

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, in the School District of Scottsbluff, in the County of Scotts Bluff, in the State of Nebraska, at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, September 17, 2007, with the following members present: Bob Kinsey, Mark Lang, Kim Magana, Megan Massey, Michael Shedd and Paul Snyder. Notice of the meeting was given by publication of the time and place thereof in the Star-Herald on September 4, 2007 and September 7, 2007.

President Kinsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Reynolds, Superintendent, administered the "Oath of Office" to newly appoint board member Paul Snyder.

President Kinsey requested the agenda be amended to move Item 7a, School Personnel report from Mr. Dick before Item 4, Awards and Recognition to allow him to return to supervising school activities.

Motion to adopt the agenda, as amended, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Kim Magana. Yes: Shedd, Magana, Lang, Massey, Snyder, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Motion to approve the following minutes: August 6, 2007- Regular Meeting, August 14, 2007-Special Meeting/Board Retreat, August 20, 2007-Regular Meeting, August 31, 2007-Special Meeting, as presented, passed with a motion by Kim Magana and a second by Mark Lang. Yes: Magana, Lang, Shedd, Massey, Kinsey, Snyder; No: None; Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2006-2007 Year-End Financial Reports, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Kim Magana. Yes: Shedd, Magana, Snyder, Kinsey, Lang, Massey; No: None; Motion carried.

President Kinsey reported according to Board Policy #203.03, if the president is unable or unwilling to complete the term of office the Vice President shall serve as President for the balance of the President's term of office and a new Vice President shall be elected. President Kinsey entertained nominations for Vice President.

Motion by Megan Massey and seconded by Kim Magana to nominate Mike Shedd as Vice President. Motion by Megan Massey and seconded by Mark Lang to cease nominations for Vice President. Motion by Megan Massey and seconded by Paul Snyder to cast a unanimous vote for Mike Shedd as Vice President. Yes: Massey, Snyder, Kinsey, Lang, Magana, Shedd; No: None; Motion carried.

Lee Dick, Senior High Activities Director reported the Western Conference includes Scottsbluff, Gering, Alliance, Sidney, Chadron, and Mitchell at times. Mitchell usually takes part in the Western Conference tournaments. Mr. Dick noted the conference is short schools so last year he heard rumors that Ogallala was looking at getting out of their conference and noted they participate in the district for a lot of things so the Western Conference contacted them and invited them to join the Western Conference. Ogallala requested they take the information back to the community and their school board and recently met a few weeks ago where Ogallala indicated they would like to join the Western Conference if they would add three things: a quiz bowl competition, one-act play competition, and add a day for choir, band, and art. The conference members listened to their presentation and were to bring back to their respective districts to discuss with superintendent, principal, etc. and will meet again on October 3rd and discuss the changes/additions. Mr. Dick stated he thinks all three competitions are great things to add as far as activities for Scottsbluff High School. The one-act play would be great and he has spoken to Mrs. Rada about this which would give her a competition before her students go to district. The day for chorus, band and art would be fantastic to bring the students and clinician in and show off their groups to the public. The most he is excited about is the quiz bowl competition which the high school hasn't had previously. Mrs. Magana questioned if Ogallala didn't compete at WNCC for the fine arts competition. Mr. Dick stated Ogallala was currently in District III or IV and if they join our conference they will visit with NSAA about becoming part of District VI which would be part of Scottsbluff's district. Dr. Reynolds stated he agreed with Mr. Dick and noted he has been in districts who have these activities and they are outstanding activities for students and would be a good addition to the conference not only for Ogallala but also to add these activities. Dr. Reynolds requested Mr. Dick report back to the Board after their October 3rd meeting. Mr. Dick stated these activities for Scottsbluff students would be great additions. Dr. Shedd questioned the enrollment at Ogallala. Mr. Dick stated Ogallala was Class B and is similar to Sidney and might run approximately 90 to 100 students per grade level. President Kinsey stated he thought this was a great idea to add these activities and encouraged them to move forward.

The Board recognized Lake Alice 7th grade student, Brianna Arnbrecht, who was selected to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C. Brianna was selected by her two teachers in the spring and selected over the summer. Brianna thanked the Board for the award and stated she was excited, should be a fun trip, and looks forward to learning about leadership and bring the information back to the community.

There was no one from the community to address the Board.

There was no SEA report. President Kinsey welcomed Andrew McKay, Student Representative to the Board. Andrew reported the Senior High was getting ready for homecoming.

Mrs. Massey reported Daniel Shedd, SHS student, was a national merit scholar semi-finalist. Dr. Shedd reported he attended the first football game and saw the Bearcat

scoreboard in action, was very well received, heard a lot of good comments, and congratulated the Booster Club for the implementation.

Mindy Burbach, Communications Specialist, reported she has been working on the Longfellow video for their open house which will air on the access channel and website and noted the DECA students worked really hard getting the video ready for the scoreboard and had help from Dave Thiele and assisted and answered any questions.

Bill Knapper, Director of Business Services, provided an update on the Master Facility Plan that was adopted on August 20th which was based on the work at the board retreat on August 14th. Prior to the board retreat and after the board retreat Mr. Knapper indicated he has been in regular contact with Bill Cramer of Schemmer & Associates and noted when he got the actual list of projects to Schemmer & Associates they questioned whether they would be expected to perform on some of the projects such as roofs, parking lots, and playground re-topping and didn't have a particular interest in those projects and more or less fall in the range of projects that Baker & Associates has conducted for the District over the years so Mr. Knapper contacted Baker & Associates and discussed the projects with them and have provided an attachment to Mr. Knapper's memo the projects, budgets, engineering fee, contingent fees for the Board's review. The Board has seen project budgets for the building but has not seen architectural/engineering fees for those projects so they are listed for the Board's review. The comments seen by the Schemmer & Associates name was taken from an email which notes their timeframe is to have bidding documents ready by the middle of January and receive bids through the middle of February and award in early March and based on when the second February meeting is scheduled we might be able to award in February. The plans would allow the addition for Lincoln Heights to begin this spring but other construction projects could proceed the Summer of 2008 or based on the comments from Schemmer & Associates we might want to look at whether this will be a one summer project or a two summer project from a cost and contracting capacity within the community perspective. They are anxious to get started and will have a mechanical and electrical engineering team in the District on Thursday and Friday, September 20th-21st. The timeframe for Baker & Associates is similar with bid documents out on the street in January and awarding the February board meeting or no later than the first board meeting in March.

Mrs. Massey requested an explanation on the letters listed under roof. Mr. Knapper stated the letters represent different portions of the roof such as the lower roof by auditorium/gymnasium at the Senior High School which is subdivided into sections and the same is true for the other buildings. Roosevelt was the multi-purpose room, Longfellow was the Annex between the main building and the multi-purpose room, Lincoln Heights was office and kindergarten, Middle School was where the new section of building attaches to the old portion of the building, and Senior High was the lower roof portions around the gym/auditorium. Dr. Shedd questioned the fee proposal and what it actually covers. Mr. Knapper noted the architects develop the bid specification, put together a standard engineer's booklet with the contract requirements, design the roof, conducting site inspections and measurements, evaluating, and developing blueprints. President Kinsey noted the fees are usually figured on a percentage of what they are estimating the

cost of the project. Mr. Knapper stated the fees will tend to be higher as a percentage when you are working as built buildings as opposed to new construction.

Sandy Porter, Director of Curriculum/Technology invited the Board to attend the student discipline conference on Tuesday, September 18th at the Gering Civic Center.

Dr. Reynolds reported he was looking for a board member who would like to work with the media on the Public Relations/Media Committee and noted Mrs. Massey would continue to serve on this committee which meets each month and if a board member would like to join them they are to contact Dr. Reynolds of their interest and he will schedule these meeting around their schedules. Also, the Scottsbluff/Gering joint meeting originally scheduled for October 8th needs to be rescheduled due to a conflict and noted usually the board representatives have been the President and Vice President but don't always get them so he needed to look at an alternative date. Dr. Reynolds stated he would look at October 11th at 5:30 p.m. and contact Gering to schedule. Dr. Shedd suggested holding these meetings quarterly after the VALTS meetings.

President Kinsey noted the Lake Minatare School Site Council minutes were on file for review. Mr. Lang questioned when the new well system was anticipated to be put in at Lake Minatare? Mr. Knapper stated the Lake Minatare well system, and the same is true for Lake Alice and Highland, are classified as public water systems. Typically when a community, which is a public water system, has problems with their water quality they go out and drill another well where they find good water and they mix the good water with the new well water and deal with their problems under the threshold with whatever the contaminate might be. In this particular case the District can't drill another well and find clean water so the engineers have had to design a system that involves a rather substantial reverse osmosis system and the delays in this project are related to getting the state who understands the mixing water from two or more different wells together to solve problems and to agree to the utilization of the reverse osmosis system. This is a whole new paradigm and way of doing things for them and at the state they have been slow to improving this. Mr. Knapper noted Lake Minatare has gotten full approval and will be a case of taking the project to bid. This project began at Lake Minatare Schools when Lake Minatare was a stand alone project and Scottsbluff Schools hasn't had much involvement except to agree to kick in approximately \$27,000.

President Kinsey appointed Kim Magana to the Scottsbluff Foundation board.

Mr. Knapper noted the Board reviewed the applicable allowable growth rate during the budget hearing on September 13th.

Motion to approve that Scottsbluff Public Schools access the budget authority available under Nebraska Statute and set a spending limitation of the General Fund equal to the District's Applicable Allowable Growth Rate, plus one percent (2.5% + 1%), a total of 3.5% for the 2007-2008 school year, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Kim Magana. Yes: Shedd, Magana, Lang, Massey, Snyder, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Motion to approve the amount of \$270,696.16 as the state aid levy exclusion for 2007-2008, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Snyder, Lang, Magana, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Dr. Shedd read the following Budget Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED AND CERTIFIED that a proposed Budget Hearing and Budget Summary was duly published, as required by law, and that a Hearing was held on the 13th day of September, 2007, and that the following amounts shown herein are duly approved and adopted as the maximum amounts to be expended for the ensuing budget year.

THE BOARD FURTHER CERTIFIES the amounts shown to be raised by taxation are within statutory tax limitation.

The 2007-2008, Scottsbluff Public Schools, Scottsbluff District #32, Requirements from Taxation Are:

FUND

General Fund	\$ 11,001,930.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	383,078.00

The following budget totals are adopted in the amount of:

General Fund	\$ 26,070,000.00
Building Fund	6,028,552.00
Cafeteria Fund	1,416,716.00
Depreciation Fund	2,526,453.00
Employee Benefit Fund	600,000.00
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking	804,100.00
VALTS/Cooperative	379,200.00
School Activities	1,100,000.00
Student Fees	50,000.00

Motion to adopt the 2007-2008 Budget Resolution, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Mark Lang. Yes: Shedd, Lang, Massey, Snyder, Magana, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Mr. Knapper reported bids were solicited on the purchase of a turf tractor for the maintenance department and noted the tractor will have a front loader for working with bulk material such as mulch, sand or dirt and also bid with a tiller and an extra set of turf tires. Mr. Knapper noted four firms responded to the bid solicitation and it was his recommendation to award the purchase of the Turf Tractor to NMC Caterpillar in the amount of \$28,660.00.

Motion to approve the purchase of the Turf Tractor to NMC Caterpillar, in the amount 28,660.00, as presented, passed with a motion by Mark Lang and a second

by Paul Snyder. Yes: Lang, Snyder, Magana, Massey, Shedd, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Mr. Knapper reported bids were solicited for the purchase of a ½ ton pickup truck to replace the SHS Ag Department's current pickup which is 17 years old. The replacement pickup will have a four door cab which will provide seating appropriate for transporting students and noted the current vehicle has only jump seats and no seat belts in the rear compartment. The recommendation is to award the purchase of the 2008 Ag Department pickup to Sid Dillon Chevrolet in the amount of \$21,597.77.

Motion to approve the purchase of the 2008 Ag Department pickup to Sid Dillon Chevrolet, in the amount of \$21,597.77, as presented passed with a motion by Megan Massey and a second by Kim Magana. Yes: Massey, Magana, Snyder, Shedd, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

President Kinsey reported the Board has a resolution which expresses their position and support to work together with BMS Preservation Group proceed to renovate the Bluffs Middle School.

Dr. Shedd read the Resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, at the bond referendum on May 15, 2007, the citizens of Scottsbluff expressed their feelings about building a new middle school versus remodeling Bluffs Middle School; and

WHEREAS, the board of education and school district officials are excited to work with the Middle School preservation group to explore the issues and possibilities of renovating Bluffs Middle School. A committee of citizens and school personnel will be formed to help us discover the necessary improvements needed to enhance the education and health of our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as elected representatives of the community, the Scottsbluff Board of Education will work to carry out the will of district patrons by directing district architects to design a complete renovation of Bluffs Middle School.

Steve Greenhouse, patron, questioned if the process for the BMS renovation will begin immediately with no input from the patrons or does it mean potentially after the input the Board would then direct this. President Kinsey stated the Board will receive input and noted the plan was to put a committee together which will consist of representatives from the BMS Preservation Group and to initially hold a work session and invite anyone who has ideas about the Middle School to provide their ideas to the Board, for the record, and then move forward with committee discussion. President Kinsey stated there were certain aspects in the design of a Middle School that specifies what it should have to be a Middle School concept that the architects can begin looking at the facility and begin reviewing. Also, there will be a tour of the remodeled Lexington School included in this process.

Donetta Petitt, patron, questioned if with the complete renovation plans does the Board intend to go in and knock down all the walls and start all over and use the shell of the school. Mrs. Massey stated the Resolution is indicating that the Board is willing and wanting to work with the Save BMS group and all of the patrons in the District who have ideas and want to be involved in getting this Middle School completed and we all need to work together and the Board's hope with this Resolution is that the Board will come together with a committee and work together and will ideally come to the same conclusion and will all be on the same page when it is brought to bond or whatever direction is taken. The Board can't say if the BMS walls will be completely torn down because they don't know yet and will be the work of the committee that established. Mrs. Massey knows that some of the patrons are interested LEED initiative which needs to be reviewed but definitely want to work with the patrons of the District and wants everyone to be involved in the decision as it says in the Resolution, "The board will carry out the will of the district patrons". Dr. Shedd stated the main purpose of the Resolution is so there is no miss understanding that taking a wrecking ball to the Middle School is not on the table and where the District goes beyond here is very much up in the air and will be determined by the committee's work. President Kinsey stated once the committee is established it will give them more things to talk about and noted nothing is in stone when an architect provides a concept and noted they use the resources that they have from other restored middle school buildings to help and provide ideas to the District.

Motion to approve the Resolution to work with the BMS Preservation on the BMS Renovation, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Paul Snyder. Yes: Shedd, Snyder, Kinsey, Lang, Magana, Massey; No: None; Motion carried. (A copy of the Resolution is attached and made a part of the official minutes.)

President Kinsey read future meetings and dates.

President Kinsey noted he met with Dave Thiele for lunch a couple of weeks ago and one of the things people has asked him is their concern with executive sessions and what the Board did during an executive session and that they had concerns that the Board was discussing what they were going to do with the Middle School and other schools during the executive session. President Kinsey stated he wanted to clarify the purpose of an executive session was, as per state statute, to discuss situations of school personnel, students, acquisition of property or negotiating contracts, and to protect the privacy of any employee or student; therefore the patrons should not be concern and that this Board is very diligent about following all the applicable state statutes regarding the open meeting law.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m., passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Kim Magana. Yes: Shedd, Magana, Lang, Massey, Snyder, Kinsey; No: None; Motion carried.

Katherine A. Reyes, Secretary
Board of Education