

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF
CASTON SCHOOL CORPORATION**

The Caston Board of School Trustees met Tuesday, January 14, 2014, in the administration building. Present were Board members Mr. Russell Phillips, Mrs. Michaela Slisher, Mr. Jason Herd, Mr. Gary Baumgardner and Mr. Bruce Cress. Also present was Interim Superintendent – Mrs. Lucinda Douglass, Corporation Attorney – Mr. Robert Murray, High School Principal – Mr. Adam Strasser, Interim Elementary Principal – Mr. Dale Osburn, and Mrs. Denise Chandler – Administrative Associate for Finance.

Regular Meeting: Board President, Mr. Jason Herd, called the regular meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 4:00 P.M.

Celebrations: No celebrations were shared except for the expression of gratefulness to be back to school having missed an entire week due to the recent blizzard causing Christmas Vacation to be three weeks rather than the planned two weeks.

Public comment re: advertised items: none

Consent Agenda: Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

- A. Approve minutes of the December 17, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting
- B. Approval of Treasurer’s Report for December, 2013
- C. Presentation and review of claims # 34355 through #34444 inclusive for payment totaling \$284,791.29.
- D. Consider the termination of employment and cancellation of contract for Mr. Dave Huseland, HS Science Teacher effective December 20, 2013.
- E. Consider employment of Mr. Eric Linn for HS Science Teacher effective at the beginning of the 2nd semester of the 2013-14 school year [level 0 – bachelor]
- F. Consider employment of Mrs. Elaine Sutton for Elementary Secretary effective the beginning of the 2nd semester of the 2013-14 school year

Unanimous 5 - 0

Old Business: Mr. Phillips moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher, to approve the continuation of membership with the Rochester & Lake Manitou Chamber of Commerce.

Unanimous 5-0

New Business:

Mrs. Slisher moved, seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the year-end appropriation transfers as presented.

Unanimous 5-0

Mrs. Slisher moved, seconded by Mr. Phillips to establish the regular dates/times for 2014 school board meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 PM

Unanimous 5-0

Caston School Board Reorganization:

- A. Nominations were opened; Mr. Baumgardner nominated Mr. Cress for President. Additionally Mrs. Slisher nominated Mr. Herd for President. Mr. Phillips made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner. Closing the nominations was unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. A vote was taken on the nominees and Mr. Herd was voted in as President with 3 votes while Mr. Cress received 2 votes.
- B. Mr. Herd nominated Mr. Cress as board Vice President. Mr. Phillips moved to close nominations for Vice President seconded by Mrs. Slisher. Nominations were closed on a vote of 5-0. Mr. Cress was unanimously elected Vice President with 5 votes.
- C. Mr. Phillips nominated Mrs. Slisher as board Secretary. Mr. Cress moved to close nominations seconded by Mr. Baumgardner. Nominations were closed on a 5-0 vote. Mrs. Slisher was then unanimously elected Secretary with 5 votes.
- D. Mr. Cress moved to approve the following appointments, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner
 - Corporation Attorney – Mr. Robert Murray
 - Corporation Treasurer – Mr. Angela Chapman
 - Corporation Assistant Treasurer – Mrs. Denise Chandler
 - Extra-Curricular Fund (E.C.F) Treasurer – Mrs. Angie Douglass
 - E.C.F. Financial Administrator – Mr. Adam Strasser
 - E.C.F. Assistant Financial Administrators – Ms. Debb Stevens & Mr. Dale Osburn
 - Title IX Coordinator – Mrs. Lucinda Douglass
 - ISBA Legislative Liaison – Mrs. Lucinda Douglass

Unanimous 5 – 0

Mr. Phillips moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher to accept conflict of interest statements from Mr. Bruce Cress, Mr. Jason Herd and Mrs. Denise Chandler for 2014.

Unanimous 5- 0

Mr. Baumgardner moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher to approve the continuance of the current board compensation in accordance with I.C. 2—26-4-7. (\$2000 per board member, \$20/regular meeting up to a limit of \$600, \$50/special meeting up to a limit of \$200 with maximum compensation for any board member being \$2800 annually.)

Unanimous 5 – 0

Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the membership for Lucinda Douglass and Angela Chapman for Indiana Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) for January 1 – December 31, 2014.

Unanimous 5 – 0

Mr. Baumgardner moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher to approve the attendance at the IASBO Budgeting Fundamentals for School Business Officials for Mrs. Lucinda Douglass at MSD of Warren Township Administrative Center, Indianapolis, on January 30, 2014.

Unanimous 5 – 0

Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the designation of TJ Garner as the Authorized Signatory Authority for Discharge Monitoring Report and Monthly Report of Operation on behalf of the Caston School Corporation.

Unanimous 5 – 0

The board gave consensus to open competitive bids for the Liability/Workman’s Comp/Automotive Insurance for Caston School Corporation for the April 1st renewal date.

Consensus

Other Business:

Mr. Phillips moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner to approve the visitation of Mr. Michael Clayton at Warsaw on Thursday, January 23, 2014 for purposes of gaining more knowledge and expertise regarding the Benchmark Literacy Program.

Unanimous 5-0

Reports/Information:

- A. Rochester Sentinel written request for notices of school board meetings during 2014.
- B. 2013 General Fund Monthly Expenses vs. Revenue summary
- C. Schedule of Balances for Extra-Curricular Accounts for November, 2013

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Mr. Cress stated that he would like to see clarification on events being held during school delays and cancellations. He would like to see this brought up as an agenda item at the next board meeting. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cress asked for an update on health insurance premium holidays as well as the stipends for non-certified staff.

Mr. Phillips asked about the parent surveys mailed to each non-resident family, for clarification of the date and time of the school board retreat (January 25, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.), and as to the needed wording on agendas for sensitive issues such as an employee dismissal, etc.

Adjournment: Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher that the regular meeting be adjourned at 5:36 P.M.

Unanimous 5 - 0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
