

MINUTES  
CARTHAGE ESD #317  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 16, 2011

The regular meeting of the Carthage E.S.D. #317 Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 by Board President Jamie Pettit. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, present; Mr. Pettit, present; Mr. Ufkes, present; Mrs. Fritz, present; Mr. Menn, present; Mrs. Markley, present; Mrs. Stoverink, present.

It was moved by Mr. Pettit and seconded by Mrs. Stoverink to add Item VIII, C. Hazardous Routes. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Russ Rumbold of Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. reviewed the FY11 audit. The district received a 4.0, the highest attainable score indicating financial recognition status. Mr. Rumbold warned, however, of the decline in governmental aid with the discontinuation of the federal jobs bill, the expiration of our organizational incentive monies and the decrease in general state aid. We are fortunate in that our EAV has consistently increased, our student population has remained level, we are not a hold harmless district and we have no debt. Our district is in good financial shape and should be able to “weather most storms” with our strong fund balances.

Administrative reports:

Mrs. Hardy shared that the corporate personal property replacement tax is figured into the general state aid formula so we may see an impact of paying regional superintendents from those proceeds.

She met with Memorial Hospital representatives Ada Bair, Terry Pope and Scott Scheetz yesterday to discuss the hospital’s application for tax exempt status. Mrs. Bair indicated that they are waiting on the Department of Revenue to make its determination, however, it is not known when that will actually take place. Nothing has been resolved as of yet. Mrs. Hardy sent a letter to Brian Braun today to get his input on the situation.

It was asked how the new buses were doing. As far as Mrs. Hardy knows there have not been any issues with the buses. The cameras have already proven helpful.

Diane shared that local law enforcement officers will be using the middle school on November 29<sup>th</sup> for a training exercise. She has spoken with Sheriff Bentzinger and Chief Waddell this week and is just about ready to submit a draft of the Crisis Management Plan. Some of the teachers have expressed an interest in a basic first aid course so Diane is working with Chief Waddell on that. It was moved by Mrs. Markley and seconded by Mr. Menn to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

In discussing the district report card, Diane shared that one reason we made AYP this year was because of “safe harbor”, 10% of students that did not meet state standards previously did so this year. This is not an easy task so she offered congratulations to the teaching staff for accomplishing this.

Mrs. Hardy pointed out that NCLB (No Child Left Behind) has not yet been reauthorized. The state has requested a waiver on NCLB but it has not yet been approved so it is not certain what it will look like or how schools will be impacted.

Mr. Ufkes has contacted a couple superintendents to discuss various issues, but mainly how school districts are going to continue with less money coming in and more money needed to operate. He has found that others share his concern but are not certain of how to do anything about it. Mrs. Hardy shared that she is a member of IPAC (Illinois Political Action Committee).

We received a hazardous route application yesterday, too late for this meeting. This will be an action item next month. Mrs. Hardy concurs that the location does qualify.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mrs. Markley to approve the preliminary tax levy and authorize the administration to publish the required notice of a truth in taxation hearing to be held just prior to the regular board meeting in December. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

In reviewing the proposed levy, Mrs. Hardy explained that we have no way of knowing what the actual revenue will be because the actual EAV will not be calculated until the spring. She also pointed out that the IMRF levy has been

calculated on 69% of what will be used this year due to the previous surplus in that account.

It was moved by Mrs. Stoverink and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to approve the FY11 audit as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mrs. Huston and seconded by Mrs. Fritz to approve the first reading of policies as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to enter into executive session at 8:57 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel and bargaining. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mrs. Stoverink and seconded by Mrs. Fritz to approve the 2012-2014 certified staff contract as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Ufkes and seconded by Mr. Pettit to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 p.m. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.