

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

December 17, 2012

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 17, 2012 at 7:40 p.m. in the Ponca High School Art room. 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, Gary Smith, Phil Kramper, Doug Rickett, and John Gill. Others present were Supt. Joan Reznicek, Prin. Michelle Rinas, Sec. Lorrie Huston and 5 visitors. Prior to the meeting, a photo was taken of the current Board members.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Dohma. A motion was made by Rickett, second by Book to approve the Agenda. M.C.U.

The minutes of the November 19, 2012 and November 26, 2012 Board meetings were approved on a motion by Gill, second by Rickett. M.C.U. Book made a motion to approve the financial reports, second by Smith. M.C.U. The Treasurer's report shows a General Fund balance of \$266,168.53, a Depreciation Fund balance of \$150,244.82, a Bond Fund balance of \$430,819.36, a Building Fund Balance of \$128,593.39, an Employee Benefit Fund balance of \$6,037.71, a combined Activity Fund balance of \$95,810.33, and a Hot Lunch Fund balance of \$24,945.73. General Fund bills totaling \$35,057.19; Building Fund disbursements of \$7,347.58; and Sports Complex disbursements of \$804.87; were all approved with a motion by Book second by Gill. M.C.U. There were no enrollment option requests.

Principal Rinas reported on the Principal's conference which she attended in Kearney on December 6th & 7th. She noted the information presented on job satisfaction, research for education and learning, and four areas to improve student learning. Rinas distributed data compiled on NeSA Scores for 11th graders and Ponca's ranking with other Nebraska class C2 schools in the areas of Math, Science and Reading. She also went over a portion of the Nebraska Performance Accountability report which can be found on the Nebraska Dept. of Education website.

Superintendent Reznicek informed the Board of the following items: the 2013 NRCSA legislative forum will be held Feb. 20th; the NRCSA Spring conference will be held March 21st & 22nd; the oath of office will be read by all Board members at the January Board meeting; the Ponca school west parking lot lighting will be installed during the school Christmas break; and an insurance check in the amount of \$3,571.50 was received as payment for the totaled red van. The Board agreed to accept the check and postpone the purchase of a new vehicle.

On Monday, January 7th there will be a combined meeting of the Ponca and Newcastle school boards at 7 p.m. in the Newcastle gymnasium. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear the results of the recent feasibility study completed by Jerry Ehlers. The public is invited to attend this meeting and also the follow-up meetings on January 23rd and 24th. Locations of the follow-up meetings will be determined later. Members of the Newcastle and Ponca core committee reported that their meeting on November 28th went well.

Rickett moved to approve the continuation of the softball cooperative with South Sioux City and Homer. Smith seconded the motion. M.C.U.

After acknowledgment of the letter from PEA President, Suzette McCarthy, a motion was made by Book, second by Kramper, to recognize the Ponca Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the 2014-15 school year. M.C.U.

The Board reviewed the technology plan written by school technologist Kristie Hayes. The plan is to be sent to the Nebraska Department of Education and, without the plan, the district would not receive e-rate funds of approximately \$60,000 each year. The staff is also required to sign an Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy as a component of the plan. Rickett moved to approve the Technology Plan for the 2013-14 school year. Smith seconded the motion. M.C.U.

A bid and drawings from Pioneer Cabinetry for trophy cases in the Fine Arts entrance, gymnasium commons area, and brick wall recesses by the elementary office were given to Board members. Funding for the projects will be discussed with the athletic and music boosters and other donations may be solicited. Board members expressed the desire to complete the playground prior to using any general fund dollars for trophy cases.

Supt. Reznicek presented the construction punch list from EAD Contractors and discussed each item at length with the Board. Item #3 is considered high priority to be finished. The Board agreed to their original plan of waiting to pay EAD until all of the issues were resolved.

A conference call will be held on January 8th with NEMA, Phil Bang of EAD, Ryan Stearns of Joseph Hewgley & Associates, Supt. Reznicek and Secretary Huston to address the FEMA grant budget and expenditures. Book made a motion, second by Smith, to approve the final payment of \$30,659.69 to Joseph Hewgley & Associates pending the outcome of the conference call on January 8th with NEMA. M.C.U.

After discussion, the Board members agreed to wait on locking in prices for a new playground until grants and funding were solid.

Supt. Reznicek reminded the Board of the teacher retirement incentive agreements. To date, no teachers had given official notice of retirement plans.

Under President Dohma's direction, the positive comments of the Superintendent's evaluation by the Board were discussed in open session. Supt. Reznicek requested that an amendment be made to her contract which established a roll-over clause. Rickett moved to approve the superintendent contract amendment as written by Attorney Rex Schulte. Gill seconded the motion. M.C.U.

Supt. Reznicek and the Board thanked Gary Smith for his many valuable years of service to the District. Monte Burki will be taking over Gary's position beginning in January 2013.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on January 21st at 7:30 p.m. in the Ponca High School Art Room.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorrie Huston, Board Secretary