

Board of Education Meeting
Southwest Public Schools
District 179
January 9th, 2023

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on January 9th, 2023 at the Southwest Jr/Sr High School in Bartley.

Present: Jason Kloeping, Jason Neseth, Duane Teter, Brooke Brooks, John O’Dea, Jenni McConville, Principal Tara Fries, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Natalie Meyers.

Visitors: None

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Neseth, seconded by Kloeping, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Neseth, Kloeping, Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Notices of the meeting were posted at the Post Offices in Bartley and Indianola, Adams Bank and Trust in Indianola, Stockmens Bank Bartley Branch, Southwest Elementary School in Indianola, Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley and published in the Valley Voice newspaper and on the school website. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the December 12th, 2022 board meeting minutes as presented. Ayes: Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried. Abstain: Kloeping and Neseth.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Neseth, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

President Teter adjourned the meeting sine die at 7:47 p.m. to elect school board officers for the 2023 calendar year.

Moved by Teter, seconded by McConville, to nominate elected officers as follows: Jason Neseth as President, Duane Teter as Vice-President, Jason Kloeping as Secretary, and Jenni McConville as Treasurer. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

President Neseth then presided during the remainder of the meeting.

Moved by McConville, seconded by O’Dea, to retain committee members as follows: Teter, McConville, and O’Dea to the Americanism Committee; Neseth, Brooks, and McConville to the Transportation Committee; Kloeping, O’Dea, and Brooks to the Building and Grounds Committee; Neseth, Kloeping, and Teter to the Negotiations Committee; and Brooks to the Foundation Board. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by McConville, seconded by Kloeping, to authorize all Board Officers to sign checks for the General, Contingency, Special Building, Depreciation, Employee Benefit, Cooperative and Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Funds. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O’Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by Kloeping, to designate the Adams Bank & Trust and Stockmen's Bank as the district's official depositories. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Kloeping, seconded by O'Dea, to designate the Valley Voice as the district's official news publication. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by McConville, to approve the 2022 Audit. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Teter, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the resignation of Don Ellicott. The board thanked him for his 39 years of service to the district. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The board discussed rewards or incentives that could be given to those students who show high academic achievement during the semester. They agreed to research what area schools do for their students and discuss at a later time.

Superintendent Porter informed the board what some Nebraska Schools had settled on for their negotiations and concluded that Southwest was very comparable to other schools. He discussed some updates and expenses for the Elementary School as it is needed to keep the building in working order. Mr. Porter informed the board that 2nd semester is in full force with many activities.

Principal Fries reported plans for the Elementary school students to take the NSCAS tests in February. She informed the board the staff has been working very hard looking at data and putting together the school improvement plan for the external visit for the NDE in March. The board was informed of class sizes for the upcoming 23-24 school year at the elementary school.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, February 13th, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Jr/Sr High School Building in Bartley.

Moved by Kloeping, seconded by O'Dea, to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Ayes: Kloeping, Neseth, Brooks, McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Motion carried.