

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Board of School Trustees
Public Board Meeting
March 18, 2014

PUBLIC MEETING: President Doug Klefeker called the meeting to order with prayer at 5:06 PM. Others attending were Vice-President Chris Smith, Liaison Bob Prible, Superintendent James Craig, corporation secretary Robin Minniear and Glen Werling of the Bluffton News-Banner. Chad Roush, board secretary, was not in attendance.

I. MEETING ORGANIZATION:

1. **Approve Agenda** – Klefeker moved to accept the agenda, was seconded by Prible, and the motion carried 3-0.
2. **Approve Minutes** – The minutes of the February 18 regular meeting and March 4 work session were approved with a 3-0 vote following a motion by Smith, seconded by Prible.

II. FINANCIAL ITEMS:

1. **Claims** – After consideration, Smith made a motion to approve the March claims and was seconded by Klefeker. The motion passed 3-0.
2. **Fund Reports** – Board members were updated on corporation funds. Smith made a motion to accept all reports, seconded by Prible and motion passed 3-0.

III. COMMUNITY INPUT: none.

IV. POLICY, 2nd READING: Reduction In Force: The board approved a policy addressing the procedure for reducing the certified teaching staff on second reading with a 3-0 vote following a motion by Klefeker, seconded by Prible.

V. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Personnel

- a. **Classified Retirements** – Letters of retirement were received from custodians Bill Platt and Joan Gearheart. Mr. Platt will retire on May 22 and Mrs. Gearheart will retire effective June 8. These were accepted with a 3-0 vote following a motion by Prible, seconded by Smith.
- b. **Maternity Leave Substitute** – Elementary principal John Purcell recommended Mrs. Laurie Russell to fill the vacancy in 2nd grade during the maternity leave of Mrs. Christina Tarter for the remainder of this school year. This recommendation was approved with a 3-0 vote following a motion by Smith, seconded by Klefeker.
- c. **ECA Recommendation** – A recommendation was received from activities director Ben Mann to hire Laura Hanauer as assistant volleyball coach and Chad Smekens as junior high girls' track coach. Both recommendations were approved following a motion by Smith, seconded by Prible, and a 3-0 vote.
- d. **Classified Recommendation** – Mr. Craig recommended hiring Caleb Sleppy as a groundskeeper to work no more than 40 hours per week at \$12/hour beginning after Spring Break. Then upon Mr. Platt's retirement,

he will be employed full-time as a groundskeeper/custodian at \$14.85/hour. The recommendation was approved with a 3-0 vote following a motion by Prible, seconded by Smith.

2. **Summer Projects** – Mr. Craig presented a number of summer work projects for consideration. Each was discussed and approved as follows: HS weight room upgrade to Pro Industries of Franklin, \$37,486, Prible-Klefeker, 3-0; 2nd phase elementary boiler replacement to Felger Hart of Ossian, \$40,550, Klefeker-Prible, 3-0; elementary wireless connection to Stylus for \$15,242.99, Prible-Smith, 3-0; walk-off mats throughout facility for \$7,495.32 to JR Flooring, Klefeker-Prible, 3-0; HS lighting upgrades to Fuhrman Electric for \$26,032, Smith-Prible, 3-0.
3. **Conference Requests** – Conference requests were approved for the following teachers: Megan Workinger, Kristi Jenney, Rebecca Miner, Amy Palmer, Laura McKinney, Peggy Haigh and Shayla Shirk, after a motion by Prible, seconded by Smith, and 3-0 vote.
4. **Field Trip Requests** – Out of state and overnight field trip requests were approved for livestock judging and dairy judging after a motion by Smith, seconded by Klefeker and a 3-0 vote.
5. **Fundraiser Request** – Fundraiser requests for athletic transportation, SWES volleyball camp, music boosters and yearbook were approved after a motion by Smith, seconded by Prible, and a 3-0 vote.
6. **Facility Use Request** – Prible made a motion to waive the rental charges for the Junior Lady softball program to use the softball diamond or high school gym as needed for games and practices, to be coordinated with the athletic director. This was seconded by Klefeker and passed 3-0.

VI. REPORTS:

Mr. Craig updated the members on elementary technology planning. They also received information on the recent FCCLA success at the state convention. The next regular meeting will be at 5 PM on Tuesday, April 15.

VII. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS:

All documents needing signed were duly signed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business to come before the Board, Klefeker adjourned the public session at 6:20 PM. The signatures below certify that the minutes reflect what occurred in the regular meeting.

Doug Klefeker



Bob Prible



Chris Smith



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