on 25th of February, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Sonali Patil called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Already taken in prior closed session – all present. Jayson Tran, George Fievet, Victoria Helander-Heiser, Robin Cleek, Wesley Polen, Matt Jacobs and Sonali Patil.

PUBLIC COMMENT -None

RECOGNITION -None

PRESENTATIONS – Dr. Joseph Porto and Abe Singh reported on Budget Reduction Options 2019-2021. Dr. Porto indicated that the School Board directed the Administrative team to reduce operating costs, by at least 1.5 million dollars, due to the Referendum question failing. The School Board wanted operating expense reduction options to consider. Options were presented as a 1st conversation about it, the vote will be in March. CSBO Abe Singh added that because we are a Tier II district, enrollment has grown and also because expenses have not met revenues, we are realizing a \$1.5 million deficit. In addition to that, the second referendum question did not pass, as such we need to cut operating expenses. Fortunately, we did not spend down our fund balances and this afforded us a better bond rating for the construction bonds that were issued.

Dr. Porto explained that we plan to reduce staffing of Instructional Assistants by 14 from employee turnover. Other areas where Administration is planning to reduce costs are school office clerk's and sub-contracting custodial contracts. The plan is to obtain custodial bids and review the information with staff to determine the reductions that directly impact the students the least.

Lastly, Mr. Singh indicated that our current paper use will be reduced by 10%, online registration will help in this process. Board members questions were asked and answered as able. Grants were one item that was brought up as a possible source of additional, new revenue.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Mark Friedman stated that this is lobby week in Springfield, those organizations are meeting this week. There are lots of new bills coming up that could create un-funded mandates, something to keep our eyes on. The Governor attempted to tackle the budget crisis this year, that is a topic where the lobbying groups will be voicing their opinions.

The kindergarten building will need to be named, the Administrative Team discussed it and they are starting the process of what the plan will look like and we want to include the children in the process.

COMMITTEE REPORT – None scheduled

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 5.1 Board meeting minutes 2/11/19
- 5.2 Closed meeting minutes 11/26/18
- 5.3 Closed meeting minutes 11/28/18
- 5.4 Closed meeting minutes 11/30/18
- 5.5 Closed meeting minutes 12/3/18
- 5.6 Closed meeting minutes 12/7/18
- 5.7 Closed meeting minutes 12/10/18
- 5.8 Closed meeting minutes 12/11/18

- 5.9 Closed meeting minutes 12/11/18; (Additional Closed Session)
- 5.10 Expenditure Report Jan-Feb 2019
- 5.11 AM EX Report Jan 2019
- 5.12 Kindergarten Cost Log
- 5.13 Treasurer's Report, October 2018
- 5.14 Personnel Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Robin Cleek moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Matt Jacobs seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Jayson Tran, George Fievet, Robin Cleek, Wesley Polen, Victoria Helander-Heiser, Matt Jacobs and Sonali Patil vote aye.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

ACTION ITEMS:

6.1 Public Comment District Policy

After discussion regarding the total and the individual time allotments for public comment, it was noted that the policy includes adjustment by the School Board, as such it was determined to leave the policy as is.

NO MOTION NECESSARY

KINDERGARTEN CENTER PRELIMINARY BID REPORT: CSBO Abe Singh reported that the trade bids received were favorable; total amount was \$13.28 million, \$200k less than anticipated. This was good news and affords us a little cushion going into the construction process. Bonds were sold for \$13.5 million for this project. Wetland credits were purchased as well. Board question was what would happen to the overage for the kindergarten center? It will be rolled over to the construction planned on the EFMP. Additional questions were asked regarding the next steps, contractor contracts and the permitting process.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – None

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Media clips
2. Enrollment

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT – None

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION – Regarding the new board meeting with the IASB, would it be beneficial to attempt to schedule a board meeting now before the board is seated? We will look into scheduling that. What are the factors considered when deciding what is being shared with the public on Board Docs? Dr. Friedman indicated that it is likely an internal decision as to what is being shared.

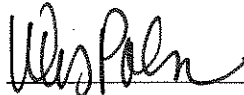
Sonali Patil asked for a motion to adjourn, Robin Cleek moved that the Board of Education adjourn the **Regular Business Meeting**. Matt Jacobs seconded the motion.

The Regular Business Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Elftmann



Sonali Patil, President



Wesley Polen, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: Mar 11, 19