

Lake Pend Oreille School District #84
Minutes of Board of Trustees Regular Meeting #387
Sandpoint Middle School, Sandpoint, ID
February 26, 2009

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Pfeifer called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. A quorum was established with Trustees Vickie Pfeifer, Mindy Cameron, Melanie Snider, Joan Fish and Steve Youngdahl present. Also present were Superintendent Dick Cvitanich, Clerk Julie Menghini, and teachers Jackie Crossingham, Linda Navarre and LeeAnn Kopsa.

OPEN SESSION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Pfeifer. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was nobody signed up for Public Comment.

EDUCATION

Approval to Pre-Qualify Public Works General Contractors for the Kootenai and Sagle Elementary School Construction Projects – Superintendent Cvitanich noted they believe there will be a lot of bid interest in the district construction projects. He pointed out that the district is required to accept the lowest bidder. He explained the best and worst case scenarios for the process of pre-qualifying general contractors for the construction projects. In representing the public's best interests, his goal is to have a project that lasts, the best project possible, on time and on budget, without a lot of change orders. Pre-qualifying builds in some insurance that the district will have a high quality project.

Superintendent Cvitanich went through the packet and reviewed the different requirements for pre-qualifying. There was discussion about the process and some of the requirements.

Trustee Youngdahl believes the contractors should have experience with building a K-12 facility. Discussion centered on the resume and experience levels of potential contractors that may submit pre-qualifying packets. Other Trustees agreed that the list of experience for the last five years should include three public works projects, at least one of which is a K-12 school project.

Stan Kraly commented that contractors build by the specifications in the blueprints not to their past experience and that pre-qualifying eliminates many of the low bidders. Superintendent Cvitanich agreed that it is the quality of the design that leads to the finished project. The district wants to be careful because of the unique bid environment and knowing that the district has to take the lowest bid. Mr. Kraly also commented about the bonding requirements of contractors.

Chairman Pfeifer asked about the timeline for the process without pre-qualification. Superintendent Cvitanich said it can move along before the students are out of school. Trustees Youngdahl and Snider commented they are less concerned about the timeline

than with the process of pre-qualification to help ensure the quality of the work that will be done.

Trustee Cameron moved *to approve the request for pre-qualification of public works general contractors for the Kootenai and Sagle school construction projects*. Trustee Fish seconded.

Chairman Pfeifer asked for questions. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Pfeifer, Cameron, Snider, Fish and Youngdahl voting aye. Motion carried.

Discussion of Stimulus Package – Superintendent Cvitanich stated he participated in a conference call led by State Superintendent Tom Luna who outlined the details of the stimulus package with regard to Idaho. He said they learned a little more and he explained the different aspects of the stimulus package and what it would do for this district. He noted a majority of the money will be in Title I and Special Education Services.

Superintendent Cvitanich explained that stabilization money is intended to defray the loss in state funding to districts. It will not make up the difference that the state is not able to provide. The district will still have to cut back even though the levy was successful. The state is not going to send the same amount they have sent in the past and stimulus money is not going to pick up the slack. There is also talk about the one-time stimulus money being spread out over a two to three year period.

Superintendent Cvitanich said they should know more by the end of March. The legislature may stay in session instead of going on break in order to try to figure out the stimulus package. The piece on renovation and modernization of buildings is a relatively small part of the package and Governor Otter has a commission to decide how that money will be spent. This district has submitted the voter approved construction projects for consideration.

ACTION ITEMS:

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. *Approval of Minutes*
 1. *February 10, 2009 – Regular Meeting #385*
- B. *Approval of HR Report*
 1. *Additional Assignment – Certificated*
 - a. *Lynn Aase*
 - b. *Carolyn Thibault*
 2. *Resignations – Certificated*
 - a. *Megan Olson – Coach*
 3. *New Hires – Classified*
 - a. *Frieda Schieber*
 - b. *Edwin Welch III*
 4. *Additional Assignment – Classified*
 - a. *Vicki Benner*
 - b. *Darcy Chambers*
 - c. *Effie Gooding*
 - d. *Nancy Schmid*

5. *Resignations – Classified*
 - a. *Jesse Christianson*
6. *Change to Assignment – Classified*
 - a. *Pixie Kluver*
 - b. *Lois Schneide*
- C. *Approval to go to Bid for VoIP Phone System*
- D. *Approval of Recommendation to Accept Bid Proposals*
 1. *Gas furnace units and electric furnace at Clark Fork*
 2. *Digital heating and ventilation controls for 8 schools*

Trustee Fish made a motion *to approve the Consent Agenda*. Trustee Cameron seconded. Chairman Pfeifer asked for discussion.

Trustee Youngdahl asked about the VoIP bid and E-rate from a previous discussion. Superintendent Cvitanich explained that with E-rate the district would not actually own the phone system. Also, he is hoping that the stimulus package may include funding for the system. Chairman Pfeifer asked about the bids that were received for the furnace units and digital control systems. Clerk Menghini confirmed that one bid each was received for the furnace units and the digital control systems. Superintendent Cvitanich pointed out that Pend Oreille Mechanics came in under the expected amount.

Chairman Pfeifer asked for further questions. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Pfeifer, Cameron, Snider, Fish and Youngdahl voting aye. Motion carried.

BOARD

Approval of Canvass of Levy Results – Trustee Fish moved *to approve the canvass of the levy results with 3,965 yes votes and 2,699 no votes including 9 rejected ballots and 3 spoiled ballots*. Trustee Cameron seconded. Chairman Pfeifer asked for discussion. Trustee Cameron thanked all the voters for their support.

Chairman Pfeifer took the vote with Trustees Pfeifer, Cameron, Snider, Fish and Youngdahl voting aye. Motion carried.

Discussion of Levy Results – Superintendent Cvitanich noted that he is writing an article for the *River Journal* and the *Daily Bee* to thank the community and all those that worked hard to ensure the successful passage of the Supplemental Levy election. He said each school had a parent group that worked very hard. He stressed that he believes this is a very good school district that wants to get better.

Mr. Kraly commented that many people in the community object to the school district running its own elections. Chairman Pfeifer clarified that it is Idaho Law that requires districts to run their own elections. Superintendent Cvitanich also added that the district would just as soon not have to facilitate elections. *Mr. Kraly* also commented on administration costs for the district compared to neighboring or other districts in the state. He also believes that sports do not contribute to improved SAT scores. Teacher Linda Navarre disagreed and believes that students achieve better in school when they are involved in sports. It was also pointed out that the middle school had an administrative

position cut and other positions were cut back as well, some schools share a principal and the district office is making additional cuts in administrative positions.

Some members of the audience commented on the impact of sports in the lives and achievement of students and the benefits of participation.

Approval of 2nd Reading of Policies 603.9 and 404.13 Family Medical Leave – Trustee Cameron made a motion *to approve the second reading of Policies 603.9 and 404.13 Family Medical Leave*. Trustee Snider seconded. Chairman Pfeifer asked for discussion. There being none, the vote was taken with Trustees Pfeifer, Cameron, Snider, Fish and Youngdahl voting aye. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Cvitanich announced that the Board enjoyed an excellent meal prepared by the 8th grade SMS Media Arts class. He said it was very nice and appreciated.

He also announced that several grants were received from the Governor's Innovative Grants program. He is one of the recipients for a summer reading project.

Trustee Cameron announced she is reading Dr. Seuss at Kootenai School the following Monday for the Read Across America Celebration.

ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Attest: Julie Menghini, Clerk

Vickie Pfeifer, Chair