

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools  
Board of Education  
Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2007**

**Opening**

A meeting of the Board of Education of the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools was convened in open and public session following the public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2007 by President David Nygren.

**Present**

The roll was called and the following Board members were present: Randy Beranek, Kevin Garner, David Lutton, David Nygren and Suzanne Sapp. Member Melvin Cerny arrived at 5:38 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Ashland Gazette on November 29, 2007. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was duly called to order.

**Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting**

At the beginning of this meeting, President Nygren announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the meeting room, behind the board members.

**Agenda Change**

There was no change to the previously mailed agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Lutton with second by Beranek to approve all of the items on the consent agenda except claim number 023817. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Member Cerny was absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lutton with a second by Sapp to approve claim number 023817. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Voting no: none. Member Nygren abstained from voting. Member Cerny was absent. Motion carried.

**Visitors and Communication from the Public**

There were no visitors or communication from the public.

**Administrative and Practitioners Reports**

Mrs. Heusman reported on the application process for staff to pilot technology pieces in the district. Staff members will apply to demo new technology, applications will be reviewed and selection will be made for pilot projects. She will report back to the board on these projects.

Mrs. Heusman also told board members that she has been working to coordinate a visit

## **Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Board of Education Meeting December 17, 2007 Meeting Minutes, Page 2**

### **Administrative and Practitioners Reports, continued.**

on February 29 with Clayton Anderson. The community will participate in the planning of Mr. Anderson's visit to organize a full day of events including school visits and an evening dinner.

Mrs Heusman also reported on the mentoring program. New teachers meet twice a month with Mrs. Heusman and work on a variety of topics including classroom management issues. Mrs. Heusman reported that the PLC Book groups have started meeting.

Mrs. Bray reported that tonight is the Elementary Choir and 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade music concert. She also told board members that this Friday will be the final day of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Mrs. Bray also told board members that this Friday Mrs. Claus will visit the Elementary School and read with students and all students will participate in a sing-a-long.

Mr. Bentzen advised the board that a letter of reprimand was received by the NSAA addressing an issue regarding residence requirement not being met by a student this fall. The reprimand did not affect fall contests but will however affect the individual student addressed in the reprimand until January.

### **Joint Advisory Committee update**

Doug Whitehead reported to the board for the Joint Advisory Committee on the proposed joint facility. Mr. Whitehead spoke of the current Interlocal Agreement with the school and the city to explore the facility of the building and to include preliminary fund raising capabilities.

Mr. Whitehead asked the board for an affirmation of the current local agreement that would allow the JAC to solicit major donors. At this time the JAC feels a need to see if the donor money would be enough for the feasibility of the project. He reported that Chuck Niemeyer would be the solicitor for donations from the Joint Advisory Committee. Discussion was held. Member Garner questioned what the school will be responsible for in this project. The district responsibilities will include the furnishings, lighting, curtains and the sound system for the auditorium as well as the furnishings for the school portion of the library. Member Cerny asked regarding an estimated budget. The budget is estimated around 6.7 million. Board members were in agreement that it would be a logical move for donors to be approached. Mr. Whitehead will report to the board again in April.

### **School Calendars**

Supt. Pease presented to the board changes to the 2007-08 calendar to create a staff work day on January 25 and to move a staff work day from February 29 to March 3. Supt Pease also presented the proposed 2008-09 school calendar and the summer of 2008 calendar.

Motion by Garner with second by Lutton to approve the changes to the 2007-08 calendar and to approve the 2008-09 calendar and the summer 2008 calendar. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Board of Education Meeting December 17, 2007 Meeting, Minutes, Page 3**

**High School Parking Lot Expansion**

Supt. Pease reported to the board that he had attended the bid opening for the high school parking lot expansion. He presented the bids to the board. Low bid was CYC Construction of Omaha and the engineer recommended we hire them. Supt. Pease told board members he had contracted Millard Public Schools for a recommendation and was advised they had been satisfied with this company's work. Pease advised that that the district's legal counsel had reviewed the contracts.

Motion by Beranek with second by Sapp to approve a contract with CYC Construction for parking lot expansion for the bid of \$141,780.83. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

**New Business**

**Personnel matters**

Consideration and action to approve Steve Herman as a school bus driver and Nancy Maack as a substitute teacher.

Motion by Lutton with second by Cerny to approve Steve Herman as a school bus driver and Nancy Maack as a substitute teacher. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Member Garner abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Consideration and action to accept the resignation of Matthew Manning.

Motion by Beranek with second by Garner to accept the resignation of Matthew Manning. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Mr. Bentzen recommended Kevin Koopmann to finish the term for Matthew Manning. Supt. Pease advised board members that district counsel advised recommended the proposed resolution stating Kevin Koopmann fill the vacant position and accept the resignation of Kevin Koopmann at the conclusion of the 2007-08 school term.

Motion by Cerny with second by Sapp to approve the resolution to hire Kevin Koopmann as a certified teacher for the vocal music position and to accept his resignation with the conclusion of the current school term. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

**Girls Golf Cooperative**

Consideration and action to approve renewal of the girls golf cooperative with Elmwood-Murdock. Discussion held.

Motion by Garner with second by Beranek to approve the renewal of the girls golf cooperative with Elmwood-Murdock High School for a period of two years. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Board of Education Meeting December 17, 2007 Meeting, Minutes, Page 4**

**Facility Request by Riverview Church**

Supt. Pease presented a request for facilities use by the Riverview Community Church for Sunday mornings for the purpose of worship service throughout the entire calendar year. The request is for the high school facility including the main gym, MPR, commons area, parking lot, 4 to 6 classrooms and restroom facilities. Supt. Pease reviewed with the board that current policy does not allow for facility use prior to 12:00 noon on Sundays. Discussion was held. One concern raised by board members was the length of the request therefore not allowing other groups to use the facility on Sundays. Other concerns included building maintenance, snow removal, custodial on duty and facility use in summer months. No change to the policy was proposed. If additional requests are received by Riverview Community Church the board will review at that time.

**Policy 8340**

Revision of policy 8340 was presented to the board for review regarding meetings and notice of meetings. A revision to the policy addresses reasonable advance notice of the time and place of all meetings. The revision of policy 8340 will be brought back to the next meeting for possible adoption.

**Construction of Water Main on Furnas Street**

Supt. Pease told board members he had been contacted by Brandon Parmer to advise that he was planning to build on property between 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> streets along Furnas Street and a new water line would need to be piped that direction. Mr. Parmer's advised that the school would be responsible for part of the cost of construction of line. Member Lutton recommended the district verify the costs with the city.

**Information Items**

A letter on the blight study from City of Ashland was presented for the board's review. Supt. Pease explained the process of using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) as a tool for economic development; it allows for taxes to be frozen for the properties in the blighted area during development. Discussion was held. Concern was expressed regarding TIF on residential property. Supt. Pease will draft a letter to the City of Ashland regarding the board's views of the TIF on residential property.

**Other business presented for future considerations**

No other items were presented for future consideration during this session.

**Adjournment**

President Nygren adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m. The Annual Meeting will be held 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2008. The next Regular Meeting will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2008 in the Library of the High School at 1842 Furnas Street, Ashland, NE. An Agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Superintendent's Office, 1225 Clay Street, Ashland, NE.

Minutes submitted by:

---

Suzanne Sapp, Secretary