

BELFRY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

14 July, 2020 –7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Regular School Board Meeting of the Belfry School District was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board Chair Mary Lee Krenning.

Board members present were Linda Gasser, and Duane Hergenrider. Jolene Nose arrived at 7:10 and Willis Herden was absent. Superintendent Jason Olson and District Clerk Beth Pulse were present. Jerry Webb, Kasey McClane, Olinda Jones, Gordon Serrine, and Cheryl Brown was also present.

Approval of June 9th Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Duane asked for clarification of how the Fromberg co-op was going to work. There was discussion about the reason for forming the co-op, that our coaches would be transporting our students, and how the forming of the co-op was handled. Jason explained we won't have to pay any additional fees for our kids to play.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve the minutes of the June 9th, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Duane Hergenrider

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 3-0

Approval of July Claims/Warrants

There was brief discussion about bug spray and alternatives to help get rid of ants.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve warrant 30253 through warrant 30279 for a total of \$24,559.91 for July 2020.

MOTION: Duane Hergenrider

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 3-0

Review Expenditure Actual to Budget Report

This was reviewed.

Correspondence

Beth received an email from the County Election Administrator asking if we would be willing to have polls open here for elections, as we have in the past. The Board agreed to have the building open and available for polls for the general election in November.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Delegates to Address Board

None.

Administrative Report

Mr. Olson explained that plans are being made for starting school in the fall. He has spoken to other people in the county. We will be doing temperature checks, wearing PPE when necessary, and practicing social distancing as

some of our precautions. The steps we are taking are in line with what the County is suggesting. We will be putting a cleaning checklist together to document our cleaning procedures. Duane suggested the possibility of hiring someone to clean throughout the day and that we should have someone to clean the tables at lunch time. There was discussion about how lunches will be handled. Jason explained that lunch times would be slightly staggered. There was discussion Duane asked Jason where Belfry school is rated in the state. Jason explained that last year we were in the top 20 but he would have to look it up on OPI web site. There was discussion that not all websites have valid data and that OPI has test score data but does not actually rank schools. Discussion then went back to Covid and how the lunch time staggering would work. Duane asked whether or not all of our teachers were on board with being back in session and Jason said the three he has spoken to are ready to be back. There was discussion about how many students we will have and how much risk our teachers and staff have of being exposed and what can we do to stop the spread, if it is in our school. There was discussion that all staff will have to play some part in sanitizing. There was discussion about BOOST. There will not be any morning boost. There was discussion that parents will need to acknowledge receipt of our covid policies. There was discussion about how to handle events, and if sporting events qualify as “events” Everything needs to get approval from the county, at this time. There was discussion about installing sanitizer dispensers on the walls. There was discussion about serving the kids lunch in the classrooms and that the kids and teachers will probably need to get out of the classroom for lunch.

Custodial/Maintenance Report

Jerry said Kasey is doing a good job. She is cleaning the lunch room. He’s still waiting on Curtis from Montana Boiler to come in and go over the piping project. He’s still having a problem with the air pump.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Suspension of Policy 1310 for the Purpose of Consideration of Adopting MTSBA Model Emergency Policies After One Reading Request to utilize MTSBA Policy Services

Beth explained that is per MTSBA recommendation. If we pass this motion, we can then approve the 1900 series that MTSBA also recommends, in one reading.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to suspend District Policy 1310 for the limited purpose of considering, reviewing, identifying needed options and adopting Policies 1900-1912 at the meeting held on July 14th, 2020, and will not apply to other meeting or topics.

***MOTION: Jolene Nose
Hergenrider opposing***

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 3-1 with Duane

Consideration of Adopting MTSBA Model Emergency Policies 1900-1912

Mary Lee had a question about 1903F. Beth said the board needed to first pick an option on policy 1903. Duane asked why we were considering these policies. Beth said our insurance company recommended it to help protect us if someone were to be exposed while at the school. Mary Lee explained that this gives us options and a plan to have in place for the county and that if there was an outbreak, County Health would have the final say. Duane expressed concern that the situation is changing daily/weekly and we would have to then change our policies, again. Mary Lee pointed out that people who claim they have a medical condition will need to provide evidence from a medical provider. There was discussion about how seating on the buses will be handled. Mary Lee asked if there was anything that parents had to sign. The policies contain a form for parents to sign if they want to opt out of onsite instruction. Mary Lee suggested sending out the policies to the families with a form for them to return acknowledging responsibility for the contents of the policy. There was discussion about what would qualify as an event or a gathering. Gordon Serrine said the county is requiring an online form be completed for any events, but they have not defined “event.” There was discussion about what MHSAA was planning for fall sports. There was

discussion that a community member had requested use of the building for a funeral. Gordon stated that the person would have to complete the form on the county website in order to have a gathering. The Board went through the policies with the options and chose to approve the polices as attached.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve the MTSBA Model Emergency Policies 1900-1912.

***MOTION: Jolene Nose
Hergenrider opposing***

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 3-1 with Duane

Request to utilize MTSBA Policy Services

There was discussion about the services they provide. Beth explained that it is time consuming to keep policies up to date with regards to changing laws, and that she has fallen behind on it. MTSBA could come in and do a complete update and maintain the policy book for a fee. Cheryl explained that the last time we used them, it cost the school \$5,000. Cheryl stated it took her a month to go through the 3000 series. Beth and Cheryl could go through and continue to verify and update policies, but it would take a longer amount of time. Mary Lee said it helps the board to go through the policies a few at a time. No action was taken.

Audit Contract Proposal

Beth explained that Sharon Tripp is retiring after this next three-year contract. There was discussion about her services.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve the contract proposal from Tripp and Associates.

MOTION: Duane Hergenrider

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 4-0

Possible Hire of History Teacher

The candidate did not return Mr. Olson's call. There was discussion that the covid climate might be inhibiting people applying with the uncertainty of schools opening or not. No action was taken.

The next regular meeting will be held on August 13th, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION: Jolene Nose

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 4-0

Beth Pulse, District Clerk

Mary Lee Krenning, Board Chair