

April 7, 2015

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Board of School Trustees
Public Board Meeting
April 7, 2015

PUBLIC MEETING: The meeting was called to order with prayer by Secretary Aaron Westfall at 5:03 PM. Others present were President Chad Roush, VP Kevin Scott, Liaison Doug Klefeker, and Superintendent James Craig.

Also, activities director Ben Mann, maintenance director Ryan King, corporation treasurer Vicki Andrews, corporation secretary Robin Minniear, and Glen Werling of the Bluffton News-Banner.

And, Indiana Department of Environmental Management representatives Marc Hancock, Jeff Guinn, section chief for drinking water, and Rob McLaughlin, field inspector for drinking water; and Jud Meyers of Don Meyers Plumbing and Heating of Berne.

PUBLIC MEETING:

I. MEETING ORGANIZATION:

1. **Approve Agenda** – Westfall moved to accept the agenda, was seconded by Klefeker, and the motion carried 4-0.
2. **Approve Minutes** – The minutes of the March 10 board meeting were reviewed by board members and approved with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Klefeker, seconded by Scott.

II. FINANCIAL ITEMS:

1. **2015 Expenditure Categories** – Annual expenditure categories, a part of the annual budgeting process, were adopted following a motion by Klefeker, seconded by Scott, and a 4-0 vote.
2. **Request for Additional Appropriation** – A recommendation was made to appropriate \$700,000 out of available assets in the Rainy Day Fund to pay for the many capital construction and improvement projects which are planned for the spring and summer. Scott made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, was seconded by Westfall, and motion passed 4-0.

III. COMMUNITY INPUT: none.

IDEM PRESENTATION: Following an initial meeting with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management last summer, Craig was prompted to meet with Commonwealth Engineering and begin exploring the possibility of hooking up to water and sewer services with Montpelier, Indiana.

Of special concern are the arsenic levels in the water from our local wells. As explained by IDEM section chief and arsenic expert Mark Hancock, the current levels of arsenic aren't an acute problem, but chronic. This means that consumption won't make you immediately sick but may prove to increase the chance for various types of cancer over extended years of exposure. He noted that arsenic is in the ground in northeast Indiana and

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this type of test result is very common and may be the result of contamination from some unknown local industry.

Because the arsenic levels do appear to be rising steadily with no explanation available, IDEM recommends that we find new sources or drill a new well where we may be able to pull from a different aquifer. Another option is to treat the water. It was noted that IDEM allows for test wells to be dug without permits. However, when an acceptable location is found, with good test results, a permit must be pulled before a permanent well is sunk.

The final possibility is to hook up with another water source, such as the Montpelier treatment facility, and use their treated water supply. In the coming years, Montpelier would also be able to handle our wastewater and sewage treatment needs which is also a future concern.

The report was taken under advisement for future discussion.

IV. 2nd READING: Support Staff Handbook Revisions -- On 2nd reading, the changes to the support staff handbook were approved following a motion by eligible board members Klefeker, seconded by Scott, and passed with a 2-0 vote. Roush and Westfall abstained due to a possible conflict of interest with immediate family members being school employees.

V. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Personnel

- a. Maternity Leave Fill-In Recommendation** -- A letter of recommendation was received from secondary principal Chad Yencer that James Schwarzkopf to fill in for Mrs. Ashley Hedden's maternity leave. She will be out for the remainder of the year beginning April 13. Westfall made a motion, seconded by Scott, which carried 4-0.
- b. ECA Recommendation** -- Mann was present to recommend the following 2015-2016 ECA coaching recommendations: varsity football head coach Steve Yencer; varsity volleyball Lynn Blevins; varsity cross country Phillip Rhodes; varsity girls golf Charles Harris; varsity girls basketball Meghan Slusher; varsity boys basketball Ben Burman; varsity wrestling Ryan Landis. All were approved with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Roush, seconded by Westfall.
- c. ECA Resignation** -- A resignation was received from junior varsity cheer coach Patricia Smith and was accepted with a 4-0 vote after a motion by Roush, seconded by Westfall.

2. Athletic Training and Consultation Agreement -- Board members approved an agreement with Indiana Physical Therapy to provide the management and provision of care of injuries to SW athletes and members of visiting teams as needed. This has been done for several years for free, but the company now finds that cost prohibitive and asked us to pay \$7,500 annually to continue the service. Klefeker made a motion to approve the agreement, was seconded by Scott, and the motion carried 4-0.

3. Driving Training Recommendation -- A calculation to operate driver's training for 2015 was presented based on Kevin Lavanchy instructing 60 students. It would calculate to

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cost \$334.33 per student and the high school recommended that each student pay \$330. This was approved with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Westfall, seconded by Roush.

- 4. Transfer Students Cutoff Acceptance** -- A recommendation was received from elementary principal Mr. John Purcell to limit enrollment of transfer tuition students in the 2015-16 school year. It noted that application for out of district students to enter the current school year must be completed and presented prior to the established ADM date in February, and application for the upcoming school year must be completed by June 1. The guideline established was 5 available seats in all grade levels in the elementary school and was adopted with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Klefeker, seconded by Roush.
- 5. Summer Project Recommendations** -- Craig recommended purchasing high school computer lab tables from Educational Furniture for \$9,302.47 and hiring Don Meyers Plumbing to do remodeling work in the Raiderdome gym foyer bathrooms for \$19,647.31. This was approved following a motion by Klefeker, seconded by Westfall, and a 4-0 vote.
- 6. Conference Request** – Conference requests from Steve Stauffer, Chris Painter, Ben Burman, Paula McMillan and Chase Anderson were approved with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Westfall, seconded by Scott.
- 7. Field Trip Requests** -- Two out of state and overnight field trip requests by the FFA livestock judging team were approved with a 4-0 vote following a motion by Westfall, seconded by Scott.
- 8. Fundraiser Requests** -- Roush made a motion to approve a girls' basketball program youth camp fundraiser June 1-5. This was seconded by Westfall and passed with a 4-0 vote.

VI. REPORTS:

The next meetings of the board will be at 5 PM on Tuesday, April 21 and May 19.

VII. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS:

All documents needing signed were duly signed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business to come before the Board, Roush adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The signatures below certify that the minutes reflect what occurred in the regular meeting.

Doug Klefeker	
Chad Roush	
Kevin Scott	
Aaron Westfall	

**Board of School Trustees
Southern Wells Community Schools**