

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 21, 2009

The meeting of the Board of Education of Dixon County School District 1 (also known as Ponca Public Schools) was convened in open and public session on Monday, December 21, 2009 at 7:40 p.m. in the elementary media center. Advance notice of the meeting was publicly posted and given to all members of the Board of Education. Members present were Richard Dohma, Kenton Book, Doug Rickett, Phil Kramper and John Gill. Absent: Gary Smith. Others present were Supt. William Thompson, Prin. Michelle Rinas, Prin. Bob Hayes, Sec. Lorrie Huston and 4 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Dohma. A motion was made by Rickett, second by Kramper, to approve the Agenda. M.C.U. The consent agenda was approved on a motion by Book, second by Gill. M.C.U. The consent agenda included the following: the minutes of the November 16, 2009 Board Meeting; the Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$265,489.74; the Hot Lunch Fund report showing a balance of \$7269.24; the Ponca Activities Fund showing a balance of \$63,538.01 and the Jackson Activity Fund showing a balance of \$2,406.54; and the General Fund bills of \$32,845.21.

Administrative Reports: Principal Bob Hayes reported that the Elementary Christmas Concerts were well attended and that the 3-6 grade students would be seeing a movie in Vermillion on Dec. 22nd. Superintendent Thompson presented the following information: the preliminary calendar for the 2010-11 school year is being distributed for review ; Certified Testing Services of Sioux City will be doing soil compaction tests as contracted for the new construction; Marcia Herring will help with names for the interim Superintendent position; January is the organizational meeting for the School Board; and the term of office for three board members will expire in December of 2010. Those members are Kenton Book, Richard Dohma and John Gill.

A cooperative agreement was offered to the district by Wayne Community Schools to provide and share services and personnel in the area of Library Automation Systems. Initial cost will be \$500 for the 2nd semester of the 2009-10 school year and approximately \$1000 for subsequent years. On a Motion by Rickett, second by Book, the agreement was approved. M.C.U. Mrs. Hayes will be asked to track usage of the system.

The board decided to borrow \$218,825.96 from the Bank of Dixon County to pay Hewgley and Associates on a motion by Book, second by Kramper. Motion carried 4-0. Dohma abstained from voting. A second statement dated December 1st from Hewgley and Associates was presented for an additional \$168,903.11. This second bill is to be paid in January.

The board discussed issues associated with the new school construction. They included the efficiency and cost of geothermal vs. other heating and air-conditioning options, the fencing put up by John Gill around exposed basements, and keeping site cleanup of the west block included in the contractor's responsibilities. Bids will open on February 25th at 2:00 p.m. for new construction.

Requests for a paid assistant boys' basketball coach, assistant girls' basketball coach, and assistant wrestling coach were approved by the board on a motion by Rickett, second by Book. Motion carried 4-0. Gill abstained from voting. The assistant coaches will be paid at 4% of Step 1, BA Base.

Supt. Thompson informed the Board of the school's preliminary intent to participate in the Race To The Top school improvement initiative.

At 8:42, a motion was made by Kramper, second by Rickett, to go into executive session for “protection of the public interest”. M.C.U. At 9:22, President Dohma declared the executive session over.

At 9:23 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made by Gill, second by Book, to adjourn the meeting. M.C.U.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Huston, Secretary

Minutes Officially Approved_____