

Renville County West School Board Meeting

January 8, 2018

The organizational meeting of the Board of Education of ISD #2890, Renville County West, was called to order Monday, January 8, 2018 at 7:01 p.m. in the RCW Small Gym by Chairman Eric Dahlager.

Members present: Liza Fagen, Ryan Lippert, Carnie Alex, Todd Terhaar, Maria Kramer, Darin Bratsch and Eric Dahlager.

Members absent: None.

Others present: Ashley Alsum, Kurt Mortensen, Jammie Schneider, Brittany Hebrink, Kelly Johnson, Pam Peterson, Maci Barker, Cheryl Rauenhurst, Laura Rosen, Meghan Sunderland, Londa Swenson, Gina Hagen, Brian Gauer, Dale Negen, Tara Hinderks and Supt. Michelle Mortensen.

Organizational Items:

Nominations for Chair were called. Alex nominated Dahlager. Chairman Dahlager ceased nominations after no more were heard. Motion by Alex, seconded by Lippert to cast a unanimous vote for Dahlager as Chair. Bratsch opposed. Motion carried.

Nominations for Vice Chair were called. Bratsch nominated Terhaar. Terhaar nominated Alex. Chairman Dahlager ceased nominations after no more were heard. A roll call vote was requested. Darin: Terhaar, Fagen: Terhaar, Kramer: Alex, Lippert: Alex, Alex: Terhaar, Terhaar: Alex, Dahlager: Alex. Alex was declared Vice Chairman by majority vote.

Nominations for Clerk were called. Alex nominated Terhaar. Terhaar nominated Fagen. Chairman Dahlager ceased nominations after no more were heard. A paper ballot was conducted. Five members voted for Fagen and two members voted for Terhaar. Fagen was declared Clerk by majority vote.

Nominations for Treasurer were called. Dahlager nominated Terhaar. Chairman Dahlager ceased nominations after no more were heard. Motion by Kramer, seconded by Lippert for Terhaar to be Treasurer. Motion carried.

The following committee appointments were made with the removal of the Legislative Liaison:

- Finance: Dahlager, Terhaar, Alex
- Policy/Meet & Confer: Kramer, Lippert
- Curriculum/Community Ed Advisory: Fagen, Terhaar
- Facilities/Health & Safety: Bratsch, Lippert, Kramer
- MVCC Representative: Alex, Fagen
- MSHSL Representative: Terhaar
- Insurance Pool Representative: Fagen
- MRVED Representative: Kramer
- PTO Representative: Alex
- RCW Foundation: Lippert

Motion by Bratsch, seconded by Alex, for Administration to investigate a total of three other attorneys and their rates to bring to the next Board meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Fagen, seconded by Bratsch to make the Renville County Register the official newspaper. Kramer did not vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Alex, seconded by Terhaar to name MSDLAF+, PMA-MN Trust, First Security State Bank, F & M Bank Minnesota – Renville, Dawson Coop Credit Union and F & M Bank – Sacred Heart and Minnwest Bank - Danube as the official depositories for the district. Motion carried.

Motion by Lippert, seconded by Terhaar to keep the official meeting day/time/location as the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the RCW Small Gym. The fourth Monday of each month will be used as a work session, for committee meetings or as an official meeting if needed. Motion carried.

Motion by Bratsch, seconded by Terhaar to set the per diem to \$1,800 per year to include all committee meetings; \$2,100 per year for finance committee members during a negotiations year to include all meetings; and an additional \$300 stipend for the chair. Roll call vote was called. Kramer: yes, Lippert: yes, Terhaar: yes, Alex: no, Bratsch: yes, Fagen: yes, Dahlager: yes. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting Items:

Dahlager read the vision and mission statements.

Bratsch wanted to know why agenda topics that are being requested by the Board are not being placed on the agenda. Dahlager said he reserves the right as Chair to deny requests. It's Bratsch's belief that the entire Board should have a say in agenda items being brought back for further discussion or brought forward as current topics and not just for the chair to decide. Dahlager read the policy stating that the Chair and Superintendent decide what goes on the agenda.

Motion by Terhaar, seconded by Lippert to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Dahlager talked about the upcoming Leadership Conference.

No public comments.

Meghan Sunderland gave a presentation on Nearpod and how it is being utilized in her classroom.

The Finance Committee continues to work through negotiations. The Facilities Committee met and gave a report. The Foundation's fundraiser is coming up. Bratsch encouraged the Finance Committee to consider increasing the Teacher's classroom budgets for next year as they haven't been increased in a long time. MRVED met before Christmas. Meet and Confer has another meeting on January 22nd.

Leadership reports were received and reviewed by the Board. The Board asked if we were ready for the upcoming practice snow/tech day. Gauer feels they are very ready. Bratsch asked if Administration would consider giving a student assembly on Standards Based Grading to explain it better to the students. He feels

there are many students concerned about how it will affect them. Gauer feels they could do something like that by grade. Bratsch requested more details on what is happening on staff development days.

Nothing to report for Old Business.

Motion by Kramer, seconded by Alex to approve the consent agenda.

1. Approve minutes from the December 11, 2017 and December 18, 2017 meetings
2. Approve payment of bills
3. Lane Change Request – Lauren Marcus
4. Retirement:
 - a. Deb McGraw – ESL Instructor

Bratsch mentioned that Deb McGraw was a great asset to RCW. Motion carried.

Motion by Fagen, seconded by Kramer to approve the PACT for Families Agreement. Motion carried.

Motion by Terhaar, seconded by Alex to approve the 2017-2019 ESP Master Agreement. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the bus garage. The bid opening for the 2nd round of bus garage bids will be opened on January 23rd at 1:00 pm in the small gym. The Board will see how the bids come in before considering the Danube property for sale.

Bratsch asked the Board their thoughts on broadcasting the School Board meetings. Dahlager says we are not required to do that.

Next meeting date is a work session on January 22nd. The next regular meeting will be February 12, 2018.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Liza Fagen, Clerk