

**SCHUYLKILL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**929 Lakeshore Drive**  
**Leesport, PA 19533-8631**

**MINUTES**

**March 23, 2020**

**1.0 The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, G. Dane Miller, held online via Zoom Meeting Room.**

**1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**1.2 ROLL CALL**

Members Present (online): Paul L. Bendigo, Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Kevin Raudenbush, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Treasurer: Changming Wang

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present (online): Dr. Cynthia S. Mierzejewski, Michael Billman, Casey Blankenbiller, Robin Brightbill, Jeremy Crills, Stephanie Deibler, Brian Feick, Dawn Harris, Dr. Janet Heilman, Diane Kaag, Melissa Kelchner, Joshua Kuehner, Courtney Maguire, Michael Mitchell, Changming Wang, Jason Williams

**1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Linda Lash and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 24, 2020, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**1.4 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Miller reported that the Board met in executive session via Zoom Meeting Room on March 19, 2020, for personnel matters.

**2.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

**2.1 PRESIDENT – G. Dane Miller**

No report.

**2.2 SECRETARY – Linda R. Lash**

No report.

**2.3 BERKS COUNTY I.U. BOARD – Linda R. Lash**

Mrs. Lash reported that their March meeting was cancelled however they are receiving updates from Dr. Hackman periodically.

**2.4 BERKS CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER – George H. Mertz III**

Mr. Mertz reported that they did hold their March meeting.

**2.5 TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE – David E. Moll**

Mr. Moll reported that their quarterly meeting is scheduled for next week but he anticipates that this will be cancelled. If they do meet online, he will report that in April.

**2.6 PA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LIAISON – Linda R. Lash**

Mrs. Lash has been forwarding information to the Board as she receives it. She did participate in a webinar on COVID-19 and will be participating in another webinar on March 31. These webinars are taking the place of the regional meetings that had been scheduled. Also, on March 22 she received a notice from the York Dispatch that AP testing will be online and will be 45 minutes. It will only cover the material that should have been covered in class by early March and the schedule will be posted on April 3. Also, tuition for cyber and charter schools will be made based on student enrollment as of the time schools were closed. PSSA and Keystone testing has been cancelled for this year.

**3.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No one addressed the Board.

**4.0 BOARD**

Policy Waiver

- 4.1** The Board is requested to consider and approve waiving Policy 006.1, Attendance at Meetings Via Electronic Communications.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve waiving Policy 006.1, Attendance at Meetings Via Electronic Communications.**

Roll Call Vote

**Yeas: Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi, Bendigo, Dempsey**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

District Property

- 4.2** The Board is requested to consider and approve the Conner A. Kleffel Memorial Foundation taking ownership of district property (food), in regard to Policy 706.1, "property is no longer required for its originally intended purpose" and "donation to charitable organizations."

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Linda Lash to consider and approve the Conner A. Kleffel Memorial Foundation taking ownership of district property (food), in regard to Policy 706.1, "property is no longer required for its originally intended purpose" and "donation to charitable organizations."**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Appointment of Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

- 4.3** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors for the Schuylkill Valley School District ("Board") hereby employs Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr. ("Mr. Mitchell") as Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools from April 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020, at an initial salary of \$140,000, prorated until July 1, 2020, or until Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education should the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility be issued after July 1, 2020.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by George Mertz that the Board of School Directors for the Schuylkill Valley School District ("Board") hereby employs**

**Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr. ("Mr. Mitchell") as Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools from April 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020, at an initial salary of \$140,000, prorated until July 1, 2020, or until Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education should the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility be issued after July 1, 2020.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Appointment of Superintendent of Schools

**4.4**

Resolved, that the Board of School Directors for the Schuylkill Valley School District ("Board") hereby employs Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr. ("Mr. Mitchell") as Superintendent of Schools for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2020, or when Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education should the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility be issued after July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, at an initial salary of \$150,000, prorated, if needed, based on the date Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Mr. Mitchell will be appointed as Acting Superintendent on July 1, 2020 if he has not received his Letter of Eligibility and will have one year, until June 30, 2021, per PDE regulations, to gain his Letter of Eligibility.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Linda Lash that the Board of School Directors for the Schuylkill Valley School District ("Board") hereby employs Mr. Michael T. Mitchell, Jr. ("Mr. Mitchell") as Superintendent of Schools for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2020, or when Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education should the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility be issued after July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, at an initial salary of \$150,000, prorated, if needed, based on the date Mr. Mitchell obtains the Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Mr. Mitchell will be appointed as Acting Superintendent on July 1, 2020 if he has not received his Letter of Eligibility and will have one year, until June 30, 2021, per PDE regulations, to gain his Letter of Eligibility.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

LERTA

**4.5**

The Board is requested to consider and approve the Tax Exemption provided for in this Agreement between Schuylkill Valley School District and Reitnouer Trailers shall be based upon assessed value attributable to the actual costs of new construction or improvements up to any maximum costs uniformly established by the School District based on the Assessment determined by the Berks County Assessment Office.

Exemption from taxation is expressly limited to any additional assessed valuation attributable to the actual costs of new constructions or improvements directed and constructed after the Effective Date of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall become effective on the Effective Date set forth and shall be applicable within the LERTA District for a period of six (6) calendar years thereafter, at which time it shall automatically expire. Reassessment of this property may not be sought during the length of this Agreement between Schuylkill Valley School District and Reitnouer Trailers.

The length and the amount of the Tax Exemption for taxes imposed by the Schuylkill Valley School District provided for herein shall be a declining percentage over a six (6) year period as follows:



Year 1 - 100%

Year 2 - 80%

Year 3 - 60%

Year 4 - 40%

Year 5 - 20%

Year 6 - and thereafter – 0%

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the Tax Exemption provided for in this Agreement between Schuylkill Valley School District and Reitnouer Trailers shall be based upon assessed value attributable to the actual costs of new construction or improvements up to any maximum costs uniformly established by the School District based on the Assessment determined by the Berks County Assessment Office, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Donation

- 4.6** The Board is requested to consider and approve the donation of safety glasses from the district's supply to area hospitals and healthcare providers and authorizes Dr. Cindy Mierzejewski to execute the plan for the donation.

**Board Action: Moved by Dane Miller and seconded by Robert Dempsey to approve the donation of safety glasses from the district's supply to area hospitals and healthcare providers and authorizes Dr. Cindy Mierzejewski to execute the plan for the donation.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**5.0 SUPERINTENDENT**

Monthly Reports

- 5.1** There were no monthly reports for March, 2020.

Updates

- 5.2** Dr. Mierzejewski stated that the latest update on the COVID-19 virus is that Governor Wolf has extended the school closures for two weeks. At this point our teachers would be able to return on April 7-8, 2020, for professional development, and the students would return April 9. For us as a district it doesn't make sense to return then as April 10-13, 2020, would start our spring break. We did receive clarification and at this point the students will be returning April 14. PDE did provide guidelines and we are allowed to have essential staff working as needed including custodians. The Conner A. Kleffel Memorial Foundation has been very kind to provide meals for the past two weeks to individuals that need this service. The district will take over this service beginning March 30 and it will be a drive through grab-n-go at the elementary school providing breakfast and lunch items.

In regard to instruction, PDE provided guidance options including having no instruction; having a complete online learning environment; or providing online learning and enrichment activities for K-12. We have been providing online learning and enrichment activities for K-12 which will

continue through this week and then next week, the district will be looking at possible next steps as April 14 may not be the end of the school closures. The district wants to be prepared for this and will be looking at some completion of work and some new learning. The instructional leadership team will be reviewing this plan on March 24 and will have more information by the end of the week. There are also many questions around prom and graduation and we are going to do our best to make sure we can do some of those events, we just have to follow the guidance we're being given as far as large events. We will continue to have kindergarten registration however we need to figure out how to accomplish this other than face-to-face.

## 6.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

### *Summary of Committee Deliberations – George H. Mertz III*

The Policy, Personnel and Public Relations Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 20, 2020.

### **Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration**

#### **Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 6.1 Accepts, with best wishes for the future, the following resignations due to retirement effective with the last day of the 2019-20 school term unless otherwise noted:

- 6.1.1 Mr. Vernon Heffleger, Custodian at the Middle School, effective June 12, 2020.

- 6.1.2 Ms. Joan Minnich, Food Services Worker.

- 6.2 Accepts, with regret and best wishes for the future, the resignation of Ms. Jennifer Shane, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional at the Elementary School, effective March 6, 2020.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the actions in Items 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.2, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.3 Approves the employment of the following (all elections are contingent upon receipt and district approval of all necessary pre-employment forms, certification, state-mandated physical examinations, clearances, etc.):

- 6.3.1 Community aquatics staff for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.3.2 Substitutes for the 2019-20 school year.

- 6.3.3 Volunteers for the 2019-20 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the employment in Items 6.3.1 through and including 6.3.3, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**6.4 NON-UNION SUPPORT STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Approves of the following non-union support staff recommendations:

- 6.4.1** Salary ranges for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.4.2** Salary increases for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.4.3** Benefit recommendations for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.4.4** Supplemental wages for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.4.5** Substitute wages for the 2020-21 school year.
- 6.4.6** Community aquatics wages for the 2020-21 school year.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by David Moll to approve the non-union support staff recommendation in Items 6.6.1 through and including 6.6.6, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.5** Approve renewal of the agreement with Frontline Education for its Absence & Substitute Management, Time & Attendance, and Applicant Tracking, products at a total cost of \$19,073.16 for the period of 7/01/2020 - 6/30/2021, and further, to authorize the Director of Human Resources & Communications to execute the agreement.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the renewal of the agreement in Item 6.5, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.6** Accepts the resignation of Mr. Michael Mitchell, High School Principal, effective March 31, 2020.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the resignation of Mr. Michael Mitchell, High School Principal, effective March 31, 2020.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6.7** Approves the employment of the following (all elections are contingent upon receipt and district approval of all necessary pre-employment forms, certification, state-mandated physical examinations, clearances, etc.):

- 6.7.1** Dr. Sarah Yoder, Principal at the High School, at annual salary of \$131,000, (prorated for actual days worked), to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Michael Mitchell, effective June 1, 2020. Salary shall remain frozen for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

**Board Action: Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel to approve the employment of Dr. Sarah Yoder in Item 6.7.1, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**



**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **7.0 CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY**

### ***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Kevin Raudenbush***

The Curriculum and Technology Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 20, 2020.

### ***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 7.1** Approve the agreement with Shauna F. King, Ed.S., for the Keynote Presentation on opening day, August 24, 2020, at a cost of \$3,900.00, and further, to authorize the Director of Teaching and Learning to execute the agreement.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the agreement in Item 7.1, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.2** Approves the option for 2020 graduating seniors to pay a non-refundable \$20 fee to purchase their school issued Chromebook, charger and Chromebook case at the end of the 2019-2020 school year, and for the district to transfer ownership of the school issued Chromebook, charger and Chromebook case to the student upon purchase.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the action in Item 7.2, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.3** Approves the addendum to the contract for services agreement from Austill's Rehabilitation Services, Inc., at the annual hourly rates stated in the addendum, and further, authorizes the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services to execute the agreement.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the action in Item 7.3, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.4** Approves the agreement with Grand Canyon University as an educational partner for their Student Teaching Internships, Practicum and Observations, effective March 24, 2020, through June 30, 2022, and further, authorizes the Superintendent to execute the agreement.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by George Mertz to approve the action in Item 7.4, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.5** Approve a three-year agreement renewal with Microsoft, for Microsoft Academic/EDU Campus Software, at a first year cost of \$12,564.50, and further, authorizes the Director of Instructional and Information Technology to execute the agreement.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Dane Miller to approve the action in Item 7.5, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.6** Approves the agreement and statement of work with ePlus Technology, Inc., for the Palo Alto firewall installation and configuration, at a cost not to exceed \$10,800.00, and further, authorizes the Director of Instructional and Information Technology to execute the proposal.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Dane Miller to approve the action in Item 7.6, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.7** Approves the agreement and statement of work with ePlus Technology, Inc., for the Palo Alto firewall software installation and activation of the subscriptions, at a cost not to exceed \$7,200.00, and further, authorizes the Director of Instructional and Information Technology to execute the proposal.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve the action in Item 7.7, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.8** Approves the request for permission for senior student #2462, to remain in the school district for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, per Policy #202: Eligibility of Non-Resident Students.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by David Moll to approve the action in Item 7.8, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 7.9** Approves the request for permission for elementary school student #3377, to remain in the school district for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, per Policy #202: Eligibility of Non-Resident Students.

**Board Action: Moved by Kevin Raudenbush and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the action in Item 7.9, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**



## 8.0 BUDGET AND FINANCE

### *Summary of Committee Deliberations – David E. Moll*

The Budget and Finance Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 20, 2020.

### *Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration*

#### **Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 8.1 Approves/ratifies the payment of bills in the following amounts from February 10, 2020, to March 24, 2020, as presented.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$1,674,429.33</b>
<b>CAFETERIA FUND</b>	<b>\$32,170.86</b>
<b>CAPITAL PROJECT FUND</b>	<b>\$31,111.66</b>
<b>TECHNOLOGY RESERVE FUND</b>	<b>\$322.50</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,738,034.35</b>

- 8.2 Approves the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Reports for February 2020, as presented.

- 8.3 Approves the Berks Career and Technology Center budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$19,359,220; Schuylkill Valley's member share is \$569,380 and \$96,341 for special needs.

**Board Action:** Moved by David Moll and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve/ratify the payment of bills in Item 8.1 from February 10, 2020, to March 24, 2020, as presented; and to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Reports for February 2020, as presented; and to approve the Berks Career and Technology Center budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$19,359,220; Schuylkill Valley's member share is \$569,380 and \$96,341 for special needs.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.4 Approves district participation in the Berks County Safety and Security Consortium Services for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$5,000.

- 8.5 Approves the proposal from Transfinder for the mapping of bus runs and communication to the Sapphire Software, at an initial cost of \$18,890.00, with the following years at a cost of \$5,450, and further, authorizes the Business Manager to execute the proposal. Note: The initial year's cost will be paid out of the 2019-20 transportation budget, line item transfer.

**Board Action:** Moved by David Moll and seconded by George Mertz to approve district participation in the Berks County Safety and Security Consortium Services for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$5,000; and to approve the proposal from Transfinder for the mapping of bus runs and communication to the Sapphire Software, at an initial cost of \$18,890.00, with the following years at a cost of \$5,450, and further, authorizes the Business Manager to execute the proposal. Note: The initial year's cost will be paid out of the 2019-20 transportation budget, line item transfer.

**Yeas:** Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.5** Approves the amendment to Item 9.1 from the October 28, 2019 agenda for Lift, Inc., in the amount of \$13,307.86. The previously approved amount will be paid from the Capital Project Fund.

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by George Mertz to approve the amendment to Item 9.1 from the October 28, 2019 agenda for Lift, Inc., in the amount of \$13,307.86. The previously approved amount will be paid from the Capital Project Fund.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.6** Approves the appointment of Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM) as financial advisor for the Schuylkill Valley School District. PFM will seek dual track, hybrid competitive / negotiated financing for the district's anticipated Capital Projects.

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by George Mertz to approve the appointment of Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM) as financial advisor for the Schuylkill Valley School District. PFM will seek: dual track, hybrid competitive / negotiated financing for the district's anticipated Capital Projects.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Yeas: Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi, Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.7** Approves waiving the 10% tax penalty in the amount of \$385.00 for tax parcel ID#27-4397-08-78-9624.

- 8.8** Approves authorizing the Business Office to directly pay Charter Schools when the bill received does not show a PDE intercept submit date.

- 8.9** Approves ratification of the following:

WHEREAS, on November 26, 2019, John E. Muir, Esquire, and Kozloff Stoudt, Solicitors, for the Schuylkill Valley School District, filed a Notice of Intervention on behalf of the Schuylkill Valley School District to intervene in the Real Estate Assessment Appeal (as listed below).

RESOLVED, that the actions taken by the Solicitors to intervene in the Real Estate Assessment Appeal are hereby ratified;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Solicitors are hereby authorized to retain the appraisal services of Douglas A. Haring, including preparation of an appraisal report and testimony at and assistance in preparation for trial, if necessary, in regard to the following Real Estate Tax Assessment appeal on behalf of Schuylkill Valley School District:

Textile Chemical Company, Inc. vs. Berks County Board of Assessment Appeals  
Property: 81 West Huller Lane, Ontelaunee Township, Berks County  
Parcel I.D. No. 68540019503401  
Preparation of appraisal report - \$5,500.00  
Trial preparation & attendance at trial - \$200.00 per hour additional

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Dane Miller to approve the actions in Items 8.7 through and including 8.9, as presented.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 8.10** Approves accepting a donation from Ms. Leslie Cooley, in the amount of \$25.00, for the Josh Scolastico Scholarship Fund.

**Board Action: Moved by David Moll and seconded by Paul Bendigo to approve accepting a donation from Ms. Leslie Cooley, in the amount of \$25.00, for the Josh Scolastico Scholarship Fund.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **9.0 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

### ***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Alfonso F. Rossi***

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 20, 2020.

### ***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

**Be It Resolved, That the Board of School Directors:**

- 9.1** Approves authorization of Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager, and Mr. Casey Blankenbiller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to engage Trane Commercial to complete repairs to the HVAC systems and roof at the high school, in the amount of \$25,952, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that this would authorize Trane to start on the engineering design process and hire the necessary contractors to begin the work including steel work, gas piping, and engineered drawings required for permits. This is all pre-bid and pre-approved through the state. There are three phases to the project. Next year would include the remaining roof top units throughout the high school; the following summer would be the classroom units.

**Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to approve authorization of Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager, and Mr. Casey Blankenbiller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to engage Trane Commercial to complete repairs to the HVAC systems and roof at the high school, in the amount of \$25,952, to be paid from the Capital Project Fund.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- 9.2** Approves authorization of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager, and Mr. Casey Blankenbiller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to retain EI Associates as the district's architect of record in order to examine their feasibility study, pick a direction, and define the scope of work in order to move forward with any necessary renovations.

Mr. Rossi noted that this would be based on EI Associates Option 1 which would maintain the district's three buildings as they are but make improvements to the Elementary School as the first phase to add classroom space. Mr. Dempsey noted that the community needs a chance to



review the feasibility study before proceeding. Mr. Miller stated that he believed the Board was in agreement that the district needs classroom space. This was discussed at the Board Retreat with EI Associates on March 7. Mrs. Kleffel added that there was a large amount of information provided but it should be discussed further. Mr. Rossi stated that this is to move forward with EI Associates and the design phase. Dr. Mierzejewski noted that EI Associates stated they would gladly meet via a Zoom Meeting to present the information to the public during a Committee meeting. Mr. Blankenbiller added that it is valuable to the district to have an architect of record for any future needs as they can be available for phone calls during meetings and any other needs we may have.

**Board Action: Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by George Mertz to approve authorization of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager, and Mr. Casey Blankenbiller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to retain EI Associates as the district's architect of record in order to examine their feasibility study, pick a direction, and define the scope of work in order to move forward with any necessary renovations.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Rossi**  
**Nays: Raudenbush**

**Motion carried.**

### **9.3 Other (Old/New Business)**

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that Miller Flooring Company had given the district two proposals. He had discussed two options with them which were replacing all eight courts or installing six courts and expanding the parking area at the Administration Building area with the millings from the old macadam. This does not include any land development plans for water retention. The design fees for the tennis courts are included with the Miller Flooring price of \$415,000 for the six courts and expanded parking; all eight courts were priced at \$438,000. This is to be completed prior to the fall tennis season. When school resumes there is work that needs to be completed before construction can begin. Mr. Rossi noted that we may not want to go ahead with this at this time until the district knows the cost of the environmental portion. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that we would need to let them know our decision by the end of April. He will review the cost of the water run off balance for both options with the contractor.

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Rossi to set up a Zoom information session with EI Associates in regard to the elementary school so that the Board can get as much information as they need.

## **10.0 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

### ***Summary of Committee Deliberations – Nicoleen M. Kleffel***

The Extracurricular Activities Committee met on Monday, March 23, 2020, via Zoom Meeting Room. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 20, 2020.

### ***Committee Recommendations for Board Consideration***

There were no Committee recommendations.

### **10.1 Other (Old/New Business)**

Mrs. Kleffel noted that information regarding current Pride of Schuylkill Valley communications are being handled through email.

## **11.0 OTHER BUSINESS/GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Dempsey asked if the compressed version of the feasibility study could be posted to the district's website. Mr. Miller agreed and stated that it should be posted.

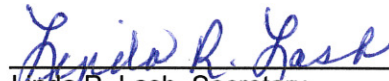
**12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by George Mertz and seconded by Robert Dempsey, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, Raudenbush, Rossi**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



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Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors