

Souderton Area School District

760 Lower Road
Souderton, PA 18964

A regularly scheduled public meeting of the Souderton Area Board of School Directors was held Thursday, June 19, 2008 at the District Administrative Office in the Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Bernard S. Currie, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT:	Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner	Scott C. Jelinski
	William J. Brong	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski
	Bernard S. Currie	Victor M. Verbeke
ABSENT:	Mark D. Leer	R. Bud Miller (arrived at 7:13 PM)
	Eric R. MacDougall	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Brigitte Bagocius, Brenda J. Bray, Donna Brown, R. Bradley Clemens, Grace Eves, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Steve Pollack, Gail Ryan, Jack Silva, David Thayres, representatives from *The Reporter*, *The Souderton Independent*, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEMS

Operations Committee
William J. Brong, Chairman

High School Project Update

Mr. Brong mentioned that prior to the meeting, the Board had taken a tour of the new high school. The classroom wings are about 90% complete and floors are going down in the main corridors. The auditorium is being framed and the main gym has been painted. He indicated the D’Huy Engineering is hitting their scheduled completion dates. Board members were asked to review the Monthly Construction Update Report prepared by Warren Gericke of D’Huy Engineering.

Right of Way Easement Requests from Harleysville Savings Bank

Mr. Brong explained to the Board that Harleysville Savings Bank is asking for two easements adjacent to the current high school property on County Line Road in Hilltown Township. They are asking for a temporary construction easement to complete minor grading and a permanent sight line easement for traffic safety purposes. The sight line easement will only be necessary until such time as the high school property is developed. When the high school property is sold, Hilltown Township will probably require the widening of County Line Road for any development of the existing athletic fields.

Mr. Bray added that she is waiting for paperwork from the attorneys at this time and then the Board will be asked to approve the easements.

WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Operations Committee (Continued)

Right of Way Easement Requests from Harleysville Savings Bank (Continued)

(Note: Mr. Miller arrived at this time.)

Recommendation: Move item to a future Board meeting for approval.

Discussion of Indian Crest Tech Area Renovations

Mr. Brong introduced the Indian Crest technology area renovations by stating that the Board had toured both Indian Valley Middle School and Indian Crest Junior High School last Thursday to get an idea of what renovations would entail.

Mr. Bray noted that Damon Kane of Godshall Kane Architects was at the last Operations Workshop to make his presentation. Mr. Kane showed a design solution for Indian Crest and offered two construction schedule options. One option would have a completion date of November 2009, the other option would have a completion date of July 2010.

Mr. Pollack explained the pros and cons of the two completion schedules in detail. One important factor is that the replacement of the boilers had been placed in the latest five year maintenance plan, so this work was anticipated for June 2009. Mr. Pollack discussed the large air handlers that would need to be replaced and other work that would coincide with the renovations. Timing and coordination will be important for both schedules.

Dr. Amuso indicated that the best construction scenario for student learning and the curriculum should start as early as possible, that being the summer of 2009. The major demolition will take place when students will not be in the building.

Mr. Brong asked administration if they were aware of the timing and coordination needed to oversee the Indian Crest renovation and move into the new high school at the same time.

Mr. Miller commented on the high cost of the project and asked if the technology equipment was included in the cost.

Mr. Pollack indicated that current technology equipment will be used.

Mr. Miller asked for a breakdown of the costs involved.

Mr. Brong indicated that the total cost would be determined when the bids go out.

Mr. Pollack added that the architect had prepared preliminary costs that will change as the project design is completed.

Mr. Brong asked for confirmation that the boiler work would take place while this project is being done.

WORKSHOP AGENDA ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Operations Committee (Continued)

Discussion of Indian Crest Tech Area Renovations (Continued)

Mr. Pollack confirmed that the boiler replacement had been scheduled in the 5 year maintenance plan.

Mr. Currie asked Mr. Pollack how soon the Board would need to make a decision on the project for work to begin in the summer of 2009.

Mr. Pollack reviewed the proposed timeline. If the Board votes to move forward, then the next step would be the design stage. Bids would need to go out in January 2009 in order to start in the summer of 2009.

Mr. Kwiatkowski asked if the Board were to enter into a contract now, could changes be made at a later date.

Mr. Pollack and Mr. Brong both responded that changes could be made later in the process.

Mr. Brong explained the differences between fees for new construction and renovation.

Mr. Sultanik indicated that if there was substantial modification to the plan design, there would be an additional charge. The Board needs to review the plans and make sure they agree on which way to go and then communicate that decision to the architect.

Mr. Miller again shared his thought about the project being too costly. He asked if project estimates could be shared at the next Operations Committee workshop.

Recommendation: A break down of costs for the renovation project will be shared at the next Operations Committee workshop. A contract for Godshall Kane Architects will be recommended at the July 10 Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

An Executive Session was held on June 5, 2008 to discuss negotiations. The session lasted 45 minutes.

An Executive Session was held on June 12, 2008 to discuss negotiations. The session lasted 90 minutes.

An Executive Session was held this evening prior to the Board meeting to discuss personnel items. The meeting lasted approximately 15 minutes.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Amuso presented the consent/action items, along with the items listed on the addendum for approval. He asked Board members to remove any items from the agenda if more discussion was needed.

Mr. Miller asked for a separate vote on Item O - Recommendation to Approve Depositories for the 2008-2009 School Year. He stated that since he is an officer of Commerce Bank, he should abstain from voting on this issue.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Dr. Baumgartner to approve the consent/action agenda items, along with the items listed on the addendum, and remove Item O for a separate vote.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 7 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the items listed on the consent/action agenda, along with the items on the addendum, and remove Item O - Recommendation to Approve Depositories for the 2008-2009 School Year for a separate vote.

Recommendation to Approve Minutes of the June 5, 2008 School Board Meeting.

Recommendation to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for May 2008.

EXHIBIT A

Recommendation to Approve Request to Attend Conference/Workshop

MICHAEL CAHILL	Advanced Placement Summer Institute
Social Studies, Senior High School	Malvern, PA
	July 28-31, 2008 (Mon.-Thurs.)
	Est. Expenses: \$902.21
	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
	Total Est. Expenses: \$902.21

PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Recommendation for Transfer

LORA L. KUHNS

Replacement for
Ellen Sykes (transfer)

Education

Kutztown Univ. (BS) 1993
Lehigh Univ. (MS) 2001

From: Assist. Principal, 10-Month, Indian Valley
Middle School

To: Assist. Principal, 12-Month, Indian Valley M. S.

Experience

Dec. 2007-Present–Souderton Area School Dist.
Indian Valley M.S.-Asst. Principal–10-Month

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendation for Transfer (Continued)

LORA L. KUHNS >> Replacement for Ellen Sykes (transfer) <u>Education</u> Wilkes Univ. (MS) 2004	From: Assist. Principal, 10-Month, Indian Valley Middle School To: Assist. Principal, 12-Month, Indian Valley M. S. <u>Experience</u> 2005-2007–Allentown School Dist.-Harrison-Morton Middle School–Assistant Principal 2003-2005–Allentown School Dist.-Union Terrace & Muhlenberg Elem. – Admin. Intern 1998-2003–Allentown School Dist.-South Mountain Middle School–Math/Science/Reading Teacher
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>>Salary – Pending Approval of ACT 93 Compensation Plan for 2008-2009

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Recommendation to Accept Resignation

LINDA BLEAU	ESL Teacher, Lower Salford Elementary Effective: June 17, 2008
CASSIE HAMMER	Third Grade, Franconia Elementary Effective: June 17, 2008

Recommendation to Accept Request for Retirement

NANCY GRESHOCK Employed by SASD: 16 years	Gifted Support, Indian Crest Jr. High School Effective: End of 2007-2008 School Year
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Recommendations for Employment

NICOLE BAUER Replacement for Sheryl Creeden (resigned) <u>Education</u> Duke University (BA) 2006	Mathematics Teacher, Indian Crest Jr. High TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year <u>Experience</u> 2007-2008–Methacton S.D.–Arcola Intermediate School–Long-Term Substitute–Math/Sixth Gr. March-June 2007–Hatboro-Horsham S.D.–Keith Valley Middle School-Per-Diem Extended Substitute–Sixth Grade Math
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Recommended Salary - \$37,323 – B (1) ♦

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendations for Employment (Continued)

JESSICA BROCKMANN
New Position per 2008-2009
Budget

Education

Jacksonville State Univ., AL
(BS) 2000
Jacksonville State Univ., AL
(MS) 2002

Special Education Teacher, Learning Support
Souderton Area High School
TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL
Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year

Experience

2007-2008-Souderton Area High School
Long-Term Substitute-Special Education, Learning
Support Teacher
2004-2007-Cordillera Elem., Mission Viejo, CA
Resource Specialist Teacher
2002-2004-West Carrollton High School, Dayton, OH
Special Education Teacher-Life Skills

Recommended Salary - \$48,897 – M+12 (4) ♦

IAN BURLEY
Replacement for
Philip Landes (retired)

Education

Lafayette College (BA) 2001
Kutztown Univ. (M. Ed.) 2007

Science Teacher, Souderton Area High School
TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL
Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year

Experience

Spring 2008–Student Teaching-East Penn S. D.
Lower Macungie Middle School & Bethlehem S. D.
Liberty High School
2007–Present–The DaVinci Science Center-Allentown
Educator
Fall 2004–Colonial Intermediate Unit #20
Second Chance Acad.–Mental Health Worker

Recommended Salary - \$41,046 – M (1) ♦

COURTNEY HUGHES
Replacement for
Wayne Walton (retired)

Education

Lock Haven University (BS)
2007

Mathematics, Grade 7, Indian Valley M. S.
TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL
Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year

Experience

Oct. 2007–June 2008-Souderton Area S. D.
Indian Crest Junior High-Long Term Sub.-Math
Teacher
March-May 2007-Student Teaching-Perkiomen
Valley S. D.– Middle School West
Jan.–March 2007–Student Teaching-Perkiomen
Valley S.D.–South Elementary

Recommended Salary - \$37,815 – B (2) ♦

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendations for Employment (Continued)

LEAH KOWALSKI Replacement for Martha Schultz (retired) <u>Education</u> Arcadia University (BA) 2006	English Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year <u>Experience</u> 2007-2008–Souderton Area S. D.–High School Long-Term Substitute–English Teacher March-June 2007–SASD–High School Per-Diem Extended Substitute–English Sept.-Dec. 2006–Student Teaching–Lower Merion S. D.–Harriton High School Recommended Salary - \$37,815 – B (2) ♦
KRISTIN LISJAK Replacement for Rita Cipriano (retired) <u>Education</u> SUNY at Buffalo (BS) 2000 DePaul University (M.Ed.) 2004	Biology Teacher, Souderton Area High School TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year <u>Experience</u> 2007-2008–Tredyffrin-Easttown S.D.–Conestoga High School- Long-Term Substitute–Biology & Physical Science Teacher 2003-2005–Immaculate Heart of Mary High School Westchester, Illinois–Science Teacher Recommended Salary - \$42,679 – M (2) ♦
BRIDGETTE McGUIRE Replacement for Andrew Borowski (retired) <u>Education</u> College of New Jersey (BS) 2007	Mathematics Teacher, Indian Crest Jr. High TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year <u>Experience</u> 2007-2008–Souderton Area S.D.-Indian Crest Jr. High–Long-Term Substitute-Math Teacher Spring 2007–SASD–Indian Crest Jr. High-Guidance Intern Fall 2006–Student Teaching-Wilbur Watts Intermediate School, Burlington, NJ Spring 2006–Student Teaching-Bear Tavern Elem. Hopewell, NJ Recommended Salary - \$37,815 – B (2) ♦

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendations for Employment (Continued)

MEREDITH McMAHON English Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Nannette Ruth (Sabbatical) Effective: 2008-2009 School Year
Education Experience
Pennsylvania State Univ. (BS) 1999 Feb.–April 2008–North Penn S. D.–Penn Dale
Arcadia University (MA) 2006 Middle School–Per-Diem Substitute–English
2006-2007–Souderton Area S. D.–High School
Long-Term Substitute–English
Recommended Salary - \$41,046 – M (1) ♦

WILLIAM MELVIN English Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High
Replacement for **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
Frank Neumann (retired) Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year
Education Experience
West Chester Univ. (BS) 2008 Spring 2008–Student Teaching–Downingtown
West High School
Recommended Salary - \$37,323 – B (1) ♦

JENIFER MEYER Mathematics Teacher, Souderton Area High School
New Position per 2008-09 Budget **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year
Education Experience
Millersville Univ. (BS) 1997 2007-2008-Souderton Area S. D.-Indian Crest Jr.
Western Maryland College (MS) High–Long-Term Substitute–Math Teacher
2006-2007–SASD–Indian Valley Middle School
Long-Term Substitute–Math Teacher
1998-2006–Elkton High School, Elkton, MD
Mathematics Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$44,243 – M (3) ♦

AMY PASCUCCI District School Psychologist
Replacement for **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
W. Stanton Holloway (retired) Beginning: 2008-2009 School Year
Education Experience
Pennsylvania State Univ. (BA) Sept. 2007–Present–Springfield School Dist.-
2002 School Psychology Internship
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Aug. 2004-Present–The Institute for Behavior Change
Medicine (MS) 2005 Coatesville–Program Specialist-Clinical Supervisor
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Clinical Writing Supervisor-Behavior Specialist
Medicine (Certificate) Consultant
Recommended Salary - \$45,860 – M+24 (1) ♦

♦ 2007-2008 Salary Guide-Salary to be adjusted pending approval of a new Professional Collective Bargaining Agreement.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendation to Approve Request for Childrearing Leave

MELINDA GROSSO District Speech & Language Clinician
Beginning November 18, 2008, following Family/Medical Leave, through the first semester of the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Grosso is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2008-2009 school year.

Recommendation to Approve Request for Extension of Childrearing Leave

JANET SMITH Fifth Grade, Salford Hills Elementary
Through the first semester of the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Smith is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2008-2009 school year.

Recommendation for Employment of 2008 Summer School Staff.

EXHIBIT B

PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

Recommendation to Accept Resignations

ANTHONY MARTORANA Part-Time Custodian, Salford Hills Elementary
Effective: May 30, 2008

JAMES RYAN RHODES Substitute Security Guard, Souderton Area H. S.
Effective: June 17, 2008

LIGIA TELLERIA Special Education Aide, Vernfield Elementary
Effective: June 16, 2008

Recommendation to Approve Transfers

ELIZABETH KAUFFMAN From: Special Education Aide, Learning Support,
Replacement for Vernfield Elementary
Ligia Telleria (resigned) To: Special Education Aide, Autistic Support,
Vernfield Elementary
Beginning: September 2008
Wage: \$12.23 per hour
Hours: 6.5 per day

DONNA MARTIN From: Café/Playground Aide, 5 days/week,
E. M. Crouthamel Elem.
To: Substitute Café/Playground Aide, E. M. C.
Beginning: September 2, 2008
Wage: \$9.87 per hour
Hours: As needed

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendation to Approve Transfers (Continued)

SANDRA NICE From: Food Service Substitute
Replacement for To: Food Service Assistant, Souderton Area H. S.
Julie Hopwood (transfer) Beginning: August 25, 2008
Wage: \$9.51 per hour
Hours: 4.25 per day

Recommendations for Employment of SAVE Summer Environmental Camp Staff

KENNETH HAMILTON	Camp Director	\$15.75 per hour
GAVIN ATKINSON	Head Counselor	10.00 per hour
	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour
JULIE GLASS	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour
KIRSTEN HARDY	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour
JACLYN HELD	Head Counselor	10.00 per hour
MAGGIE HORVATH	Head Counselor	10.00 per hour
AMY KRIEBEL	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour
JULIE MOKRZYCKI	Head Counselor	10.00 per hour
	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour
ERICA SCHLEGEL	Asst. Counselor	7.50 per hour

Recommendation for Employment of Community Education Summer 2008 Staff and Salaries.

EXHIBIT C

Recommendation for Employment of Summer Special Education Program Staffing.

EXHIBIT D

Recommendation to Approve Supplemental Contract for 2007-2008

DANIEL BARBER Grade Maintenance-2007-2008-High School \$2,280.00

Recommendation to Approve Writing Units of Study for Grades 3-4-5 Beginning with the 2008-2009 School Year.

Recommendation to Approve Reading Unit of Study – Reading as a Test Genre for Grades 3-4-5 Beginning with the 2008-2009 School Year.

Recommendation to Approve Elementary Science – FOSS Science Kits for Grades 1-2-3-4-5 Beginning with the 2008-2009 School Year.

Recommendation to Approve the 2008-2009 Cooperative Purchasing Through the Following Sources: Montgomery County Intermediate Unit #23, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit #13, COSTARS, PEPPM, Southeastern Pennsylvania Buying Group (Food Service), Chester County Intermediate Unit #24 (Food Service), and Capital Area Intermediate Unit #15.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Recommendation to Approve Supply and Paper Bids for the 2008-2009 School Year. **EXHIBIT E**

Recommendation to Authorize the Transfer of Budgeted Funds Based upon Audit Adjustments to the Book Balances for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008. **EXHIBIT F**

Recommendation to Approve Resolution Designating Five (5) Additional Local Holidays to the 2008-2009 School Calendar. **EXHIBIT G**

Recommendation to Approve a “Status Quo” Resolution. **EXHIBIT H**

Recommendation to Approve Depositories for the 2008-2009 School Year

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Currie asked for a motion regarding the recommendation to approve the depositories.

There was a motion by Dr. Baumgartner, second by Mr. Brong to approve the depositories for the 2008-2009 school year as presented.

A vote was taken, and on a vote of 6 to 0, with 1 member abstaining (Mr. Miller), it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the depositories for the 2008-2009 school year as presented. **EXHIBIT I**

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

2008-2009 Budget

The Finance Committee is recommending adoption of the 2008-2009 Budget in the amount of \$95,885,872 and that local taxes to support this budget are established as listed:

The REAL ESTATE TAX of 24.46 mils and a PER CAPITA TAX of \$5.00 under Section 679 be levied, and,

The following Act 511 taxes are continued for the 2008-2009 fiscal year:

REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX.....	1%
EARNED INCOME TAX.....	1%
PER CAPITA TAX.....	\$10.00

The Real Estate Tax, Earned Income Tax on residents, and the Per Capita Taxes under Act 511 are shared equally with municipalities.

With the Homestead and/or Farmstead Act there will be a reduction of \$196.16 in their real estate tax bill. This is due to gaming revenue.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (CONTINUED)

2008-2009 Budget (Continued)

Dr. Amuso explained that the budget was based on projected expenditures for this year. The administration is ready to recommend the budget for approval. He indicated that \$821,459 will be taken from the fund balance to balance the budget. He noted that for the first time in at least 20 years, the tax rate will not increase for next year. Dr. Amuso also stated that taxpayers who applied for and received approval for a Homestead or Farmstead exemption will realize a decrease in taxes by \$196 for the 2008-2009 school year.

There was a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Dr. Baumgartner to approve the 2008-2009 budget.

Mr. Currie stated that this was the first time in at least 20 years that there will be no tax increase. There will be a real estate tax decrease for most taxpayers of the district due to gaming revenue. He thanked the administration and the Finance Committee for working with the Board to change the budget process by looking at the actual expenditures from the previous year and using a local index to set the budget.

Mr. Miller commented on the current status of the economy and thanked the administration for watching expenditures.

Dr. Baumgartner indicated that he had received comments from residents asking how high the taxes would be in the fall. Taxpayers are confident that the district will continue to provide a quality educational program.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 7 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the 2008-2009 Final Budget as presented.

EXHIBIT J

Recommendation to Approve the 2008 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution.

Dr. Amuso asked for the Board to approve the 2008 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution, noting that the resolution addresses the \$196.16 decrease in real estate taxes due to gaming revenue.

There was a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Dr. Baumgartner, and on a vote of 7 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the 2008 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented.

EXHIBIT K

INFORMATIONAL

The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at 7:45 PM in Conference Rooms B3/B4, Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

INFORMATIONAL (CONTINUED)

The next scheduled School Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2008 beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

The next North Montco Technical Career Center Joint Operating Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2008 in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

There was no report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

No unfinished/new business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Brong, second by Mr. Verbeke to adjourn the meeting. On a vote of 7 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully,

Brenda Jones Bray
Board Secretary