

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

MARCH 6, 2012

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held March 6, 2012, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING –

President Tom Neeley called the regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Tom Neeley, Mrs. Joyce Kaiser, Mr. Clint Heinold,
Mr. John Applen, Mrs. Michelle Bernier,
Mrs. Michelle Kaeb, Mr. Tim Taylor

Reports –

Administrative –

Girls Basketball Recognition –

Dennis Johnson introduced the Varsity Girls Basketball team and pointed out their accomplishments this past season:

- Morton Thanksgiving Tournament Champions
- Galesburg Winter Classic Champions
- Undefeated Mid-Illini Conference Champions
- Regional and Sectional Champions

Mr. Johnson noted that the young ladies are not only excellent basketball players and teammates, but that most of them are multi-sport athletes as well as honor students. They are outstanding role models and leaders at MHS. This is evident in their academic performance and community service, which includes:

- Visiting the Home Sweet Home Mission in Bloomington during the holiday tournament where they brought personal items for the adults and children.
- Helping to raise \$1,500 for the American Cancer Society via the Cancer Awareness game.
- Holding basketball clinics for Bethel Lutheran School Girls Basketball, the Morton Heat and Morton Park District.

Mr. Neeley thanked the team and coaching staff for their efforts and leadership both on and off the court. They represent MHS and the entire school district well.

School Highlights –

Dr. Kilpatrick noted that there were fundraisers for the American Heart Association through Jump-Rope-For-Heart in February. Common Core Standards work is ongoing.

Community Engagement Update –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported he, Mrs. Bernier and Mr. Neeley met recently with representatives from Unicom Arc. A small steering committee will be formed that will plan and facilitate meetings that the entire community will be invited to attend. The next step is to work on a syllabus for the meetings. Mr. Neeley added that the original charge can be expanded by the committee.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Kilpatrick reported that there was one Freedom of Information request regarding the new warehouse facility.

President’s Report –

Mr. Neeley reported that there is a Central Illinois Valley Division meeting this week in Metamora. There will be an “open meetings act” workshop offered at this meeting.

Discussion Items –

Board Planning Process –

The Board agreed to meet on Thursday, March 29, at 6:00 p.m. to interview the Jr. High principal finalists and then have a short planning meeting. The meeting will include:

- Establishing a date for a retreat
- Review of Board Mission, Beliefs, and Goals
- Review and Discussion of Ends Policies
- Discussion of Timelines for Future Planning Session
- Discussion of Objectives for Future Session

A later session will be planned for the summer after Dr. Hall has had the opportunity to work with the administrative team on their targets and strategies.

Action Items -

Approve High School Freezer Bid -

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that the main freezer at the High School is approximately 20 years old and the insulation in the exterior walls has deteriorated and is no longer providing the proper insulation to keep the freezer cool. This is an exterior freezer and the cooling consistency is much more problematic during the summer months when the sun shines on the freezer. The district received three bids to replace and install a new freezer. Bids ranged from \$29,109 to \$24,585. The installation is scheduled to occur at the end of June 2012.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mr. Heinold, that the Board of Education accept the bid from Greco of \$24,585 to purchase and install a freezer at the High School.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Classroom Project Bids –

Mr. Heinold excused himself from the conversation and voting of this action item. Dr. Kilpatrick explained that the school district has been in the process of obtaining bids from contractors using a construction management process whereby individual bids are obtained from the different trades required to construct additional classrooms for Lettie Brown, Lincoln and Grundy Schools. The project was approved by the Board of Education on October 4, 2011. Bids were solicited for four components: construction of three classrooms, an alternate bid for a fourth classroom, an alternate bid for the extension of the drives at Grundy and Lincoln, and some fire alarm work under life safety at Grundy and Lincoln. The original estimate for the three classrooms and the extension of the drives was roughly estimated at \$3.6 million given national construction estimates. The breakdown of the bids and other costs including architect and construction management services is as follows:

3 classrooms	\$2,751,018
4 th classroom	\$ 258,757
Drive Extensions	\$ 190,614
Total (if classroom 4 is included)	\$3,200,389

Bid Details	Base Bid Only	L1 - Lincoln 4th	G1 - Grundy 4th	B1 - Brown 4th	L2 - Linc Drop Off	G2 - Drop Off	L3 - Linc Fire Alarm	G3-Grundy Fire Alarm	Total	Associated Contractors
General Trades	\$ 295,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 8,950.00	\$ 6,300.00					\$ 317,750.00	Associated Constructors
Asphalt	\$ 16,763.00				\$ 46,922.00	\$ 29,233.00			\$ 92,918.00	Tazewell Co. Asphalt
Concrete & Earthwork	\$ 397,600.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 41,000.00			\$ 491,600.00	Ill. Civil Contractors
Masonry	\$ 456,000.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 7,500.00					\$ 477,200.00	Summit Masonry
Steel	\$ 112,994.00	\$ 6,993.00	\$ 6,050.00	\$ 6,380.00					\$ 132,417.00	VanBusk
Roofing	\$ 225,500.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 19,400.00	\$ 7,300.00					\$ 258,600.00	Krelling
Drywall & Ceilings	\$ 58,425.00	\$ 3,950.00	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 2,025.00					\$ 66,550.00	RG Construction
Floorcovering	\$ 29,988.00	\$ 1,698.00	\$ 1,820.00	\$ 1,815.00					\$ 35,321.00	Rischardt Floor Covering
Painting	\$ 30,677.00	\$ 1,283.00	\$ 1,183.00	\$ 1,145.00					\$ 34,288.00	Mortisey Contractors
Plumbing	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 1,460.00	\$ 1,460.00					\$ 76,840.00	Tobin Brothers Plumbing
HVAC	\$ 227,700.00	\$ 12,800.00	\$ 12,800.00	\$ 12,800.00					\$ 266,100.00	Commercial Mechanical Inc.
Electric	\$ 165,800.00	\$ 18,600.00	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 7,200.00			\$ 7,400.00	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 212,300.00	L&F Electric

Dr. Kilpatrick noted this is an excellent value and recommended approving the low bids for the classroom projects, including the fourth classroom, and the drive extensions.

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education accept the bids for the three classrooms, drive extensions and fire alarm work.

Mr. Neeley noted that after the failure of the referendum, it was decided not to spend money on portable classrooms. The addition of the classrooms would fit into any future expansion and would help alleviate issues with space now.

Mr. Applen expressed that he can support the addition for three classrooms, but does not see the need to spend money on an extra classroom at each school. Though the bids came in lower than originally estimated, he believes the original estimates were high.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 6 Nay 0 Abstain 1

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Taylor, second by Mrs. Bernier, that the Board of Education accept the bids for the three classrooms, drive extensions, fire alarm work, and the fourth classroom.

Mr. Applen again expressed his opposition to the fourth classroom. Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Bernier noted that it is a better value to add the fourth classroom at this time. It will only cost more in the future and the rooms will be put to use.

Mr. Neeley noted this has been a hard decision for him. He does not want to overbuild, but with current enrollment trends, he can support the fourth classroom.

Dr. Kilpatrick commented that the fourth classroom adds flexibility. It is a wise use of resources with enrollments trending upwards four years in a row.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 5 Nay 1 Abstain 1

Motion carried.

Approve Window Lintel Replacement for Jefferson Elementary School –

Dr. Kilpatrick explained that the outside west wall of Jefferson School is in need of window lintel replacement. This work has been approved as a life safety amendment. Keach Architectural Design put together the project manual and managed the bid on the District's behalf. In addition, the District also asked for an alternate bid to complete some tuck pointing in areas around the windows. The bids for the base project ranged in price from \$177,840 to \$119,000. The bids for the base project plus the alternate tuck pointing ranged from \$183,210 to \$124,400.

Motion by Mrs. Kaiser, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education accept the base bid and the alternate bid from Bi-State Masonry, Inc. for \$124,400.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaeb, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:30 p.m.

Approve Personnel Report –

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Approve Closed Session Minutes –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mrs. Kaiser, that the Board of Education approve the closed session minutes from the February 21, 2012, regular meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Neeley noted that Roger Eddy will become the Executive Director of the IASB starting July 1, 2012. He has been an Illinois Legislator since 2003 and is a great advocate for public education.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Kaeb, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clint Heinold, Secretary

Thomas Neeley, President