

January 6, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the School Board, Independent School District No. 701, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. on January 6, 2021, in the High School Board Room. Members present: The following members were present by a Zoom Meeting Directors McLaughlin, Martin, Polcher, Nyberg, Egan and Chair Berklich.
Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Newly elected board members Berklich, Egan and McLaughlin accepted the oath of office.

Reorganization of School Board:

ELECT CHAIR

Chair Berklich called for nominations for position of School Board Chair. Director Egan nominated Director Berklich. No other nominations were made Chair Berklich closed the nominations. Moved by Director Egan, seconded by Director Berklich that Director Berklich be named Chair of the Board for the ensuing year. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin, Nyberg and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

ELECT CLERK

Chair Berklich called for nominations for position of School Board Clerk. Chair Berklich nominated Director Egan. Director Martin nominated herself. No other nominations were made Chair Berklich closed the nominations. Director Egan received 3 votes and Director Martin received 3 votes. Director Egan withdrew from the nomination. Moved by Director Egan, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Martin be named Clerk of the Board for the ensuing year. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Martin, Nyberg, McLaughlin, Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

ELECT TREASURER

Chair Berklich called for nominations for position of School Board Treasurer. Director Nyberg nominated Director McLaughlin. No other nominations were made Chair Berklich closed the nominations. Moved by Director Nyberg, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director McLaughlin be named Treasurer of the Board for the ensuing year. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin, Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

ELECT CHAIR PRO TEM

Chair Berklich called for nominations for position of School Board Chair Pro Tem. Director Egan nominated Director Polcher. No other nominations were made Chair Berklich closed the nominations. Moved by Director Egan, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Polcher be named Chair Pro Tem of the Board for the ensuing year. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Chair Berklich, Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin, and Nyberg

Against: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION – BLANKET BOND

Director Polcher offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that the District purchase a blanket bond for \$100,000 to cover the board members and school employees.

Director Egan supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Chair Berklich, Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin and Nyberg

Against: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION – SALARIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

Director Polcher offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that the salaries of the school board members will be \$300.00 per month, payable monthly, for regularly scheduled board meetings. The Chairperson of the school board shall receive \$350.00 per month, payable monthly, for regularly scheduled board meetings. \$25.00 per meeting shall be allowed for additional Negotiation meetings and special meetings.

Director Nyberg supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin, Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION – OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

Director Martin offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that The Mesabi Tribune be designated the official newspaper of the School District to publish the proceedings of the Meetings of the School Board and legal notices and display advertising at the legal rate. The officers are authorized to enter into a contract for the same.

Director Polcher supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Chair Berklich, Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin and Nyberg
Against: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION – DATES AND TIMES OF BOARD MEETINGS

Moved by Director Polcher offers the following Resolution and moves it adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that the regular school board meetings be held on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of each month unless otherwise designated.

The second meeting will be held two weeks after the first meeting unless that day is a legal holiday, when it will be held on the next day when legal business can be transacted unless otherwise designated. The starting time will be 3:30 P.M. and the place will be the Board Room in the High School unless otherwise designated.

Director Egan supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Chair Berklich, Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin and Nyberg
Against: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION – PREPAYMENT OF CERTAIN CLAIMS

Director Nyberg offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that the Business Manager be authorized to prepay certain claims to take advantage of discounts.

Director Martin supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Chair Berklich, Egan, Polcher, McLaughlin, Martin and Nyberg
Against: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS

Director McLaughlin offers the following Resolution and moves its adoption: RESOLVED, by the School Board, ISD #701, Hibbing, that the Business Manager be authorized to make payments through the use of electronic fund transfers, and shall report the same to the School Board each month.

Director Martin supported the foregoing Resolution. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Nyberg, McLaughlin, Martin, Polcher, Egan and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO MSHSL

Moved by Director Egan, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Nyberg be appointed as the Board's representative to the Minnesota State High School League. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO MSBA

Moved by Director Nyberg, seconded by Director Martin that Chair Berklich be named the Legislative Liaison to the Minnesota School Boards Association. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO TITLE I PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Moved by Chair Berklich, seconded by Director Egan that Director Martin be appointed to the Title I Parent Advisory Committee. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO COMMUNITY ED ADVISORY COUNCIL

Moved by Director Nyberg, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Egan be appointed to the Community Education Advisory Council. Director Egan withdrew his name. Moved by Director Nyberg, seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Martin be appointed to the Community Education Advisory Council. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESNTATIVE TO RAMS

Moved by Chair Berklich, seconded by Director Egan that Director McLaughlin be appointed to represent ISD #701 on the Executive Board of the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO RELIGIOUS RELEASE COMMITTEE

Moved by Director Polcher, seconded by Director Nyberg that Chair Berklich be appointed to the Religious Release Committee. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO DISTRICT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Moved by Director Martin seconded by Chair Berklich that Director Polcher be appointed to the District Health and Safety Committee. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO WORLD'S BEST WORK FORCE

Moved by Director Egan, seconded by Director McLaughlin to appoint Director Polcher to the World's Best Work Force. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

Moved by Chair Berklich, seconded by Director Egan to not appoint any Directors at this time to the Negotiations Committee. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

REPRESENTATIVE TO CHEMICAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Moved by Chair Berklich, seconded by Director Egan to appoint Director Nyberg to the Chemical Health Advisory Council. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

APPROVE AGENDA

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Martin to approve the agenda. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Director Nyberg, supported by Director Polcher and approved unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda for the Month of December, 2020 which consists of the Minutes from the December 9 and 23, 2020 Regular Meeting. Postings or transfers in the Non-Certified Bargaining Unit. None

Public Comment: Natalie Benchina – Agrees that a later time for board meetings would be nice. Referred to our Mission Statement. Parents do not feel heard by the board and are asking for kids to go back to school. Thanked Director McLaughlin for always answering her calls.

Old Business: None

Personnel:

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF FALLYN NICHOLSON

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Nyberg to accept the resignation of Fallyn Nicholson as JV softball assistant coach, effective December 9, 2020. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

Administrative Reports:

Directors /Student Director:

Director McLaughlin – Happy to hear that Superintendent Aldrich is still working on getting a student to represent on the School Board.

Principals / Assistant Principals:

Committee Report:

Director McLaughlin – Gave a Dylan Project update they will be on CBS at 5 p.m.

COVID-19 Update:

Superintendent Aldrich – Last week COVID number was 70 and tomorrow should be 40. PPE and staff saliva tests are ordered and will all be in place by January 18th. We do need a positive nod from MDH on January 14th to return Grade 7-12 to Hybrid on January 26th.

Administrative Business:

APPROVE RESOLUTION TO ALLOW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE COVERED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE POLICY

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to approve a Resolution to allow school board members to be covered by the School District Workers Compensation Insurance Policy. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

APPROVE THE CORPORATE AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTIONS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT DEPOSITORIES

Moved by Director Nyberg, supported by Director McLaughlin to approve Corporate Authorization Resolutions for school district depositories.

1. American Bank – Hibbing
2. MN Liquid Asset Fund
3. PMA Financial Network, Inc.
4. Robert W. Baird & Company
5. Security State Bank – Hibbing
6. US Bank – Hibbing
7. Wells Fargo Bank – Hibbing

Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich

Against: None

Absent: None

APPOINT THE FOLLOWING AS SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE 2021 CALDENDAR YEAR: RUPP, ANDERSON, SQUIRES & WALDSPURGER, P.A., COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY & BRUNFELT, LTD AND FRYBERGER, BUCHANAN, SMITH & FREDERICK, P.A.

Moved by Director McLaughlin, supported by Director Martin to appoint the following as School District legal counsel for the 2021 calendar year: Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A., Colosimo, Patchin, Kearney & Brunfelt, LTD and Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

APPROVE THE 2021 MEMBERSHIP TO THE RANGE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOLS AND AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,750.00

Moved by Chair Berklich, supported by Director Polcher to approve the 2021 Membership to the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools and authorize the payment of dues in the amount of \$1,750.00. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

AUTHORIZE THE CALL FOR BIDS FOR THE WES ECFE PROJECT

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Director Egan to authorize the call for bids for the WES ECFE Project. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

APPROVE A RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING FOR PRE-K-GRADE 5 ON 1/18/21, IN PERSON LEARNING FOR GRADE 6 ON 1/26/21 AND CONTINGENT UPON A CONSULT WITH THE MDH ON 1/14/21 GRADE 7-12 HYBRID ON 1/26/21

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to approve a return to in person learning for Pre-K – Grade 5 on 1/18/21, in person learning for Grade 6 on 1/26/21 an contingent upon a consult with the MDH on 1/14/21 Grade 7-12 Hybrid on 1/26/21. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: Egan
Absent: None

Discussion Items: Director Egan asked for an update on Cheever Field if it will be ready next fall. Superintendent Aldrich is hopeful for a purchase agreement by the next board meeting. Chair Berklich requested another update on January 20th.

ADJOURN

Moved by Director Polcher, supported by Chair Berklich to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 P.M. Being a Zoom Meeting, a roll call vote was taken and carried as follows:

For: Directors Egan, Polcher, Nyberg, Martin, McLaughlin and Chair Berklich
Against: None
Absent: None

JOHN BERKLICH, Chair

ATTEST:

MARJORIE MARTIN, Clerk