

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAROA-FORSYTH BOARD  
OF EDUCATION, MAROA, ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF MACON

November 10, 2014

President Mike Gentle called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present: Jill Applebee, Rhonda Braden, Russ Corey, Mike Gentle, Cyndi Harris, Rob Jacobsen, and Kristin Sowa.

Also present was Superintendent Williams, Principals, Scott Adreon, Kris Kahler, and Brice Stewart.

A motion was made by Mike Gentle and seconded by Cyndi Harris to move into closed session at 6:30 p.m. to "conduct a hearing of student disciplinary cases" and to "consider information regarding appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee or officer". All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cyndi Harris and seconded by Mike Gentle to move out of closed session at 6:54 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

President Mike Gentle reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Jill Applebee, Rhonda Braden, Russ Corey, Mike Gentle, Cyndi Harris, Rob Jacobsen, and Kristin Sowa.

Also present was Superintendent Williams, Principals, Scott Adreon, Kris Kahler, and Brice Stewart.

President Mike Gentle asked if there were any visitors that would like to address the Board.

D.Kreps commented on the benefits of networking, referred to in a community email as favoritism and nepotism. He discussed the high school graduation rates for the area schools that he felt were misrepresented in the email. Also commented on the use of the sword logo.

T.Brummitt commented that it was a choice to live in the Maroa Forsyth School District. She felt the community email was opinion not factual. Commended on the issues of the State of Illinois and the recession effecting the situation in the District. Stated that she found the comments on lack of transparency, nepotism, and intimidation to be untrue. Stated if there was wide spread intimidation, she would not be sending her daughter to school. Stated she felt the District has its share of issues, but we are far from "bottom of the barrel" as some would allege. Lastly, she found the comments that education is not a priority in the Maroa Forsyth School District appalling.

D.Winkleback commented that he was new to the District and felt people were misinformed and the District is in financial trouble. Questioned the financing of the scoreboard and the appropriateness of the Pepsi contract. Said the figures did not add up to pay for the scoreboard.

C.Tracer commented that she felt the District did show favoritism and nepotism after her daughter was passed over for two teaching positions for which she applied and the eventual hires had relatives in the District.

J.Jostes spoke to the funding of the scoreboard. He explained the advertisements on the scoreboard more than offset the cost of the loan for the scoreboard. The additional money generated through the advertising was being used to supplement the athletic budgets

of all sports due to the multiple reductions the Board has implemented.

C.Hall stated she was concerned with the negative perception some have of our District. The District has always been positive and the change by some is concerning. Stated her support for the extracurricular activities. Stated addressing the issues will be hard to do, but it must be done.

L.Wise commented that she was not sure all the questions being presented were being answered. Was concerned with textbooks and resource availability and the Pepsi contract. Stated the District was not bottom of the barrel but did have issues that need addressed.

D.Daggett provided the Board with the FCCLA newsletter and thanked the Board for their support of the FCCLA. Also announced the FCCLA Blood Drive scheduled for Friday.

L.Beane commented that she stood by her email. Concerned with several issues in the District. She stated all her information was from the Board, Superintendent, The State Board of Education and other internet resources. Outlined the District's deficits for the past several years. Expressed disapproval for the Board's handling of the three million dollars in bonds originally sold for an addition to the high school. Expressed concern with having great facilities and not being able to operate them.

K.England commented textbook usages and the need to support local business through the marketing agreement the District has in place. Expressed his support of athletics and the lessons they teach. Also stated the bickering was not going to solve anything and the need to work together was the only thing that would come to a solution.

A motion was made by Rob Jacobsen and seconded by Russ Corey to approve the treasurer's report as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kristin Sowa and seconded by Jill Applebee to approve the consent agenda containing Approval of Minutes, Approval of Bills, and approval of Library Grant as presented. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cyndi Harris and seconded by Russ Corey to approve the second reading of the Board policies 2.20, 2.40, 2.50, 2.60, 2.80, 2.200, 2.220, 2.220E1, 2.230, 2.240, 2.250E1, 2.260AP2, 4.40, 4.45, 4.55, 4.55AP, 4.60, 4.60AP1, 4.70AP, 4.90, 4.110AP1, 4.170AP2E4, 5.10AP, 5.30, 5.120AP2, 5.260, 5.310, 5.310E, 6.120AP1E2, 6.120AP2, 6.120AP2E1, 6.300E1, 7.10AP, 7.20, 7.40AP, 7.60AP2E1, 7.60AP2E2, 7.60AP2E3, 7.170, 7.180, 7.200, 7.240, 7.240AP1, 7.240AP2, 7.250AP2, 7.289AP, 7.310AP, and 8.100 as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Elise Nibbelin reported on the progress of the Financial Advisory Panel.

A motion was made by Mike Gentle and seconded by Rob Jacobsen to approve the attached resolution setting the total levy at \$8,267,500. And setting the Truth in Taxation Hearing for December 15, 2014 as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cyndi Harris and seconded by Mike Gentle to approve the intent notice to sell \$ 400,000. Working Cash bonds as presented with further discussion to occur at the December meeting.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rob Jacobsen and seconded by Kristin Sowa to reschedule the Regular Board December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 15<sup>th</sup>. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rob Jacobsen and seconded by Russ Corey to approve the establishment of a tennis cooperative agreement with the understanding there are no additional responsibilities placed on the Maroa Forsyth School District as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Russ Corey and seconded by Rob Jacobsen to approve the implementation of a FLEX spending Benefit program for District employees (the setup of: BPC account, separate checking account[Treasurer signer], reporting authorizations, etc.) as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kristin Sowa and seconded by Mike Gentle to approve the low bid from Kirk Cearlock for snow removal services at the Forsyth Grade School as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Russ Corey and seconded by Mike Gentle to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Maroa for snow removal services at the Middle and High Schools as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Gentle and seconded by Rob Jacobsen to accept the letter of resignation from Kyle Manley from Saturday/mowing custodial position as presented. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Gentle and seconded by Rob Jacobsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

---

Attested

DATED

APPROVED