

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

MINUTES

November 20, 2023

1.0 The Special Meeting was called to order at 8:07 p.m. by the Board President, David E. Moll, in the Auxiliary Cafeteria of the Schuylkill Valley High School.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1.2 ROLL CALL

Members Present: Paul L. Bendigo, Robert M. Dempsey, Nicoleen M. Kleffel, Linda R. Lash, George H. Mertz III, G. Dane Miller, David E. Moll, Bryan J. O'Donnell, Alfonso F. Rossi

Secretary: Linda R. Lash

Recording Secretary: Susan A. Christman

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Cathy Taschner, Dr. Melissa Brewer, Diane Kaag-Senior, Dr. Joshua Kuehner, Dr. Shannon O'Donnell, Jenny Rexrode, Michael Sobczak, Kristen Wallace

Solicitor: Alicia Luke, Fox Rothschild LLP

2.0 PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one addressed the Board.

3.0 POLICY, PERSONNEL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Employment

3.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve 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.):

3.1.1 The employment and employment agreement of Mr. Russell Poper, Director of Buildings & Grounds, at an annual salary of \$95,500 (prorated for the 2023-24 school year), effective November 21, 2023, through June 30, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Casey Blankenbiller.

**Moved by Paul Bendigo and seconded by Alfonso Rossi to approve the employment and employment agreement of Mr. Russell Poper, Director of Buildings & Grounds, at an annual salary of \$95,500 (prorated for the 2023-24 school year), effective November 21, 2023, through June 30, 2025, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Casey Blankenbiller.**

**Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi  
Nays: Mertz, Miller**

**Motion carried.**

3.1.2 Mrs. Toni Crater, Assistant Principal at the high school, at an annual salary of \$97,290 (prorated for actual days worked), effective date to be determined, to fill the vacancy created by her resignation.

Moved by Nicoleen Kleffel and seconded by Linda Lash to approve the employment of Mrs. Toni Crater, Assistant Principal at the high school, at an annual salary of \$97,290 (prorated for actual days worked), effective date to be determined, to fill the vacancy created by her resignation.

Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

Motion passed unanimously.

**4.0 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

PCO #10 Electrical Unit

- 4.1 The Board is requested to consider and approve potential change order #10 in the amount of \$1,033.77, for the MS Pool Project. The electrical inspection required a receptacle on the roof near the HVAC equipment.

Moved by Alfonso Rossi and seconded by Bryan O'Donnell to approve potential change order #10 in the amount of \$1,033.77, for the MS Pool Project. The electrical inspection required a receptacle on the roof near the HVAC equipment.

Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

Motion passed unanimously.


**5.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Bryan O'Donnell and seconded by Nicoleen Kleffel that, there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Bendigo, Dempsey, Kleffel, Lash, Mertz, Miller, Moll, O'Donnell, Rossi

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

  
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Linda R. Lash, Secretary  
Board of School Directors