

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Administration Office
January 8, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by School Board President, Mr. Tom Kennedy, at 6:40 P.M. in the Administration Office. Board members in attendance included Mr. Brock Sears, Mrs. Celina Clements, Mr. Jack Elliott, and Mr. Ky Kizzee. Superintendent, Dr. Kirk Freeman, and School Board Attorney, Mr. Steve Harris, were present. MGTA Representatives, Mrs. Casey Honkomp and Mrs. Julie Dimmack, were also in attendance. In addition, Mr. Chad Blacklock, Financial Consultant with Stifel Financial was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Board member, Mrs. Clements, made a motion to approve Mr. Jack Elliott as President, and Mr. Tom Kennedy as Secretary for the 2024 calendar year. Board member, Mr. Tom Kennedy, seconded and made a motion to modify the motion by approving Mrs. Celina Clements as Vice President. The motion carried 5-0.

New Board President, Mr. Elliott, temporarily adjourned the regular meeting at 6:41 P.M.

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

Board President, Mr. Elliott, called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 6:42 P.M. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Board of Finance Officers to be the same as the M-GSD School Board. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent, Dr. Freeman, provided an overview of the Monroe-Gregg School District investments and asked the Board to approve Citizens Bank as the depository. Mr. Sears made a motion to approve Citizens Bank as depository. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clements and carried 5-0. In addition, Mr. Blacklock shared that financial data for the district can be accessed at the following web address:

<https://www.in.gov/duab/fiscal-indicators-committee/school-corporation-fiscal-indicators2/>

Mr. Elliott adjourned the meeting at 6:53 P.M. and reconvened the regular meeting at 6:54 P.M.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER AND DEPUTY TREASURER

Dr. Freeman shared that every year the Board must appoint a Corporation Treasurer. The meeting agenda indicated the Board would vote on the Corporation Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer individually. Prior to vote, Mr. Elliott requested the votes be combined. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve Mrs. Kelly Dillon as Corporation Treasurer and Mrs. Terri Harris as Deputy Treasurer. Mrs. Clements seconded. The motion carried 3-2 with Mr. Kizzee and Mr. Sears dissenting.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD ATTORNEY & CONTRACT

Dr. Freeman recommended the Board approve Mr. Steve Harris as the School Board Attorney for the 2024 calendar year. Mr. Harris has served as attorney for the district for over forty years. Mr. Kizzee made a motion to approve Mr. Harris' contract. Mr. Kennedy seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Kennedy to approve the Executive Session & Regular Board Meeting Minutes from December 11, 2023. Mr. Kizzee seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Dr. Freeman stated Corporation Treasurer, Mrs. Dillon, went on leave prior to the claims being submitted for approval. He stated he is actively working to identify an outside consultant to handle the financial accounting responsibilities of the district. He advised that once the claims were completed, he would arrange for a Special Meeting to approve the vouchers.

CONSIDERATION OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Prior to vote, Dr. Freeman advised the public that his retirement recommendation was going to be tabled while the Board finalized details concerning his benefits. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to table Dr. Freeman's retirement recommendation and approve all other recommendations. Mrs. Clements seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Kizzee made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Annually, Board members and administrators who have business and/or personal relationships within the school district submit "Conflict of Interest" forms. The forms are submitted to Indiana Gateway for government units. School Board Attorney, Mr. Steve Harris, stated that the forms are no longer required, but he advised the district to continue the practice. Dr. Freeman, Mr. Kizzee, Mr. Sears, and Mrs. York each submitted a form for approval. Mrs. Clements made a motion to approve the conflict-of-interest forms as presented. Mr. Sears seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kizzee and carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION FOR INVESTMENT AND CHECKING INTEREST

Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the resolution allowing the investment and checking interest be receipted in the Rainy-Day Fund. Mrs. Clements seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF CLASSIFIED & ADMINISTRATOR HANDBOOK CHANGES

Dr. Freeman asked the Board to approve updates to the Classified and Administrator handbook. Mr. Kizzee made a motion to approve the updates. Mr. Sears seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF BUS PURCHASES

Mr. McCubbins submitted a request to purchase four (4) buses in 2024. He also requested permission to take four (4) existing buses to Ted Everett's Auction for public auction. Mrs. Clements made a motion to approve the purchase and sale of the buses. Mr. Sears seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF IRS MILEAGE INCREASE

Dr. Freeman recommended an increase to the standard mileage rate based on IRS guidance. The new rate to 67 cents. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the increase. Mr. Sears seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Dr. Freeman shared that the students are staff are off and running for second semester. Mrs. Clements acknowledged Mrs. Robin Robinson's retirement and over 45 years of service.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

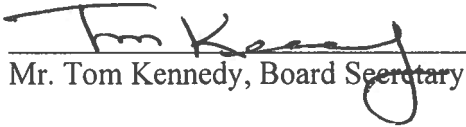
There were no final public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Clements made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Sears. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 P.M. by School Board President, Mr. Elliott.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack Elliott", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Jack Elliott, Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Kennedy", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Tom Kennedy, Board Secretary