

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
NOVEMBER 8, 2021
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 8, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President Rounds. President Rounds appointed Teresa Stacey as acting secretary in the absence of board secretary John Spence.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Zimbardo called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Acosta, Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Stacey

Members Absent: Spence

Staff Present: J. Henry, N. Page, K. Jones, L. Zimbardo, R. Payne, T. Masters, S. Garner

Visitors Present: Anthony Martin

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT: President Rounds asked for any public comment. Anthony Martin introduced himself and his new program, SV Rising Stars, as a non-profit basketball program for boys and girls, grades 2nd-3rd, in the S-V district, to learn the fundamentals of basketball and build confidence. Currently, there are 17 kids enrolled in the program, and he hopes to expand to other grades in the next few years. Mr. Martin then thanked the school board for allowing use of the school facilities.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS

SEA: SVEA President, Rachel Payne, reported on the recent activities and fundraisers in which S-V staff and students have participated.

Shane Garner introduced himself and gave a quick background on his career at S-V.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: No report.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mr. Jones, Elementary/JH Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, recent events/activities, and upcoming activities.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, upcoming calendar entries, recent activities, and congratulations for student achievements. Mrs. Page also thanked all those involved with the playoff game that S-V hosted.

SUPERINTENDENT: Superintendent Henry informed the board that he was currently working with Anthony Martin (SV Rising Stars) to help Mr. Martin 1) secure and provide appropriate insurance coverage that the District requires from users of the Old Gym facility; and 2) apply for and schedule additional dates that are outside the scope of the group's original request. He indicated that he would be meeting with Mr. Martin, Mr. Basso, and Mr. Jones in the next few days to help facilitate the group's use/fee structure.

He then presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - Appointment of Leigha Zimbrow as assistant district treasurer
 - Approval of a resolution to appoint Leigha Zimbrow as the District's IMRF authorized agent
2. Information regarding the 2021 tax levy, including the adoption of the tentative tax levy resolution for 2021, was included in the board packet. As the board considers the tax levy for 2021, Mr. Henry strongly encouraged them to utilize the following five (5) guiding principles (as the board has discussed in detail in the last 14 years):
 - Realization that the levy is based on unknown (projected) property values;
 - Realization that this year's levy represents next (fiscal) year's local revenue;
 - Realization that each year's levy impacts all future years' levies;
 - The need of the board to determine the appropriate balance between the fiscal responsibility (Are we levying enough to meet budgetary needs?) and fiscal excess (Are we levying too much to meet budgetary needs?); and
 - An understanding of the impact of the board's property tax levy on the district's property tax rate (a part of the overall rate for property tax payers in the district; steep, downward trend in rate over the past 8 years).

Please refer to two (2) property tax levy handouts (chart packet & presentation packet) as needed.

3. Lunsford Architects & Boyt Engineering have addressed the questions regarding the proposed HVAC project design and have completed a final design walkthrough. The project is ready for bid solicitation in hopes that a bid-opening can occur prior to the end of December.

The project will be funded through a combination of the District's County School Facilities Sales Tax (1% Sales Tax) revenue, ESSER III grant funds (~\$800,000), bond sale proceeds, and a School Maintenance Project Grant (\$50,000). Mr. Henry has tentatively-reserved the necessary fund sources for the project, and will be able to formally set-aside the funds following the bid opening. He strongly intends to structure the funding of this project conservatively.

4. Mr. Henry presented a recent FOIA request and the District's response to that request.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Menser approving the minutes of the previous meeting: October 12, 2021 (Regular Board Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$255,559.43 and salaries in the amount of \$260,898.34; appointment of assistant district treasurer (L. Zimbrow); approval of resolution to appoint Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund authorized agent (L. Zimbrow), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Acosta, Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

In order to utilize presentation equipment, meeting participants and guests moved to the High School Conference Room. Superintendent Henry presented detailed information and recommendations regarding the 2021 tax levy. He reviewed historical tax levy/extension data, rate data, and the formulas that drive the final tax extension. He described the tax levy process (including how to capture new property growth in the District), filing requirements, and the property tax revenue timeline. He recommended that the Board adopt the tentative tax levy, as presented.

ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE TAX LEVY RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Menser to approve a Resolution Regarding Estimated Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2021 (Tentative Tax Levy), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Stacey, Acosta

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR HEALTH/LIFE/SAFETY HVAC REMODELING PROJECT: A motion was made by Acosta and seconded by Stacey to authorize the district superintendent or his designee to solicit bids for a health/life/safety HVAC remodeling project, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Menser, Rounds, Sample, Stacey, Acosta, Barry

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE BOND SALE PROCESS: A motion was made by Menser and seconded by Acosta to authorize the district superintendent or his designee and/or board officers to initiate a bond sale process for certain health/life/safety projects, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Rounds, Sample, Stacey, Acosta, Barry, Menser

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

PERSONNEL (NEW BUSINESS)

EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR (GUNTER, B.): A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Barry to employ Brian Gunter as District Maintenance Supervisor, effective November 8, 2021, and approve the salary/benefits/terms of employment for the position, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Stacey, Acosta, Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION(S)/RETIREMENT(S): A motion was made by Acosta and seconded by Stacey to acknowledge the following employee resignation(s)/retirement(s):

- JHS Social Studies Teacher: Benita Dorris (effective at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year)

APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S): A motion was made by Menser and seconded by Stacey to approve the following volunteer assistant coach(es) and/or sponsor(s):

- HS Boys Basketball: Jordan Gunter and Garrett Gunter
- JHS Boys Basketball: Jamie Lance

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

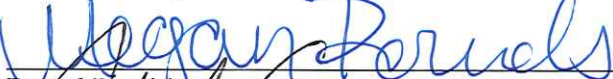
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Barry and seconded by Acosta to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary