

**Monroe-Gregg Board of School Trustees  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Administration Office  
January 13, 2025**

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. Jack Elliott, at 6:31 P.M. in the Administration Office. Board members in attendance included Mr. Brock Sears, Mr. Kevin Blundell, Mr. Tom Kennedy, and Mr. Ky Kizzee. Superintendent, Mr. Trent Provo; Corporation Treasurer, Mrs. Moriah Crane; Human Resources Coordinator, Mrs. Kelli Kizzee; Transportation Director, Minette Elliott; Head Mechanic and Outdoor Grounds Director, Perry McCubbins; and School Board Attorney, Mr. Steve Harris, were present. In addition, MGTA representatives, Mrs. Casey Honkomp, and Mrs. Julie Dimmack were also present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**REORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

Public Notary, Mrs. Michelle Smith administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected members: Mr. Blundell, Mr. Jack Elliott and Mr. Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve Mr. Kizzee as President, Mr. Sears as Vice-President, and Mr. Jack Elliott as Secretary for the 2025 calendar year. Board member, Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

*{At 6:32 P.M. Mr. Jack Elliott, turned the gavel over to the New Board President, Mr. Ky Kizzee.  
Mr. Kizzee moved onto the next agenda items.}*

**APPOINTMENT OF CORPORATION TREASURER & DEPUTY TREASURER**

Mr. Provo recommended the Board approve Mrs. Moriah Crane as Corporation Treasurer and Ms. Jessica Elliott as Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**APPOINTMENT OF BOARD ATTORNEY**

Mr. Provo recommended the Board approve Mr. Steve Harris as the School Board Attorney for the 2025 calendar year. Mr. Harris has served as attorney for the district for over 40 years. Mr. Blundell made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**TEMPORARILY ADJOURN REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Board President, Mr. Kizzee, temporarily adjourned the regular meeting at 6:35 P.M.

**BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING**

Board President, Mr. Kizzee, called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the Board of Finance Officers to be the same as the M-GSD School Board. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Provo introduced Mr. Chad Blacklock, Stifel Financial Advisor, to provide an overview of the M-GSD investments. Mr. Blacklock also shared information on the financial investment report and income policy. Mr. Blacklock discussed the M-GSD fund balances along with the specifics with regards to the DUAB (Distressed Unit Appeal Board) along with the fiscal indicators.

Per our Board Resolution, all CD and checking interest is receipted into the Rainy Day fund. Mr. Blacklock mentioned the 2024 calendar year Interest Earning Report and Financial Fund Report and the fact that this fund report will be generated monthly. This will be a month-to-date report with accumulative totals each month. Mr. Provo asked the Board to approve Citizens Bank as the depository. Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve Citizens Bank as depository. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sears and the vote carried 5-0.

Mr. Blacklock shared information regarding M-GSD's financial history with those present. The 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/>.

Board President, Mr. Kizzee adjourned the Board of Finance Meeting at 6:49 P.M.

#### **RECONVENE REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Board President, Mr. Kizzee, reconvene the regular meeting at 6:49 P.M.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Sears to approve minutes for the Regular Board meeting from December 9, 2024. Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS**

Mr. Provo presented outstanding claims in the amount of \$2,870,750.42; and payroll vouchers in the amount totaling \$832,653.68. The individual payroll vouchers were for the following amounts: \$419,784.88 from December 20, 2024, \$27,236.72 from January 1, 2025, and \$385,632.08 from January 3, 2025. Mr. Provo mentioned that included in the claims was a debt service payment of approximately \$1.8 million for annual debt payments. In addition, Mr. Provo stated that the payroll vouchers include Dr. Freeman's final severance payout. Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the claims and payroll vouchers as presented. Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Provo mentioned that Mr. Daryl Gibbs is the replacement for Mr. Hankins's position and also that there is an opening for Mr. Garrett Wertz's science classes. Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Kennedy asked if the science position would be considered a hard to fill positions. Mr. Provo stated that, at times, science and math positions can fall under this category.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ECA PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Mr. Provo thanked those individuals that take on these voluntary positions to help support our students in these activities.

**CONSIDERATION OF CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST STATEMENTS**

The school is required by law to submit signed "Conflict-of-Interest" forms completed by Board members, Administrators, and any other pertinent staff who have business and/or personal relationships within the school district. Mr. Kizzee, Mrs. Kratzer, Mr. Sears, and Mrs. York each submitted a form for approval. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the conflict-of-interest forms as presented. Mr. Jack Elliott seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN FUNDS**

Mr. Provo asked that the Board approve this resolution that allows the Corporation Treasurer and Superintendent to transfer money, as needed, between funds and accounts. Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve the resolution to allow the transfer appropriation within funds. Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**RESOLUTION TO RECEIPT INVESTMENT & CHECKING INTEREST TO RAINY DAY**

Mr. Provo asked the Board to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the resolution allowing the investment and checking interest to be receipted in the Rainy Day Fund. Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD) INTEREST & ADDITIONAL PURCHASE**

Mr. Provo asked the Board to approve the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit. The new CD purchase allows the interest to be compounded instead of getting a monthly payment of the interest. Mr. Provo mentioned that our previous CD has recently matured. In addition, Mr. Provo stated that a Certificate of Deposit is a good investment option as they have a good return and are very low risk.

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF IRS MILEAGE RATE INCREASE**

Mr. Provo recommended an increase to the standard mileage rate based on IRS guidance which has the new rate of 70 cents per mile. Mr. Blundell made a motion to approve the increase. Mr. Kennedy seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT WITH FANNING HOWEY FOR URINAL REPLACEMENT & ROOFING REPLACEMENT (PHASE ONE)**

Mr. Provo asked the Board to approve the contract with Fanning and Howey. This contract was sent to the members of the Board in December for their review and approval so Mr. Provo could sign prior to this meeting in order to proceed with the bids in January. Mr. Provo shared that the agreement was for the projects that have previously been identified. Those projects are replacing the most needed sections of the roof on the MS/HS, and replacing the flush less urinals in the performing arts and MS gym area. They are only charging us minimal fees for the asbestos testing as M-GSD is contracting with the testing company directly. This contract is in your packet for reference. Mr. Provo mentioned that this contract was also review by the Board Attorney.

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Jack Elliott seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Kennedy confirmed that this contract is only for the above-mentioned items and that any other projects that Fanning & Howey monitoring behalf will be brought to the Board for approval as another agenda item. Mr. Sears asked if there would be a follow up report with exhibits showing the areas needing repaired with regards to the roof areas. Mr. Provo stated that he would share updates on these projects at future meetings.

### **PERMISSION TO PURCHASE & SALE OF BUSES**

Mr. Provo submitted the request from the Transportation Department to purchase three (3) buses in 2025. The bus descriptions and costs were a part of the packet shared with the Board and public. Mr. Provo shared the department's request for permission to take two (2) existing buses to Ted Everett's Auction for public auction. This was originally going to be three; however, one of the buses (#21) needed to be pulled back in the current fleet. Mr. McCubbins believes that the buses will bring a higher price at a public auction than Midwest's trade offer. Mr. Provo stated that the prices fall within our budget and the buses will be paid out of GO bonds, as in the past.

Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve the purchase and sale of the buses. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Minette Elliott, Transportation Director; and Mr. McCubbins Head Mechanic; were available to answer any question that the Board member had in regards to the bus purchases and sales. Mr. Kennedy asked what was the useful life of our buses before needing replaced. Mr. McCubbins stated that usually 11-12 years. Mr. McCubbins shared that our buses have a 10-year warranty.

### **PERMISSION FOR CORPORATION TREASURER TO PAY BILLING ITEMS IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO MEET BILLING TIMELINES**

Mr. Provo asked the Board to approve the Corporation Treasurer to pay time sensitive billing items in advance in order to meet timelines and avoid any delays in service or service fees. Some examples would be insurance payments, credit card payments, utility payments and any other items that have a hard deadline and could incur interest. Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Blundell seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Kennedy requested the review of policy to make sure updates were not needed. Mr. Kennedy also wanted to confirm that this will be an exception and implement only when necessary. Mr. Provo stated that this will be administered only when necessary to meeting billing timelines. Mr. Harris, Board Attorney, stated that this is in the best interest of the school district.

### **PERMISSION TO RECEIVE A DONATION TO THE ELEMENTARY ECA ACCOUNT**

Mr. Provo asked that the board approve the donations received for the elementary one school, one book program from Patterson-Horth in the amount of \$1500.

Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to receive the donation. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Mr. Provo wanted to thank Mr. Brian Detty and his desire to give back to his community.

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Provo shared the following items with the Board and members of the public:

1. Future Inclement Weather days – There was communication sent out to parents/guardians on January 13<sup>th</sup>, informing them that any future inclement weather days will be treated as a synchronous eLearning day. This means the students will be expected to log into Google Meets and they will meet virtually with their teacher(s). It was also shared that Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> and February 17<sup>th</sup> will now be synchronous eLearning days. Mr. Provo thanked the administration and teachers for their input on their flexibility with these changes.
2. Monroe-Gregg Give Back program – Every month, any interested staff will be entered into a lottery. The staff member will win a professional development day to work for that charity to help give back. The staff member must work a minimum of 6 hours and get documentation of their volunteer hours.

3. January 30<sup>th</sup> Work Session – At this Board Work Session, there will be presentations given by local architectural firms who responded to the request for proposals for completing a facility study. Each firm will be given the same amount of time to give a presentation with a short break between each firm. At this time, there is an estimated number of 6 firms who will be given a presentation. The meeting will start at 5:30 in the Administration Office.

There were no comments from the public.

**FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

All present, welcomed Mr. Blundell to the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Jack Elliott made a motion to approve the recommendations. Mr. Sears seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 P.M. by School Board President, Mr. Kizzee.

  
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Mr. Ky Kizzee, Board President

  
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Mr. Jack Elliott, Board Secretary

