

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Special Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Slatington, PA**  
**January 29, 2004**

**PURPOSE** A special meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors, for the purpose of possibly appointing a candidate to fill an open board seat and for general purposes, was called to order by the President, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 29, 2004 in the gymnasium located in the Slatington Elementary School.

**ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Franklin D. Beers, Mr. Robert J. Cox, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser, Mrs. Lori H. Geronikos, Ms. Angelique M. Papay, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. (8)

Members absent: None (0)

Non-members present: Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Mrs. Lynn Fedorcha, Mr. David Papay, Mr. Brian Geiger, Ms. Christine Stafford, Ms. Laurie Newman, Attorney Charles Stopp (Solicitor), and Mrs. Doneta Merkle

**VISITORS** Approximately 15 visitors attended the meeting, in addition to Joel Kern, reporter for The Times News, Terry Ahner, reporter for the Chronicle, and Kirk Jackson, reporter for The Morning Call newspapers.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** An executive session of the whole board was conducted prior to the meeting for organizational purposes.

**FINANCIAL** Business Manager Christine Stafford introduced Mr. Les Bear of Arthurs LeStrange & Company and Bond Counsel Attorney John Freund who reviewed the information regarding the refinancing of the 2001A and 2001AA bond issues.

Refinance  
Bond Issues Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education adopt a resolution presented by financial advisor, Arthurs LeStrange & Company and Bond Counsel King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul, regarding refinancing of 2001A and 2001AA bond issues. (See Attached)

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (8)  
NAY: None (0)

Recess President Green called for a short recess at 6:50 p.m. The board reconvened at 7:10 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS** President Green opened discussion on the possible appointment of a candidate to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.

Forgo  
Interviews Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Beers, that the Board of Education eliminate the interview process and move right to a vote for the four candidates who applied for the open board seat because each of the candidates are familiar to the board members.

Amend  
Motion Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve to ask each candidate to tell the board about a little about themselves and why they would like to become a board member.

Vote On  
Amendment ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Green (5)  
NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay (3)  
Motion carried.

Vote On Main Motion	<p>ROLL CALL:    YEA:    Mr. Cox, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Beers, Mr. Green (5)                             NAY:    Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay (3)</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>
Procedure After Interviews	<p>Mr. Cox made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education approve the voting procedures, as presented, that the Board will follow after the interviews are completed.</p> <p>YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (8)          NAY: None (0)</p>
Conduct Interviews	<p>Four candidates applied for the open board seat. Interviews were conducted in the order the applications were received.</p> <p>Mr. Stephen Bandzi, is a life long resident of the district, who is employed as a quarry supervisor at Penn Big Bed Slate Company. He wants to serve on the board to be a better voice for the taxpayers. He is also interest in trying to keep tax increases down for the elderly residents of our district.</p> <p>Mr. Gregory Williams, has lived in district for a little over 4 years. He is employed by Rentschler Corporation in Slatinton as a business manager. Talking with residents every day he feels that he has an understanding of the region and the people who live here. He did go to school for politics, and does have an interest in that forum. He stated that he felt if he was appointed he would hope to bring an unbiased opinion to the board and make logical conclusions that would benefit the entire Northern Lehigh Community, and specifically the students in the district and not be involved in personal biases.</p> <p>Mrs. Jane Kropf, has lived in the district for 6 ½ years, and is the owner of TJ Brewers Coffeeshop in Slatinton for the last year. She speaks to district residents on a daily basis. She feels that the public relations between the community and the school board and the district itself are very important. There is a lot of negative information within the community. She hopes that her position in the community would help the board “outside the boardroom”. Education of the students lies in the hands of the administration and the teachers. She indicated that she will strive to find the optimum balance between taxpayer contribution and educational excellence for the children of our district and is dedicated to both. She feels that it is important for the board to monitor the curriculum, etc. She also feels that the board has a responsibility to the taxpayer as well.</p> <p>Mr. William Hazzard, has lived in the district for 7 years, he is an auto body tech in Allentown. He previously served on the board from September 1997 to December 1999. He and his wife previously owned a daycare in the district. He has no hidden agendas; he does believe that the board needs to keep a balance between the needs of education and the resources of the general public. He hopes to listen to all sides of each topic and come to a decision based on what is equitable at the time.</p>
Open Nomin- ations	<p>Mrs. Ganser nominated Mrs. Jane Kropf to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.</p> <p>Mr. Cox nominated Mr. William H. Hazzard to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.</p> <p>Mr. Green nominated Mr. Stephen Bandzi to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.</p>
Close Nomin- ations	<p>Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Ganser, that the Board of Education close the nominations for a candidate to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.</p>

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
 Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (8)  
 NAY: None (0)

Vote On ROLL CALL: YEA: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Beers (3)  
 Jane Kropf NAY: Mr. Dorshimer, Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay, Mr. Cox, Mr. Green (5)  
 Motion defeated.

Vote On ROLL CALL: YEA: Mrs. Geronikos, Ms. Papay, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Green (5)  
 William Hazzard NAY: Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mr. Beers (3)  
 Motion carried.

William H. Hazzard By the procedure that had been adopted, Mr. William H. Hazzard was nominated for appointment to fill the open board seat vacated by Mrs. Sheryl Giles.

Oath Of District Magistrate Edward Hartman administered the Oath of Office to Mr. William H. Hazzard.  
 Office

**SECTION 321 – OATH OF OFFICE**

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.

**ADJOURN-** Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Cox, that the special meeting of the  
**MENT** Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Beers, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Ganser, Mrs. Geronikos,  
 Mr. Hazzard, Ms. Papay, Mr. Green (9)  
 NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
 Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
 Mathias J. Green, Jr.