

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272
THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009, AT 7:00 P.M.
AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL, CAFETERIA**

Vice-President Akre called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present except Flessner, Setchell and Stephenitch. Also present were: Quintin Shepherd, Bonnie Morris, Carol Schnaiter, Amy Sandgren, Mary Jo Zinke, Randy Highbarger, Becky Highbarger, Jeff Schnaiter, Ronald Gruber, Jeff Thake, Jessica McCormick, Joyce Schamberger and Jenny McCoy.

Board member, Stephenitch, attended the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Amy Sandgren, from Illinois Science Teachers Association, presented Carol Schnaiter a certificate and an award of \$1,000 (with support of ExxonMobil) for being selected one of the 2008-2009 Outstanding Teacher of Science Awardees.

The floor was opened to comments from the public. Jeff Thake introduced candidate for Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Ron Gruber and his family. Becky Highbarger briefly questioned classroom sizes at Central School. Superintendent Shepherd said that there are some preliminary projections but we like to hold until after registration.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Stephenitch to approve the following consent agenda item(s):

- Minutes of the June 18, 2009, Regular Open & Closed Board Meetings;
- Agreement between Amboy and LaMoille to continue coop for the boys football for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years; and
- Destruction of audio tapes dated January 23, 2008.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

In his financial report, Superintendent Shepherd said the audit by Clifton Gunderson was finished and took only three days to complete. He announced payments that we didn't receive from the state for last year: Special Education-\$25,000, Transportation-\$15,000, General State Aid-\$33,000 and DriversEducation-\$55,000. Another announcement by Shepherd was that the cost of operating buses was lowered by 3 percent.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Mark Becker to approve the current expenditures and payroll. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Shepherd explained the 2009-2010 tentative budget information. On the revenue side...revenues were based on the assumptions of Federal Stimulus monies, which are still accurate. State monies are no longer accurate. We stand to lose approximately \$94K this year based on the budget numbers as promulgated yesterday. On the expenditure side...the insurance rates are still not in and the budget numbers represent a best guess. Special Education costs will be a best guess considering possible changes in OCEC, depending on whether Byron remains a part of the coop. Because of the lost revenue from the state, we will likely be making

significant program changes and staff changes in the next few weeks prior to the start of school in order to control some of our expenditures. Shepherd stated, "This is not news that I want to bring to the board of education or our community this evening. This budget will need to be revised as more of the unknowns become clear over the course of this year. As presented, this budget is balanced which is one of our activities listed under goal #2 for this board. Incidentally, goal #1 is to provide a premier educational program for the students in this district. These two goals appear to be at odds this year with the revenue picture what it is currently. We will endeavor to keep the education of our kids foremost on our mind and make adjustments as necessary to remain fiscally responsible. It's still hopeful that when all unknowns become clear, we will have a balanced budget at the end of the fiscal year".

A motion was made by Mark Becker and seconded by Stephenitch to authorize the Administration to place on file, the Tentative Budget for the 2009-2010 school year, and further to set the 2009-2010 Budget Hearing for Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. at Central School. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Mary Jo Zinke shared information and presented a slide show of Illinois Standards for School Library Media Centers.

At 7:50 p.m., a motion was made by Tony Becker and seconded by Olson to move to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 8:09 p.m., a motion was made by Mark Becker and seconded by Olson to return to Open Session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Stephenitch to approve the transfer of Jane Lovgren as Playground Supervisor to Lunchroom Supervisor. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Tony Becker and seconded by Stephenitch to approve Jenny McCoy as Board of Education Secretary. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Stephenitch to approve the employment of Amber Grenda as Counselor at Central School and Amboy Junior High School for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Olson to approve the employment of Ronald Gruber as Assistant Principal/Athletic Director at Amboy High School for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Tony Becker and seconded by Mark Becker to approve the employment of Arthur Wyckoff as English Teacher at Amboy High School for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Upcoming dates include: Next Regular School Board meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Amboy High School cafeteria, New Teacher Orientation Luncheon on Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at LaFiesta in Sublette and Welcome Back Luncheon on Friday, August 14, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. in the AHS cafeteria.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made at 8:20 p.m. by Stephenitch and seconded by Mark Becker to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Olson, Secretary

Lori Setchell, President

Approved: _____