

Minutes of Special Board Meeting follow  
RILEY COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL  
District 18  
9406 Riley Road  
Marengo, IL 60152

Tuesday, September 20, 2011  
7:00 PM

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

School Board Members Peters, Haeflinger, Northcutt, Behnke, Mitchell, Aubry, and Schnable answered roll call at 7:00 PM. Members of the public in attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Grimm, Mr. & Mrs. Stimes and Kelsey Stimes. Also in attendance were Mrs. Conkling, Mrs. Schnable, Mrs. Rooney, and Mr. Trickett.

There were no Freedom of Information requests. There were no questions on the Financial Report for August 2011, Treasurer's Report: Bills Payable September, 2011. No changes to the minutes for Regular School Board Meeting of August 17, 2011. There were no changes to Executive Session Minutes of August 17, 2011. The Board would like to add to Item E: Approve Closed Session Minutes for August 17, 2011 "not recommended for public release". Approve update and revisions for Board of Education Policies as listed, accept \$2,223.07 from the Marengo Area Schools Education Foundation and approve Mrs. Schnable as Illinois Municipal Retirement Representative for Fiscal Year 2012.

Member Aubry made a motion to accept the consent agenda items as amended. Member Peters seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**RECOGNITION AND INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

President Behnke introduced Mr. & Mrs. Grimm and Mr. & Mrs. Stimes with their daughter Kelsey Stimes. Superintendent Trickett informed the Riley School Board of Mr. Grimm's involvement with Riley as our bus mechanic. Mrs. Grimm was Riley School's bookkeeper since 1982 and began driving bus in 1986. Mr. Stimes was our Athletic Director for 22 years.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Stimes would like to thank Riley School and the Riley Board of Directors for giving him the opportunity to act as Athletic Director for the past 22 years. Dr. Roy Asplund created the position of Athletic Director and offered the position to Mr. Stimes. Mr. Stimes would also like to thank past and present transportation directors for the availability of buses throughout the years. Mr. Stimes commended the Board on their decision to keep the athletic program through the lean year of 2006/07. As the Athletic Director, we organized a Booster Club to help with the cost of running the athletic program as well as draft volunteer help for concessions, bookkeeping and scoreboard. That year we were able to keep our costs down to \$400.00. President Behnke thanked Mr. Stimes for his dedication. The years prior to our referendum, the sports program would not have survived without Mr. Stimes hard work and enthusiasm. Sportsmanship and working together as a team are a vital part of giving our students the self-confidence needed to succeed. President

Behnke also thanked Mrs. Grimm for taking the responsibility of transporting our children safely to and from school. Mrs. Grimm's knowledge of her job made for a very easy transition for both the present bookkeeper and transportation director. Mr. Trickett commented that "Character" is a key to the development of athletes. He noted that Mr. Stimes exemplifies this quality and has stressed it with his student/athletes. Mrs. Grimm was told by Shirley Richie of a bookkeeping position at Riley School 30 plus years ago. Mrs. Grimm's intentions were to work long enough to purchase a piano (which was purchased). Mrs. Doane suggested to Mrs. Grimm she should become a bus driver. Mrs. Grimm said being a bus driver was one of the most rewarding experiences and regrets having to retire from driving.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Monday, September 12, 2011, was the District's Annual Safety review Meeting. President Behnke extended is gratitude to the McHenry County Sheriff's Department, Marengo Fire and Rescue, Superintendent Trickett, and Principal Conkling for taking the time each year to make sure Riley School is safe. Mr. Trickett said the proper paper work has been sent to the Regional Office of Education. In the Board packet is a paper entitled "School Consolidation Dance Begins". Superintendent Trickett would like each Board Member to take the time to read this as it concerns the consolidation issues. Many of the Board Members are attending the Kishwaukee Division Fall Dinner Meeting, September 22, 2011, at Marengo Community High School at 6:00PM. IASB will be electing Division Officers for the 2011-13 terms at this dinner. Topics being discussed will be networking, professional development, peer recognition, association governance and resources. For the Board's information a spread sheet of Riley School's bus fleet is included. Mr. Trickett will investigate the possibility of purchasing a new/used bus or look at other options such as leasing for next school year. Alliance Legislative Report continues their discussions on weighty issues. President Behnke expressed his concern on the ongoing discussions among the Governor, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Regional Offices of Education. Because McHenry County no longer has a Regional Superintendent, Riley School has not had their annual Life/Health Safety inspection. Member Mitchell has questions about the required training in HB 1670 (Open Meetings Act). Superintendent Trickett believes that these topics will be discussed at the Kishwaukee Division Meeting, September 22, 2011. Superintendent Trickett provided a spread sheet comparing revenues and expenditures over fiscal year 2009 & 2010. This information for members should questions arise regarding revenues and expenses from tax payers. Also, there is a sheet with term definitions, defining terms used in association with the spreadsheet. Member Mitchell asked which formula type does Riley fall under: Special-equalization-resource-equalizer district, alternate-method district or flat-grant district. Superintendent Trickett explained, because of our high equalized assessed valuation (EAV) we are a flat-grant district. The operating expenditure per student for District 18 in 2011 was \$9,198. Local wealth and the ability to raise money in a district determine the formula used by the State for your General State Aid. Because of our high EAV, Riley receives a flat grant rate of \$218 per student. The Riley Parents Association provided the Board of Education with the 2011/12 budget. We thank the RPA for their hard work and helping us keep \$17,000.00 out of the school budget. We received a letter from Mr. David Diamond, Highway Commissioner of Riley Township, stating that he will no longer be able to assist Riley School in the removal of snow. The Township has moved their facility to the Route 23 property and it is no longer feasible to provide these services. This has been a "good neighbor" gesture for years and Riley has commissioned someone else to provide us with snow removal in the future. "Legalinsights" for School Districts is provided by Ottosen, Britz, Kelly, Cooper, Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd. This law firm is the one we currently use with our residency issues. We received a refund of \$1,073.17 from CLIC/School Board Legal. SEDOM provided us their report to MCSO.

Member Northcutt will be attending a SEDOM Board Meeting, September 21, 2011 and will report at the Riley October Board of Education Meeting.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

None.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Principal Conkling handed to the Board of Education, Riley School's 2010-11 Gains Summary Report showing progress made through the Response to Intervention program and charted by, Academy of Reading and Academy of Math. In a short period of time, we made significant improvements with our students involved in this program. Over 50% of the students in this program and in some instances 100% of the students have advanced one grade level and in some cases two grade levels in math and reading. Since the RtI program will be implemented for a full school year, we are expecting these numbers to improve. Member Haeflinger had some questions on the percentages and average time on task and Principal Conkling explained them to Mr. Haeflinger to his satisfaction. Mid-term grade reports were sent home on Friday, September 16, 2011. The final piece of playground equipment was delivered and will be installed as well as benches, for the junior high to gather, and garbage cans. The magazine drive kick-off assembly was held Monday, September 19, 2011. Riley has already held one in-service day which consisted of a free program on elementary writing. Our next in-service day will be Wednesday, September 28, 2011. Because we are housing some autistic students, Mrs. Haeflinger and Mrs. Deller will be conducting sensory training for the staff.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Trickett reported that the roof is 98% complete with the skylights and down spouts remaining to be installed. We have made one payment and the final payment will be made when the punch list is complete. President Behnke asked if there was any noise from the piping in room 106. To date we have not received any significant rain fall, so that is to be determined. Superintendent Trickett and Principal Conkling are working on four residency issues. We feel one residency issue has been resolved and will continue our investigation on the others. Superintendent Trickett and Mrs. Schnable have reviewed the 2010/11 audit report and there were two citations. One was the need to increase our bond from \$1,250,000.00 to \$2,000,000.00 to comply with the required statute of 25% bonding capacity; and the other notation is the request to have an outside auditor audit the audit. Although the additional audit is recommended, it is not a recommendation to pay the additional expense for a district our size. Over the past several audits, Riley has overcome many citations and believes the removal of these citations is noteworthy.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Trickett has received quotes for trenching, electrical and excavation which total a little over \$20,000.00 to upgrade property northeast of the township building for additional bus parking and relocation of fuel tanks. A recommendation to improve parking availability for buses has been considered previously; and this property now would be an excellent solution for additional bus parking since the Township has demolished two of these buildings which complicated the relocation of our fuel tank and limited District's future parking improvements. Superintendent Trickett also has been investigating the construction cost of a seven or eight

stall bus storage lean-to-shed as a possible improvement for bus storage. He has visited the site where Cleary Buildings Corporation constructed two buildings for Genoa-Kingston Consolidated District in 2006. If such a building is not cost effective, he would recommend the need to have Bradley and Bradley Architects, create a drawing for possible construction. As long as the building price is under \$50,000.00 the District is not legally required to bid the project. The lean-to-shed will provide a safer means to provide electrical service to the buses in the winter, reduce the impact of drivers having to clear off ice or snow from the front windows, and centralize the buses for storage purposes. The current bus garage was built to accommodate bus sizes purchased in the 1980's and 1990's. Since the construction of the garage, buses have increased in length and height making the garage space inadequate for our current buses. President Behnke is asking the Board of Education to grant the Building Committee approval to authorize construction or not to construct the lean-to pending quotes. Member Mitchell asked if we had sufficient funds for the construction. Superintendent Trickett said there are funds available.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Member Schnable made a motion to accept Employee Health Insurance Plan through Blue Cross Blue Shield effective October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Member Haeflinger – PRESENT  
Member Behnke – AYE  
Member Aubry – AYE  
Member Peters – AYE

Member Northcutt – AYE  
Member Mitchell – AYE  
Member Schnable – AYE

Member Schnable made a motion to submit to ISBE an Application for Recognition of Schools for 2011-12. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Schnable made a motion to approve posting on the Riley CCSD 18 Website, Administrative Salaries in accordance with The School Code 105 ILCS1-20.46; and the posting of Certified Staff members' salary information as reported to Teacher Retirement Service, inclusive of last name, first initial, salary, degree, post graduate credits, and years experience. Member Peters seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Aubry made a motion to a adopt resolution to designate all General State Aid received for fiscal year 2012 as allocated to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. Member Schnable seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Schnable made a motion to adopt a resolution to transfer, in fiscal year 2012, an amount of \$68,125.00 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Debt Service Fund for payment toward the Lease-Purchase Agreement for the new free standing addition for junior high classes.

Member Haeflinger questioned what would happen with the buildings if we were to consolidate. Superintendent Trickett said consolidation is still at least two years or more away. However, a new board would be elected and such decisions would become that of the newly formed district board of education with respect to buildings, transportation, and personnel.

Member Aubry made a motion to authorize the Building Committee, after Superintendent Trickett procures final building cost, not to exceed \$45,000.00, to proceed or not proceed on bus shed construction. Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Member Northcutt – AYE  
Member Mitchell – AYE  
Member Schnable – AYE  
Member Haeflinger - AYE

Member Behnke – AYE  
Member Aubry – AYE  
Member Peters – AYE

Our next Board of Education meeting will be Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at 7:00 PM.

Member Schnable made a motion to adjourn at 8:36 PM. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Jay Behnke – President

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Mrs. Anita Mitchell – Secretary

**RILEY COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL**

**District 18**

**9406 Riley Road**

**Marengo, IL 60152**

**Wednesday, September 20, 2011**

**6:30 PM**

School Board President Behnke, Member Schnable and Superintendent Trickett answered roll call at 6:30 PM.

Superintendent Trickett reviewed with the Board of Education Facility Committee the estimated costs for building a lean-to-shed for bus storage. The estimated cost for a building 15' x 96' was \$25,700.00. He felt this was too much and asked the Cleary Building Corporation for a second quote for a shed 12' x 84' to lower the cost. Cleary Building Corporation's second proposal came back as \$23,800.00 for the larger building of 15' x 96', \$1,900.00 less than the first proposal of \$25,700.00. Mr. Trickett informed the board members that the electrical service to heat the buses in the winter needed to be upgraded. The contractor's estimated cost was \$12,764.00 for 20 Amp service. Mr. Trickett further informed the board members that Riley Township is removing their lean-to-shed, which may be on school property, and removing the concrete ramp and wall. This allows the district to improve the area north of the parking lot pavement for bus parking. The excavation for this work would be \$2,338.00. In order to get electric to the fuel tank or bus shed, approximately 125 feet of 3" conduit will be needed. The cost to bore this would be \$4,315.00. Mr. Trickett informed the facility committee that the total estimated costs for these improvements would be approximately \$43,217.00, and would like to know if he should pursue these site improvements. The committee said they would take this back to the full Board this evening for a final recommendation. Mr. Trickett also informed the committee that he has contacted Mike Fischer to complete the plat survey which was partially done for the perimeter fencing of the property in 2007. The cost is \$1000.00.

Member Schnable made a motion to adjourn 6:58 PM. Member Peters seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Jay Behnke – President

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Mrs. Anita Mitchell - Secretary