

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION  
OF CALHOUN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #40  
OF CALHOUN AND GREENE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS**

A Regular meeting, of the Board of Education in Calhoun Community Unit School District #40, consisting of Calhoun and portions of Greene Counties, Illinois was called to order by Board President Luke Fraley, Monday, December 17, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the District Unit Office.

Upon roll being called the following board members were present: Donnie Breden absent, Luke Fraley, Tony Friedel arriving at 5:42, Janine Hagen, Dave Hurley, Laura Longnecker, Hannah Nelson absent.

Others in attendance were: Kate Sievers, Tiara Lorschach, Cheri Burris, Scotty Browning, Kathy Schell, Jeff Bell, Kermit Bell, D.J. Lorton, Robin Hillen, Toy Glynn

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves the agenda inclusive of:

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Board Minutes
    - 1. Regular Meeting –November 19, 2018
  - b. Financial/Treasurer's Report
  - c. Receipts
  - d. Expenditures
    - 1. Over budget Board Required Approvals
    - 2. Van Lease
  - e. Activity Funds
  - f. Food Service Report
  - g. Extra-Curricular Expense Report
- IV. RECEPTION OF VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT
  - a. Jeff Bell
  - b. Robin Hillen – Grant
  - c. DJ Lorton – Blessing Boxes
- V. COMMUNICATIONS
  - a. Board Committee Reports
    - 1. Personnel
    - 2. Negotiations
    - 3. Finance
    - 4. Insurance
    - 5. Consultation
  - b. Administrative Reports
    - 1. Superintendent's Report
      - 1. State Matching Grant (E-Rate)
      - 2. Board Member Election Update
      - 3. Solar Energy Update
    - 2. Principals Reports
      - 1. Elementary School – Kathy Schell  
Fundraiser Request (Volleyball Equipment)  
School Improvement Plan
      - 2. High School – Cheri Burris
- VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS
  - a. Personnel – Executive Session

- b. Elementary School Improvement Plan
  - c. Tax Levy
  - d. Bond Abatement
  - e. FFA Land Lab Renewal
  - f. NHS Trip Approval
  - g. Property Tax Relief Grant
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, or any other issues that may be properly considered under executive session order.
- IX. ACTION ITEMS
  - a. Personnel – Executive Session
  - b. Official/Referee – Pay Rates
  - c. Elementary School Improvement Plan
  - d. Tax Levy
  - e. Bond Abatement
  - f. FFA Land Lab Renewal
  - g. NHS Trip Approval
  - h. Property Tax Relief Grant
  - i. Any Other Action Resulting from Executive Session
- X. INFORMATION ITEMS
  - a. Early Dismissal – December 20, 1:15
  - b. No School – December 21 – January 4
  - c. First Day Back for Teachers – January 3
  - d. First Day Back for Students – January 4
  - e. Regular Board Meeting – WEDNESDAY, January 16, 2018
- XI. ADJOURN

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – absent	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves items on the consent agenda, inclusive of the listing of over budget purchase orders inclusive of: Calhoun Lumber \$54.99 (door lock), Plow Repair \$275.15, Bus Tailpipe \$281.55, Tuition Reimbursement \$350.01, Microsoft Renewal \$2,871.00, Treasurer Pay \$525.00, Cart Tires \$95.44, Signature Stamps \$43.40, Copy Paper \$154.95, McKay Auto \$33.59, Plow Tires \$285.00, France Mechanical \$9,854.66, Mileage \$561.35, Consulting \$2,100.00.

- a. Board Minutes
  - 1. Regular Meeting – November 19, 2018
- b. Financial/Treasurer's Report
- c. Receipts
- d. Expenditures
  - 1. Over Budget Board Required Approvals \$500 or more
  - 2. Van Lease
- e. Activity Funds
- f. Food Service Report
- g. Extra-Curricular Expense Report

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
-----------------	--------------

Fraley – yes  
Friedel – absent  
Hagen –yes

Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

**Reception of Visitors/Public Comment:**

Mr. Jeff Bell, and Dr. Kermit Bell were in attendance to the meeting to ask the Board to grant the Fitness Center to modify the current lease agreement to allow continuance under the new name “Calhoun Fitness Center, Inc.” and access to the schools internet. A hand out was presented to the Board, and information regarding the need for a new sign in system and security system which would require the accessibility of the internet for full function of the planned programming. They outlined financing plans and have received information from the schools IT Tech Mr. Bill Henke to assure no interruption to the bandwidth of the school. After much discussion Dr. Sievers stated that she would be in contact this week with more information from the Board.

Mrs. Robin Hillen addressed the Board presenting a grant she had received and would like to name the Calhoun FFA as the recipient, in the amount of \$2,500.00. She stated she would like to see the monies used for the new food bank and would eventually like to see a food bank distribution center housed at the school to fulfill the need of the community.

Mr. D.J. Lorton gave information concerning the recent donations to the FFA Food Bank, amounts totaling over \$1,400 have been received this week in donations and supplies. They have purchased hams and will be delivering those in coordination with “Angel Tree” to needy families. There were 84 families last month that benefitted from the food bank. He also gave the Board information concerning the “Blessing Boxes” that will be placed in the community to house donations and items for distribution. Mrs. Burris also shared that D.J. is the student of the month at the High School.

Mrs. Toy Glynn and Mr. Scotty Browning were in attendance to voice personal concerns about the Fitness Center.

**Communications:**

N/A

**Board Committee Reports:**

N/A

**Superintendent-**

N/A

**Principals-**

Mrs. Kathy Schell gave a hand out to the Board Members concerning the Elementary School Improvement Plan for the Elementary School. The plan highlighted PARCC scores and areas of needed improvement, attendance data showing that the absences have decreased for the 2018-2019 school year as compared to the same time last year. There was review of reading, and math scoring, and the actions that will be put into place for raising the scores, including the BAM awards, the Buddy Bench for recess, and morning meetings to get the students more interactive and involved. There are new curriculum programs and video trainings as well as implementing planning for a “peaceful bus” plan for the beginning and day end issues. Mrs. Schell stated that moving forward, the scheduling for only one PE teacher is getting increasingly difficult, and there has also been a struggle for the “Arts” with only one Band teacher. It was stated that the number of students is

increasing and that should show an increase of percentages as well, that is not shown in the current data. After some discussion the Board thanked Mrs. Schell for her presentation.

Dr. Sievers informed the Board that the CEA Consultation Committee met and agreed upon a memo of understanding to pay a stipend to Mrs. Sue Hillen in the amount of \$2,000.00 to take care of supplying the concession stand and would work with Warrior Pride for manning the stands during Calhoun 40 events. She stated that the Board members up for election had turned in their forms for their names to be placed on the next election ballot except for Mr. Donnie Breden. She stated she has spoken to Ms. Andrea Snyders, Ms. Jackie Baalman, about running for the open positions on the board, and was suggested that Mr. Tony Castleton may have an interest in running as well. She stated there would be a Finance Committee meeting January 23 to hear a presentation and gather information concerning the possibility of engaging solar energy for the District. Dr. Sievers stated she is applying for an E-rate matching grant for technology and fiber for the district, which has a due date of January 25. The State of Illinois will provide matching funds for the grant and the District would not be out any money for the updates. However, the fiber connections between the buildings would be an area of concern for funding, she is going to try to get that written into the grant as well. Mrs. Kathy Schell stated that a fundraiser at the Elementary was being planned to help pay for a new volleyball net and system, but she was informed today that Warrior Pride would be assisting with the new equipment, and provide the remainder of the cost.

Mrs. Cheri Burris stated that Mr. Shane Maculey was the chosen student of the month for November, sharing that he is a very intelligent student, helpful and works well with others. She said the FFA foodbank was going well. They are considering the idea of the next 5 home games to have a canned food contest and give \$10 Riverdock certificates as prizes. There will be a math summit at LCCC on January 11. The Student Council has been working to get the students building relationships, they have hosted a movie "Wonder" and have had good discussion in the classrooms on how to treat others better, the kids have stated they would like to have more 'real life' documentaries on financial debt, and predatory loaning as well. January will be the MAP assessments split into 1 day sessions this year. Mrs. Burris also stated that the Jerseyville Superintendent has given an invitation for the Calhoun students to come and observe and participate in the Jersey Auto Mechanics room, she stated there is an interest from the students.

### **Discussion:**

Kendall Eilerman will need to have her maternity leave approved. Kerry Lorton has submitted her resignation as both Head and Asst. High School Volleyball Coach. Mr. Charlie Burge has submitted his letter of intent to retire in October 2019. Dr. Sievers would like to recommend to the Board that they hire Tonya Kasinger as an Elementary Cheer Coach, and Lyndsey Watters as a Volunteer Assistant High School Cheer Coach. Mrs. Sammie Eilerman needs to be approved as the IMRF Authorized Agent for the District and there are two employees that will need to have year of IMRF omitted service credit approved. The Elementary Principal position will need to be discussed during executive session. The tax levy will remain under the 4.99% increase. The bond abatement will be in the amount of \$22,850 this year for the 20% of the County sales tax revenue received. The FFA land lab will need to be renewed with the District for the 2019 season, the Board has chosen option #2 "percentage of overall proceeds" in the past. The NHS is requesting approval for their annual trip to Chicago in the Spring. Dr. Sievers is asking approval to submit an application to the State of Illinois for the Property Relief Tax Grant for the taxpayers of the County. There will be an allotment of \$50 million dollars with the neediest Districts receiving the funding. Zero monies have been received from the State for the PreK program Dr. Sievers and Mrs. Kallal have been in contact with Representatives and the Comptroller's office. ISBE has vouchered some of the funding but none of the money has currently been released for payment. Dr. Sievers stated she will be in contact

with Mr. Chris Simon from the Bank of Calhoun concerning a Tax Warrant, to be prepared if needed. Dr. Sievers stated that Mrs. Hannah Simon although not in attendance would like to request the Board consider raising the pay for Referees and Game officials, as the pay had not been increased in more than 10 years, and they are having difficulty in obtaining Officials for scheduled games. Dr. Sievers stated that Calhoun was tied with North Greene for the lowest area pay. It was discussed that a possible way to offset the cost would be to raise entrance fees for the games.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made at 7:30p.m. by Tony Friedel, seconded by Laura Longnecker that the Board of Education enters into executive session.

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). The purchase or lease of real property for the sue of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5). The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7).

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes arriving at 5:42 pm	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made at 8:54 p.m. by Laura Longnecker seconded by Tony Friedel that the Board of Education returns to Open Session to continue meeting and take any appropriate action.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Tony Friedel that the Board of Education approves to accept the resignation of Mrs. Kerry Lorton as High School Assistant and Head Volleyball Coach effective immediately. And that the Board of Education approves to accept the retirement request of Mr. Charlie Burge as a Regular Route Bus Driver effective October 1, 2019 granting all the applicable benefits as referenced in the CEA contract section 8.9 for the 2019-2020 school year.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves the maternity leave of Kendall Eilerman beginning December 3, 2018 for approximately 8 weeks.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education appoints Sammie Eilerman as the IMRF authorized agent December 17, 2018.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Dave Hurley that the Board of Education approves IMRF employees (Hope Klocke, and Claude Collins) to regain years of omitted service, and approves Calhoun CUSD #40 to pay the portion of the omitted costs.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Tony Friedel that the Board of Education approves to advertise for a Calhoun Elementary School Principal requiring experience.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves a “Memo of Understanding” with the Calhoun CEA to allow a stipend of \$2,000.00 to be paid to Sue Hillen for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year, for overseeing the concession stand for all Calhoun CUSD events. With the MOU in effect for the remainder of the current CEA contract.

Board polled:

Breden – absent  
Fraley – yes  
Friedel – yes  
Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes  
Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Dave Hurley that the Board of Education approves to hire Tonya Kasinger as the Elementary Cheer Coach, and Lindsey Watters as the Volunteer Assistant High School Cheer Coach for the remainder of the 2018-2019 School year.

Board polled:

Breden – absent  
Fraley – yes  
Friedel – yes  
Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes  
Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves to raise Official/Referee pay rate for the High School Junior Varsity and Varsity to \$90.00 and the Elementary to \$60.00.

Board polled:

Breden – absent  
Fraley – yes  
Friedel – yes  
Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes  
Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves the Elementary school improvement plan as presented.

Board polled:

Breden – absent  
Fraley – yes  
Friedel – yes  
Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes  
Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Dave Hurley that the Board of Education resolves to approve the tax levy as recommended with an increase not more than 4.99% for the 2020 fiscal year.

Board polled:

Breden – absent  
Fraley – yes  
Friedel – yes  
Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes  
Longnecker - yes  
Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Laura Longnecker that the Board of Education resolves that said tax abatement resolution; as presented and read by title; be adopted.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tony Friedel, seconded by Dave Hurley that the Board of Education approves the FFA Land Lab as presented as option #2 as 20% of the proceeds of the crop sold.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Janine Hagen, seconded by Tony Friedel that the Board of Education approves the NHS trip to Chicago March 6 – March 10.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Longnecker, seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education approves application for the State of Illinois Property Relief Grant.

Board polled:

Breden – absent	Hurley - yes
Fraley – yes	Longnecker - yes
Friedel – yes	Nelson –absent
Hagen – yes	

Motion carried.

**Informational Items:**

- A. Early Dismissal – December 20, 1:15
- B. No School – December 21 – January 4
- C. First Day Back for Teachers – January 3
- D. First Day Back for Students – January 4
- E. Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 16, 2018



With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Laura Longnecker seconded by Janine Hagen that the Board of Education adjourns the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Board polled:

Breden – absent

Fraley – yes

Friedel – yes

Hagen – yes

Hurley - yes

Longnecker - yes

Nelson –absent

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



---

President, Board of Education



---

Secretary, Board of Education