

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on January 13, 2025

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on January 13, 2025. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

A. Pat Rensberger, Jennifer Hurford, Monty Peden and Karra Duff,
Board members

B. Ned L. Speicher, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

E. Michael Lacey, Attorney

Mr. Speicher opened the meeting with a call for a nomination for President of the Board. Karra Duff nominated Pat Rensberger and hearing no other nominations, Monty Peden seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0, with Rensberger abstaining from the vote. Board President Rensberger then called the meeting to order at 7:00 and presided over the remainder of the meeting, leading the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

The remaining Board officer positions were then filled. Pat Rensberger made a motion to nominate Monty Peden for Vice-President. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 3-0, with Peden abstaining from the vote. Monty Peden then made a motion to nominate Jenny Hurford as Secretary. Pat Rensberger seconded the motion and it also passed 3-0, with Hurford abstaining from the vote. Monty Peden made a motion to approve Kelli VanDerWeele as Treasurer of the Board and the School Corporation with a second by Jennifer Hurford. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no communication from patrons.

Monty Peden made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the December 16, 2024 regular meeting. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Mr. Speicher introduced the Board to Michael Lacey, an attorney with Hulse, Lacey, Hardacre and Austin out of Anderson, IN. Monty Peden moved to approve Mr. Lacey as the new

school corporation attorney on an as-needed basis. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Mr. Speicher updated the Board on the bid opening that took place Thursday, Jan 9. Bids were being taken for an addendum to project 4, which includes fencing and concrete work at the soccer stadium and new fencing around the baseball field. Bids were received from Sotebeer, Brown and Brown and R. Yoder Construction for the base bid and 2 alternates. Our architect, Greg Drennen, recommends that we take the base bid and alternate 1, so the low bid would be R. Yoder Construction for \$258,738. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve taking the base and low bid from R. Yoder Construction. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Monty Peden moved to approve the appointment of Phil Dean to the Argos Park Board for another 4 year term. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for approval of claims in the amount of \$1,279,579.11 for the month of December. \$818,525.23 was for accounts payables claims and the remaining \$461,053.88 was for payroll. Karra Duff moved to approve the claims, Jennifer Hurford seconded and the motion was passed 4-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the end of year financial report to the Board. Argos is in a good financial position and will continue to work to make that a priority with the transition to the new superintendent. 2024 accomplishments include salary and wage increases for both certified and classified employees, the completion of Projects 3 and 4, increased financial stability, maintaining increased enrollment and the implementation of i-Ready personalized learning for grades 3-8. Focuses for 2025 include hiring a new superintendent, completion of the building project 4 addendum, continued training and development for our personnel and implementation of the new high school graduation requirements as mandated by the State.

There were no closing comments.

With there being no other business, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Monty Peden seconded the motion and Pat Rensbeger adjourned the meeting.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Chris O'Dell, Vice President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Karra Duff

Monty Peden