

MINUTES OF THE LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, February 24, 2020

Date: February 24, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Where Held: Administration Building

Presiding Officer: James Flesher, President

Members Present: Mike Holden, Vice President, Phyllis Hinterer, Connie S. Riffle

Members Excused: Paul Derico

Dr. Robin Lewis, Superintendent

Regular Meeting Attendance: Kaley Fedko, WDTV, Adam Wright, WDTV, Ellie Smith, Ethan Leavitt, Millie Metzgar, Rebecca Young; Staff Members: Robert Stewart, Jr., Rita Barnette, Robert Smith, Samuel West, Doug Davisson, Joseph Taylor, Kim Turner, Gerald Paugh, John Whiston, Eric Benedum, Kim Bonnett, Denise Sprouse, Tommy Gettings, Wendy Smith, Becky Markley, Patty Weaver, Christina Herrod, Terry Cogar, Terry Sprouse

The board on motion duly seconded, and unanimously approved, unless otherwise noted, the following action was taken and business transacted.

The board met at the Lewis County Court House at 5:30 p.m., to certify the votes from the February 8, 2020, Excess School Levy.

Rod Wyman called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance: Rod Wyman, County Commission, Agnes Queen, County Commission, Jim Flesher, LC Board President, Connie S. Riffle, LC Board Member, Phyllis Hinterer, LC Board Member, Mike Holden, LC Board Member. *Paul Derico was excused.

On motion by Rod Wyman and seconded by Agnes Queen, the board certified the votes of the Excess School Levy Election that was held on February 8, 2020.

The results of the February 8, 2020 Excess School Levy Election are as follows:

(1,409)	For
(672)	Against
67.71%	Pass

On motion by James Flesher and seconded by Mike Holden, the board members recessed the meeting at 5:35 p.m., to return to the Administration Building to conduct the remaining agenda for the regular meeting.

The regular meeting was called to order by James Flesher, Board President, at 6:00 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Brock Mitchell, LCHS Student.

The following agenda adjustments were made:

Jim Flesher asked that agenda item VII. Discussion 3. Time Management System be tabled until the next meeting when Ms. Weldon can be present to discuss.

John Whiston, Principal, Lewis County High School, recognized the following LCHS Wrestling Team Regional and Big 10 placements: Kevin Parsons – 6th place Regionals; Brock Mitchell – 3rd place Regionals (State Qualifier); David Hughes, 5th Place Regionals; Trenton Bush – 5th Place Regionals; Dameon Wolfe – 4th Place Regionals (State Qualifier); Julius Church – 4th place Regionals (State Qualifier); Brock Mitchell – 3rd place Big 10; Julius Church – 3rd place Big 10; Dameon Wolfe – 4th place Big 10; Trenton Bush – 5th place Big 10; Ethan Leavitt – 6th place Big 10.

After requesting and making corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on January 27, 2020, on motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the minutes were approved as corrected, with a 4-0 vote.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board approved the following consent agenda items, with a 4-0 vote:

A. Use of Buildings and Grounds:

1. James R. Fealy, Lewis Baseball Association, use of Lewis County High School baseball field, 13 & 14 year old baseball practice and games, April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020, when available.
2. Tanya Smith, Lewis County Girls Tournament, basketball practices, Robert L. Bland Middle School and Jane Lew Elementary School Gymnasiums, February 25, 2020 – May 30, 2020, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., when available.

The board removed the following agenda item due to

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board tabled the following consent agenda item due to employee not being able to attend, with a 4-0 vote:

B. Out of State Meeting Request:

1. Kimberly Bonnett, National Education Association Conference, Hilo, HI, March 26-29, 2020.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board approved the following consent agenda item, with a 4-0 vote:

C. Out of County Student Transfer Request:

1. Jessica Lowther, requesting that her 3rd and 4th grade children be permitted to continue attending Jane Lew Elementary School for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Dr. Lewis shared with the board that she has a policy committee meeting set up for later in the week. Dr. Lewis also went over some of the policy committee recommendations with the board.

Dr. Lewis discussed a room for artifacts.

Dr. Lewis asked that the following agenda item be tabled at the request of the bus operators:

IX. Policies:

A. Review:

1. Chapter 8.2.6 – Extracurricular Transportation (Proposal A)
Chapter 8.2.6 – Extracurricular Transportation (Proposal B)

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board tabled the following board agenda item, with a 4-0 vote:

IX. Policies:

A. Review:

1. Chapter 8.2.6 – Extracurricular Transportation (Proposal A)
Chapter 8.2.6 – Extracurricular Transportation (Proposal B)

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, with Mike Holden and Connie S. Riffle voting in the negative, the following board agenda item died due to a lack of a proper motion, with a 2-2 vote:

IX. Policies:

A. Review:

2. Chapter 6700 – Overtime & Chapter 3.43 – Service Personnel Wage and Hour Policy.

Connie S. Riffle made a motion to adopt the following agenda item and put it out for public comment. James Flesher called for a second. There was no second. Item died due to a lack of a motion:

IX. Policies:

A. Review:

2. Chapter 6700 – Overtime & Chapter 3.43 – Service Personnel Wage and Hour Policy.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board adopted Policy Chapter 3.16 – Reduction in Classroom Teaching Positions in Elementary Schools, with a 4-0 vote.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Mike Holden, the board adopted Policy Chapter 3.16B – Reduction in Force – Classroom Teachers & Other Professional Personnel, with a 4-0 vote.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Mike Holden, the board adopted Policy Chapter 3.16C – Reduction in Classroom Teaching Positions in Elementary Schools, with a 4-0 vote.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board adopted Policy Chapter 6.48 – Instruction Resource Materials, with a 4-0 vote.

Robert Smith appeared before the board and individuals present to discuss bus operator issues. Mr. Smith gave the board the following options as a solution: Option 1. No more weighted average or blended rate of pay/35 hour work week/paid hourly between 35-40 and anything over 40 would be paid at true time and a half/Extracurricular, Tri-County and Shuttle Run paid hourly rate of pay/Trips 1/7/Training for bus operators for CDL endorsements - \$100 supplement per month, not including or affecting any other supplements or anything they get. Option 2. Contract the AM and PM Runs/Throw out the hours for total hours per week – If contracted, let them do AM Run or PM Run – anything in between paid at hourly rate of pay. After 5:00 p.m., if they are 40 hour work week employees then anything after 5:00 p.m. should

be every day, Monday-Friday, at 40 hours be paid at true time and a half/Extracurricular, Tri-County and Shuttle Runs be paid at hourly rate of pay/Trips 1/7/Supplements - \$150, if they can't settle for 35 hour work week employees/Any mandatory meetings, continuing education, bus certifications, bus inspections or trainings they are required to show up for (like at the beginning of the school year), that's not an AM or PM Run, not in their contracts, pay at hourly rate of pay. Mr. Smith is requesting a special meeting before the next regular meeting on March 9, 2020, to get this voted on. Mr. Smith said he had two (2) pages of bus driver signatures. Mr. Smith quoted, "If the Board didn't have a special meeting then the signatures on the pages that I have, those bus drivers are prepared to take action. We have talked to other drivers in Harrison and Upshur Counties and they are willing to come over here and speak on our behalf because theirs is totally different. If we don't get answers, it could end up with the busses getting parked."

Robert Stewart appeared before the board and individuals present to discuss bus operator issues.

Rita Barnette appeared before the board and individuals present to discuss the policy committee.

Gerald Paugh appeared before the board and individuals present to discuss bus operator issues.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board approved the 2020-2021 school calendar, with a 4-0 vote.

Board President, James Flesher informed the board and individuals present as per West Virginia Code 6-9A-4 that it would be necessary for the board to go into executive session to "discuss a personnel items I. e (4 & 5) Timothy Rittenhouse & Christopher Derico resignations", and on motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board went into executive session at 6:46 p.m., with a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Lewis, Superintendent, sat with the board in the executive session.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board adjourned the executive session at 7:37 p.m., with a 4-0 vote.

No action was taken in the executive session.

The following personnel have the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board accepted the following resignations/retirements, with a 4-0 vote:

- a. **Pamela Heaster**, resignation, Chemistry Teacher, Lewis County High School, effective June 30, 2020.
- b. **Sherry Stobbs**, retirement, Executive Secretary, Lewis County Board of Education, effective June 30, 2020.
- c. **Bonnie Frymier**, retirement, Custodian/Maintenance, Leading Creek Elementary School, effective June 30, 2020.
- d. **Loretta Clifton**, retirement, Cook, Leading Creek Elementary School, effective June 30, 2020.
- e.
 - (1) **Rob Wymer**, resignation, Day-to-Day Substitute Custodian, Lewis County Schools, effective February 20, 2020.
 - (2) **Julie Burns**, resignation, Day-to-Day Substitute Secretary, Lewis County Schools, effective February 19, 2020.
 - (3) **Julie Burns**, resignation, Day-to-Day Substitute Aide, Lewis County Schools, effective February 19, 2020.
 - (4) **Timothy Rittenhouse**, resignation, Bus Operator, Lewis County Transportation, effective February 20, 2020.
 - (5) **Christopher P. Derico**, resignation, Child Nutrition Director/Supervisor, Lewis County Schools, effective March 22, 2020.
 - (6) **Mary Kathryn Marsh**, resignation, Day-to-Day Substitute Custodian, effective February 24, 2020.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board approved the following requests, with a 4-0 vote:

- a. **Richard Thomas**, pending certification and **Connor Thomas**, pending certification and background check, approve non-paid Assistant Tennis Coaches, Lewis County High School, effective for the 2019-2020 school year.
- b. **Bonnie Krum**, approve request for unpaid medical leave of absence, January 17, 21-28, 2020.
- c. Permission to post Student Evaluator for Energy Express.
- d. Permission to post Substitute Itinerant Counselor.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Mike Holden, the board employed the following service personnel, with a 4 0 vote:

- c. Amanda Hager, One-half Time Cook, Peterson-Central Elementary School, effective February 26, 2020.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board employed the following extracurricular professional personnel, with a 4-0 vote:

- c. Carrie Davis and Sheila Bennett, After School Homebound Education Facilitator, Jane Lew Elementary School, effective 2019-2020 school year.

The board received approved meeting requests.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board approved the payroll/payment of bills - \$802,248.15, with a 4-0 vote.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board tabled the following board agenda items until Ms. Weldon is in attendance, with a 4-0 vote:

- XII. Finance: 2. Monthly Financial Report – January, 2020.
 3. Approve Budget Supplements (1015-1025) and Transfers
 (2005-2007)

There were no construction updates.

There were no reports.

Dr. Lewis and John Whiston, LCHS Principal, spoke about the Building Hope Project through Bear Contracting.

James Flesher set a special meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building to discuss transportation issues.

Phyllis Hinterer sent prayers and good thoughts to Paul Dericco.

Connie S. Riffle thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight and expressing their concerns.

Mike Holden stated that the RLBMS and Roanoke mowers are in real bad shape and needs looked at.

Mr. Holden also discussed a call that he received from a parent regarding the flu outbreak. Their questions was: Are the kids with a doctor's excuse excused from taking semester exams? Becky Markley, LCHS Secretary, stated those students are excused as a medical excuse, however it is still an absence with an excuse but they have not decided how they are going to approach the exam policy.

Mike Holden shared that the Hot Rod car at Tri-County is still available for bids.

The board received the following board information:

a. WVDE Grant Award: \$888.00.

There will be a special meeting held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building to conduct the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract.

There will be another special meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building to discuss Transportation Issues.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building.

There will be another special meeting held on Monday, March 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building to go over the Neola Policies.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Mike Holden, the board adjourned at 7:58 p.m., with a 4-0 vote.