

EVART PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes
March 13, 2023
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY ALAN BENGTRY AT 7:00 PM IN THE LIBRARY LOCATED AT 321 NORTH HEMLOCK STREET, EVART, MICHIGAN 49631.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Alan Bengry x Gerald Nichols x, Karen Pylman A Mark Moody x
Eric Schmidt x, Kelly Whitman x Todd Bruggema x

Also present: Shirley Howard, Superintendent - Virtual
Jessica Kolenda, High School Principal - Virtual
Jason O'Dell, Middle School Principal
Ken Ranjel, Elementary School Principal - Virtual
Amy Booher, Recording Secretary

Guests: Sherry Morgan, Heather Keathley, Ryan Keathley, Molly Cataldo
Pat Craven, Diana Craven, Courtney Winters, Dan Winters, Ashley Cass, Brandon Cass,
Amber Payne, Rosie Mckinstry, Valerie Hopkins, Kelly Buckley, Ben Bryant, Ken Wirth,
Adam Lyon, Mairi Lyon, Aaron Anderson, Kari Anderson, Bre Grabill, Heather
VanAssche, Josiah Beard, Ayla Schmidt, Sue Morgan, Zoe Babb, Taylor Bryant, Santana
Scott, Jenni Decker, Michelle Van Buren, Jennie Duncan, George Sims, Amy O'Dell,
Natalie Dorn, Melanie Beard, Anneliese Rider, Keith Wardell Jr., Annette Walters, Ethan
Jones, Pepper Lockhart, Dawn Riggelman, Jennifer Joyce, Jenna Bissett, Brie Cass, Kari
Guy, Kenzie Wirth, Tracy Gray.

III. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/ PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Keathley shared she had Tessa, one of the therapy dogs with her during the meeting for people to meet.

Kari Guy spoke on behalf of the members of the district in regards to board behavior and concerns.

A. MOISD Guests: Marie Wilkerson thanked the School Board for all they do and handed a brochure from the MOISD showing all they had to offer to students. Steve Locke also shared about new programs coming to the MOISD.

B. School Based Health Center- Jason O'Dell shared about the new Health grant received for the Middle School to have a center up and running in the months ahead. This has been 10 years in the making and a huge win for Evart Public Schools.

C. Points of Pride- Ken Ranjel- Ken congratulated Mr. Jason O'Dell for all his work for the school based Health Center coming to Evart Public Schools. He shared about the Olympics, Reading Month and all of Judy Dible's hard work on this, and the Mother/Daughter and Father/son events.

D. Jack Temsey- Spoke on Strategic Planning and where does the School District want to be? He asked What do we celebrate? Board members answered: “ Athletics, proud of our Staff, our students attending college and trade schools, military, work force, community support and teaching back in the community. He asked what are our opportunities? Board members replied “ Promise Plus, test scores have relevance.” They also mentioned, “we are providing education for all students. “ Jack’s third question was “ What barriers exist to improve?” Board members answered, “ attitude, willingness to want to change, teacher shortage, economic barriers, and housing.” Lastly he asked, “ what is your vision for the district?” Board members answered, “ getting our scores up, be the school of choice, meeting kid”’s needs, longevity of staff, this is the place to come for their education.”

IV. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

V. FINANCIAL

VI. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Recommendation to approve the minutes of the special meeting held February 9, 2023 and regular meeting, February 13, 2023

MOVED BY SCHMIDT, SUPPORTED BY BRUGGEMA TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2023 AND REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2023.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

- B. Payment of Bills

MOVED BY NICHOLS, SUPPORTED BY WHITMAN THAT THE TREASURER’S REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

General Fund invoices be approved for checks #47231 through #47257 in the amount of \$333,804.19 and the February 3rd and 17th payrolls and benefits for the total amount of \$692,327.81

Hot Lunch Fund invoices to be approved for checks #7867 through #7881 in the amount of \$40,297.10.

Trust and Agency Fund invoices to be approved for checks #18796 through #18814 in the amount of \$7421.89.

Athletic Fund invoices to be approved for check #10208 through #10223 in the amount of \$8,125.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

- C. Recommendation to accept the resignation of Alex Bengry, effective February 28, 2023.

MOVED BY BRUGGEMA SUPPORTED BY WHITMAN TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF ALEX BENGRY, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

Ayes: 5 1 Abstain

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

- D. Recommendation to approve Jay Wallace as the Part time Grounds Keeper, effective April 3, 2023.

MOVED BY NICHOLS, SUPPORTED BY BRUGGEMA TO APPROVE JAY WALLACE AS THE PART TIME GROUNDS KEEPER, EFFECTIVE APRIL 3, 2023.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

- E. Consideration of adopting the resolution to accept the Juul Settlement Amount.

MOVED BY MOODY, SUPPORTED BY BRUGGEMA TO APPROVE THE JUUL SETTLEMENT AMOUNT.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

- F. Consideration of adopting the Evert Middle School as the site for the Evert Public School Board of Education Meetings.

MOVED BY WHITMAN SUPPORTED BY MOODY TO APPROVE EVART MIDDLE SCHOOL AS THE SITE FOR THE EVART PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. MOP Coop Alternate Representative Alan Bengry said he would be available to be the alternate representative if needed.
- B. Building and Grounds Committee- discussed Fairground help, and bleachers in upper portion of the High School Gym. The committee will set up a date to visit the locations.
- C. Finance Business Manager posting to happen this week. Finance Committee (Bengry, Pylman and Schmidt)members were contacted regarding the salary range to be included in the posting.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Liaison Officer- We are very excited Ryan Douglas is here being our Liaison Officer at all 3 schools.
- B. Positive Remarks- Shirley Howard shared a lot of good things happening at EPS- Girls and Boys Basketball winning seasons, Band with a Rating 1 at festival, 3 State Wrestling qualifiers and 1 State Champ- Cole Hopkins.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Recommendation to go into Executive Session under Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call Vote:

Bengry Yes Nichols Yes
Bruggema Yes Moody Yes
Pylman Absent Whitman Yes
Schmidt Yes

End of closed session declared by Bengry at 9:39 PM

After consultation with legal council, the board does not have the authority to go into closed session for the requested reason under section 8 (1) (a) of the open meetings act. Therefore the request is denied.

B. Request to go into Executive Session under Section 8(1) (a) of the Open Meetings Act.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A. Recommendation to adjourn.

MOVED BY SCHMIDT, SUPPORTED BY NICHOLS THAT THE MEETING BE
ADJOURNED.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.