

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

August 18, 2011  
Bryce Valley High School

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Vice President Gregg Christensen, Kay Englestead, Brian Bremner and Cheryl Cox.

Superintendent Ben Dalton and Business Administrator Lark Reynolds were also present.

**BOARD MEETING**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order. Nobody was present at the 4:00 p.m. start time. Ken asked whether there were any items that needed to be discussed in a closed meeting. Brian Bremner then proposed a motion to move into a closed meeting to address collective bargaining and the competence or personal health of an individual. This motion was then seconded by Gregg Christensen, and a roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Following the closed meeting, Cheryl Cox proposed a motion to come out of the closed executive meeting into an open meeting. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen, and a roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Cheryl Cox, Brian Bremner, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Ken Platt then called the meeting to order. He then recognized the people who were in attendance.

**Welcome**

Board President Ken Platt extended a welcome to all who were present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Cheryl Cox led the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda Changes**

There were two agenda changes which will be shown as i and ii items below in discussion and action items.

**Fuels for Schools Presentation by Scott Bell, Nathan Ratz, and others from the U.S. Forest Service, and the Utah Department of Agriculture**

Scott Bell started to discuss the options of the fuels for schools program that was set up to find a renewable energy source heating product for schools such as the wood chip boiler that was presented by this group. Nathan Ratz, an engineer who was hired to help with this federal program discussed the initial results of their walk through of Garfield School District schools. He told the Board the best project from his initial work would be to put a wood chip boiler in that would heat the Bryce Valley Elementary and the Bryce Valley High School as well through a shared campus heating system. Others also presented on this, and the Board directed Lark Reynolds to contact the group and start exploring an additional feasibility study to look at implementing the proposed wood chip boiler project.

**Public Hearing for Truth in Taxation Hearing**

The Board received public comments from the following individuals: Joe Orman, Marc McCormack, Chris Gilbert, Harshad P. Desai, and Joe Thompson. Joe Orman wanted to know why the tax increase was needed. Marc McCormack noted the tax increase proposal is 11% above what the District got last year. He noted the County is asking for an additional 14% increase. He stated, "If you keep asking for more you will push people away." Chris Gilbert asked if the Board and District were taking cuts or just pushing it on to the public. He noted that nobody was sold on it and that the public needed to be shown where the money is going and the District should get back to basics. Mr. Desai noted the tax increase was fine with him, he was aware of the shortfall and the District should publish an itemized list the public can understand. Mr. Desai also noted the transparency is not there. Joe Thompson offered an explanation Garfield County underwent a Tax Commission Sales Ratio Study last year. The findings showed there were not many homes sold and the State mandated a 14% increase to Escalante and Boulder. He also noted in the last two years there had been a 40% increase to Panguitch. He asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions. After public comments board members, superintendent, and business administrator accepted and answered questions from the public related to the tax increase.

**The Board Meeting was resumed after the public hearing regarding the Truth in Taxation Hearing**

There were public comments representing feelings the District needs to be fiscally responsible, accountable and the public supports the tax increase.

When the Board reconvened in an open board meeting, the superintendent recommended the Board accept and go forward with the proposed tax rate increase understanding that the District will be fiscally responsible with the additional monies that are generated. Following the superintendents' comments Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to

accept the proposed tax increase with the caveat of when the bonds are paid another truth in taxation hearing will be held to reduce the tax rate if it is possible. This motion was seconded by Cheryl Cox, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted in favor of the motion. Brian Bremner voted against the motion. The motion passed 4-1.

### **1. Consent Agenda Items**

- A.** Approve July 2011 Board Meeting Minutes
- B.** Approve July 2011 Financial Reports
- C.** Approve August 2011 Hiring Recommendations
  - i.** Nick Frandsen – PHS Shop Teacher. Mr. Frandsen will teach 2 classes per day and will be paid from CTE Program funds.
  - ii.** Carlon Johnson – BVHS Assistant Baseball Coach (replacing Chad Nell who is relocating). This is a currently existing position. He will be paid the assistant coaching stipend.
  - iii.** Pauline Hansen – BVHS Sp. Ed. Para. She will work up to 19.5 hours per week at \$9.16 per hour (\$9.54 less 4%). She will be paid with Federal IDEA program monies.
  - iv.** Anja Lowe – Antimony Elementary Para replacing Robin Gibbs. She will work up to 18 hours per week at her current rate of pay \$9.54 less 4% = \$9.16) as she is already an employee. The plan currently is to pay her from Title I funds.
- D.** Retirees
  - i.** Betty Ann Rember – PHS/PMS Principal
  - ii.** Kathy Shakespeare – BVE Secretary

It was noted that a motion and vote returning from the second executive session need to be added to the July 2011 minutes.

After discussion on the items listed above, Kay Englestead proposed a motion to accept the consent agenda items with the noted addition to the July 2011 minutes. This motion was seconded by Brian Bremner, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Note: Brian Bremner abstained from voting on the July 2011 minutes as he was not present at the July 2011 board meeting held in Antimony. He voted only concerning the financial reports and the new hires.

### **2. Public Comments**

Heather Allen inquired concerning board members having insurance benefits and the cost to the District. It was noted Kay, Ken and Cheryl are retired and have no other job to provide insurance. Ken Platt also noted the legislature has a statute in place stating all

Board members in the state receive \$250.00 per month and it may be increased if the Board so chooses. Garfield School District Board members have voted to give up the \$250.00 per month.

Rod Syrett requested someone look into making UHSAA passes available to the public.

Superintendent Dalton noted the number of UHSAA extra-curricular activity passes have not been offered to the public.

Gregg Christensen will be attending a UHSAA meeting next week and will inquire concerning the UHSAA passes and report at the next board meeting.

Chris Gilbert inquired concerning the question relating to board member's insurance. He wanted clarification. He noted that in the past board members had given up their insurance to go to school programs.

### **3. School Board Proposals – Comments - Reports**

Kay reported on the public meeting that was held at PHS on July 20<sup>th</sup> 2011. Gregg Christensen reported he will be attending the UHSAA meeting the following week and he will check on the status of activity passes for the public.

### **4. Superintendent's Report**

- A.** Updated Board on Transportation Changes: Moving to an online bus request, Annie Eldredge is still over the routes and Curtis Barney will be handling the dispatching of buses and drivers for activities and field trips.
- B.** The District sold some cars and now has the others listed on an online auction
- C.** Capital Projects Update
- D.** Ed Net at PHS Update
- E.** Paraprofessional Updates – move all paraprofessionals to 19.5 hours per week
- F.** There are currently no sweepers in the buildings; they have been terminated or released
- G.** After School Program at Panguitch Elementary-Tracy Johnson of New Frontiers for Families is sponsoring
- H.** Superintendent is on the State Rules Committee for the State School Board
- I.** Superintendent wants to create a review committee. Must be in place by Oct. The committee will include members from parents, administrators, classified employees, and community.
- J.** AYP Update next meeting
- K.** Escalante City Property Request Update
- L.** Superintendent met with Panguitch City Council
  - i.** Pool currently closed for asbestos removal, checking for chlorine air quality. The Board directed superintendent to meet with pool manager

and report during the September board meeting. He is to include District Maintenance Director Damon Brinkerhoff.

- M. We'll receive an increase in Mineral Lease and Tracking Royalties this year.
- N. Marilyn Bulkley will use Beverly Sorenson Grant funds to benefit our Elementary Students
- O. Student Counts on the first day of school: 925 students same as Oct. 1, 2010
- P. School Calendar options for (180 days of school) removing flex days. This is a problem with the auditors. Options have been presented to administrators and building staffs.
- Q. Will report concerning the audit in a future board meeting
- R. New Hiring Authorization Form now in place

## **5. Discussion and Actions Items**

### **i. Update on Natural Gas Conversions in the Panguitch Area**

District Maintenance Director Damon Brinkerhoff presented bids that he received in regards to converting Panguitch Elementary School and the District Office buildings to natural gas. Following the discussion on the item Brian Bremner proposed a motion to authorize Damon to spend up to \$10,000 of capital projects fund money to convert Panguitch Elementary School and the District Office to natural gas. He also asked Damon to report back to the Board the progress on the project next month. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Cox, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

### **ii. Affidavit for Home School Instruction**

Eric and Mary Feiler submitted a request to home school their children. They reside in Boulder. The Board acknowledged receipt of the affidavit and accepted it.

#### **A. Early Retirement Incentive**

Kay Englestead discussed what was in the proposed Early Retirement Incentive. The Board received public comments. Following the comments Brian Bremner proposed a motion to replace the current Early Retirement Incentive Policy (DEBA) with the proposed Early Retirement Policy that Kay Discussed. As part of his motion he proposed the Board accept all applications received from employees wanting to retire under the old retirement policy (listed as current Early Retirement Incentive Policy DEBA noted above) which were received prior to board meeting. The motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, and Cheryl Cox all voted in favor of them motion. Kay Englestead voted against the motion. The motion passed 4-1.

#### **B. Approve Second Reading Comp Time Policy**

It was noted there will be three readings of the policy. Lark Reynolds suggested having it read the work week should begin midnight Friday and end the following Friday at midnight. Brian Bremner mentioned the Fair Labor Standards Act and that over 40 hours a week is what defines overtime. It was decided to strike the definition in the Overtime section, page one, third paragraph. (*Or work on a holiday, for which overtime pay is authorized,*) Also strike the last sentence in the Overtime portion, page one, third paragraph, *Unless otherwise provided by law or by contract, time of less than 40 hours per week, or less than 8 hours per day, or during the week from Monday to Saturday and not on a legal holiday,*

Brian Bremner made a motion to accept the second reading with noted changes. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. A vote was called for. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The motion passed 5-0.

#### **C. Approve First Reading Building Use Policy**

Following discussion of what board members would like to see in the building use policy Brian Bremner presented a motion to table this item until the superintendent redoes the policy. Ken Platt seconded the motion. All board members voted aye. The motion passed 5-0

#### **D. Approve GEA Negotiations**

Superintendent Dalton reported he had met with GEA and GSEA. According the meeting the day before, the dental insurance premium will be \$125.00 rather than \$114.00. It was emphasized that the health insurance premium for single coverage is \$364.00. Tammi Bennett made the change to the agreement, printed the agreement, and it was signed at this time. Cheryl Cox proposed a motion to accept the 2011-2012 GEA negotiations agreement with noted changes. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. All board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. The motion passed 5-0.

Tammi Bennett requested a current salary schedule be sent out to everyone. Annie Eldredge requested a copy of the GEA Negotiations agreement for the master file.

#### **E. Approve GSEA Negotiations**

It was noted the dental premium is \$125.00 rather than \$114.00 amount previously stated and #5 health insurance single coverage premiums is \$364.00. An addition to #8 (for full time employees) was added. Superintendent Dalton will take it to the GSEA leadership/representative. Brian Bremner presented a motion to accept the GSEA Negotiation agreement with the noted changes. Gregg Christensen seconded the motion. A vote was called for. All board members voted aye. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

**F. Escalante City Request for Property**

Following discussion Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to table this agenda item until the legal description of the property has been obtained and reviewed. Brian Bremner seconded the motion. President Ken Platt called for a vote. Brian Bremner, Gregg Christensen, Kay Englestead, Cheryl Cox and Ken Platt voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**G. Approve 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Overnight Field Trip to Kodachrome Basin State Park**

Brian Bremner proposed a motion to approve the overnight field trip. Kay Englestead seconded the motion. All board members voted aye. The motion passed 5-0. Cheryl Cox requested a report after the field trip.

**H. PES, BVES, and EES 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students to Participate in the Beverly Sorenson Art Grant through Marilyn Bulkley/Bryce Canyon Natural History Association September 19, 2011.**

There was a brief discussion. Marilyn Marshall mentioned that she and Sue Bassett attended classes during the summer as part of this program. Brian Bremner proposed a motion to approve the participation in the grant. Ken Platt seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Brian Bremner, Gregg Christensen, Kay Englestead, Cheryl Cox and Ken Platt voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**I. EHS Six Year Term of Accreditation**

This was an information item only. No motion or vote was required.

**J. EHS/EES Personnel Assignments Update**

Board President Ken Platt asked Superintendent Dalton to address this issue. Superintendent Dalton informed the Board Escalante Elementary teacher Doneen Griffin has requested to teach kindergarten half day. She will lose her benefit package as a half day teacher.

Superintendent Dalton reported he had met with Escalante High School staff. Eugene King will be the administrative contact, Susan Shurtz will assist with counseling under Gary Bennett, and Greg Allen will cover athletic director duties. These individuals are currently performing these duties. Superintendent Dalton has proposals for compensation to these individuals totaling \$16,000.00.

This is an information item only. No motion or vote is needed.

### **K. Food Service Personnel Update**

Superintendent Dalton reported Karleta Riggs will help through the end of December 2011 and assist in the transition to Fenella Holm and Leniece Fischer. Annie Eldredge reminded the Board this was the original agreement a year ago. There was a brief discussion regarding the breakfast program. The Board directed Superintendent Dalton to look into serving breakfast on Fridays. Superintendent Dalton noted there would be no additional hours given to food service employees for serving breakfast; hours will just be adjusted to accommodate serving breakfast. Cheryl LeFevre asked if anyone would really work for only two hours on a Friday morning. There was no response to her question. Brian Bremner proposed a motion to have Superintendent Dalton pursue reinstating the breakfast program serving breakfast on Fridays. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. All board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. The motion passed 5-0.

### **L. Testing Results/AYP**

This item was tabled until the September 15, 2011 board meeting in Boulder.

## **6. Board Business**

### **A. Set September 2011 School Board Meeting time, date, and location.**

The September board meeting will be held at Boulder Elementary School on Thursday, September 15, 2011. The tentative schedule is to hold a closed executive session beginning at 4 P.M. if one is needed, and to have the board meeting begin at 5:00 P.M.

Cheryl Cox suggested holding a community meeting as was held in Panguitch. It was agreed. It will prior to the board meeting.

There was no motion.

## **7. Public Comments**

Mack Oetting offered brief remarks regarding the recreation tax. They included when he served on the Board the recreation tax Panguitch schools received all went to pay for the swimming pool; Escalante schools paid for half of the well; Bryce Valley was the only place that had money and BVHS Principal Earl Slack offered to loan PHS \$50,000.00 to help pay for the track, but thanks to the Syrett family PHS did not have to borrow any money from BVHS. Mr. Oetting continued with comments on how much each area paid for water.

## **8. Executive Session**

Gregg Christensen suggested reconvening into an executive session to discuss EHS staff assigned extra duties. Cheryl Cox proposed a motion to reconvene in executive session for collective bargaining purposes. Gregg Christensen seconded the motion. A vote was called for. Gregg Christensen, Kay Englestead, Cheryl Cox and Ken Platt voted aye. Brian Bremner voted nay. The motion passed 4-1.

It was noted there will be no motions coming out of executive session. The meeting will adjourn from the executive session.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned from the executive session.

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In compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and service) during this meeting should notify Annie Eldredge at 676-8821 at least three days prior to the meeting.