

North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Board of Education**

District Office

6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065

Monday, July 25, 2011

6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz and Mrs. Amy Morris

Absent: *(None)*

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Debra Torrison, high school teacher, commented on the AP scores. She remarked that more students at North Boone took the test this year than in the past. Although the scores were better in 2007, the scores in every category are skewed because they are graded on a curve. The state now wants open enrollment for AP classes. Therefore, it is unfair to compare one year to another. She noted that AP courses are completely separate from the honors program.

Tom Sullivan, impugned one or more of the Board members of having financial interests in the wind turbine project and asked those who would profit from this venture to recuse themselves from voting.

Nancy Schilling, stated that there were numerous items of concern about the wind turbines and it would take at least 1½ years to research their impacts on the community. She noted that Ogle County had done an impact study on wind turbines. She also stated that the Board had no statutory right to pass this type of resolution and if wind farms adversely affect as much as one child, the Board could not act upon the resolution. She declared that the Board was being asked to support a resolution without “delving” into it.

Carrie Savino, recited excerpts from various studies on wind turbines and the harmful impacts they have on children.

Julie Van Laar, reiterated a story about an individual in Kokomo, IN who testified under oath to wind turbines sounding like idling diesel engines. An acoustic engineer measured the sound and it turned out to be from an industrial complex two miles away. She stated that a principal from Bureau Valley who spoke in favor of wind turbines was actually talking about baby turbines. She warned that the tax payers would be the ones paying for the turbines.

Keary Kenney, stated that he had spent many years in law enforcement and explained how long victims can survive without assistance because wind turbines would have an impact on EMS and life line helicopters. He stated that wind turbines create wind turbulence equal to a 747 plane.

Brian Van Laar, spoke about one of the attachments on the agenda, "Wind Farms Effects on Property Values in Lee County." He stated that Lee County did not have the growth of Boone County. He noted several disclaimers in the article and that the article ended by stating that the results indicate that the wind farms have not impacted the average selling price of nearby residential real estate but due to the lack of transactions, the result for Lee-DeKalb Wind Center is not reliable.

Denny Ellingson felt that the Board did not need to act on the wind farm resolution. He encouraged the Board to take the time to look into the effects of wind farms and to stay away from the issue.

Frank Schier, Editor and Publisher of the *Rock River Times*, handed out information on the negative effects of wind farms. He cautioned the Board that their neighbors would be around longer than the wind turbine company. He spoke about an individual who testified in Lee County about his experience with wind turbine noise around his farm. He stated that crop dusters would not fly near wind turbines and they have a detrimental affect on the "viewscape."

Rich Boris, President of the Village of Lee, reiterated about an individual who had testified about the adverse effects of wind turbines for DeKalb County. He stated that information against wind turbines was being suppressed. Wind Turbines impact telephone and cell phone reception and any setback is a future economic dead zone. He offered to speak with anyone who might have more questions.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Zwart to approve the Agenda. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Baule informed the Board that he had not heard anything regarding the state budget, and federal funding is also ambiguous. It appears that transportation funding will be cut approximately 6% below what was originally projected by the legislature.

Dr. Baule confirmed that the District will still receive its General State Aid but it will be prorated.

To date, no word has been received from the Village of Poplar Grove on the District's request for impact fees or from the Capital Development Board.

Dr. Baule reported that the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity notified the District that it will receive a grant in the amount of \$26,131.50 to replace some of the gyms'

lighting with more energy efficient lights. He thanked Mr. Novak for all the work he did in applying for the grant.

The District's Media Specialist, Mrs. Lenser, also received grants from the Library Book Selection Service for four District schools. It is rare for a district to receive two grants, and North Boone received two last year and four this year.

Dr. Baule stated that the District received \$4,445.96 from the Illinois Emergency Management Association in response to the District's application for relief from the February 2011 blizzard.

Dr. Baule informed the Board that the Boone County Fair will be hosting a band contest at 7:00 p.m. on August 10. Over \$5,000 in prize money will be distributed among the winners. Each band will also be able to keep half of the \$10 tickets to the event.

Dr. Baule noted that Mrs. Torrison has been a strong leader in the effort to improve the honors and advanced placements scores. She is working to build a connection between these classes and to encourage all AP students to take the exam. The College Board reported a breakdown on how the District did in the exam and where we need more improvement. An example of the relevance of this exam is when one of the District's students who had taken French at North Boone was placed in the 3rd year at college and received credit for four years of high school French.

Dr. Baule informed everyone he did not put the PSAE results on the website because they disaggregate below 10 students. We are still waiting to see how the state is going to formulate the scores; however, the reading scores seem to have dropped between 10 to 15%.

Ten architectural firms have responded to our Requests For Proposal, most of whom generally work in the educational structures area of architecture. Interviews will begin next week.

Dr. Baule reminded everyone that registration for all grade levels is scheduled from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. on July 3 and August 4. The Booster Club will also be selling Spiritwear and seasonal passes to athletic events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee

Mrs. Balsley reported that the Policy Committee did not meet in July. The next Policy Committee meeting is to be determined.

Business Services Committee

Mrs. Zwart reported that the Business Services Committee did not meet in July. The next Business Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

Facility/Long Range Planning Committee

Mr. Ward reported that the Facility/Long Range Planning Committee did not meet in July. The next Facility/Long Range Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee

Mr. Gratz reported that the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee did not meet in July. The next meeting date is to be determined.

Other Committee Reports

Mrs. Zwart reported that the Community Involvement Committee last met on July 13, 2011. The Committee discussed the golf outing, started to plan for the upcoming school year and for the ticket takers for the sporting events. The next Community Involvement Committee meeting will be held at the high school on August 4 at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Kinser reported that the Technology Subcommittee did not meet in July. The next meeting date is to be determined.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was submitted to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Zwart to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 20, 2011

B. Personnel

Site	Person	Position	Salary	Effective/End Date
1. Increased Hours: Non-Certified				
NBHS	Michelle Fitzpatrick	Assistant Cook (from 4 to 5 hrs./day)	Step 7	August 17, 2011
NBMS	Sally Cline	Head Cook (from 5.5 to 6 hrs./day)	Step 17	August 17, 2011
2. Leave – FMLA				
NBUE	Jodie Rogers	6 th Grade Teacher	N/A	10-24-11 thru 1-4-12 (use all but 10 sick days w/remainder unpaid)
3. Recall				
Transportation	Kathy Prince	Bus Driver	\$24.25/Route	August 17, 2011
4. Hire: Extra-Curricular				
NBHS	Sandy Kleckler	Volleyball – Freshmen	Group II Step 0	2011-2012 School Year
5. Resignation: Non-Certified				
Transportation	John O'Brien	Bus Driver	N/A	July 8, 2011
District	Kayla LeFevre	Assistant District Nurse	N/A	July 17, 2011

C. Appointments to the North Boone Education Foundation Board

D. Set Rates of Pay for Substitutes

E. Review of Transportation Serious Safety Hazards

F. NIA Candidate Ballot of Election for District Administrator and School Board Member

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Resolution Supporting Wind Farm Development

Dr. Baule reiterated the information he obtained relative to the following questions as directed:

1. Revenues as projected during the development phase more, less or right on?
2. Any problems in collecting the tax dollars?
3. Any educational or health issues detected in districts?

He also obtained projections from PMA on Potential Wind Farm Revenue v. GSA Reductions as well as letters of support from district residents.

Dr. Baule introduced Messrs. John Martin and Keith Bolin who made a presentation on behalf of Mainstream Renewable Power, Inc. and made themselves available for any questions. Mr. Martin is the Senior Development Project Manager for Mainstream and Mr. Bolin is the Chairman of the Bureau Valley School Board. Mr. Bolin has also worked as a wind farm activist without remuneration for ten years. Mr. Martin stated that the State of Illinois strongly supports wind development. He assured the Board that they would not build less than 1400 ft. from schools and homes.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward to modify Section 4 of the Resolution in Support of the North Boone Wind Farm Project to be developed by U.S. Mainstream Renewable Power, Inc. on Property Located in Boone County, Illinois as follows:

Section 4. Support for Conditional Use. Due to the property tax revenues which may be generated by this Project for the District and other taxing districts in Boone County, the District Administration is authorized to support the Developer, ~~including support~~ *by providing information and testimony on the financial and educational impacts of such a project on District 200 schools* for any application filed on behalf of the North Boone Wind Project for a conditional use permit or any other permit or authorization in the County.

Various comments from the Board when asked how they felt about the issue: Mrs. Morris stated that she could not support this project and preferred not to vote on it. Mrs. Balsley questioned the potential revenue and preferred to solidify the numbers. Mr. Kinser suggested the issue be referred back to the Business Services Committee to review any anticipated revenue. Mrs. Morris agreed that it would be inappropriate for the Board to make any opinion on this type of project. Mr. Crull could see a lot of benefit and would most like support the project. Mr. Ward felt the Board had a duty to support projects in the county that would bring potential revenue to the District because of the lack of state and federal funds.

Mr. Ward withdrew the proposed motion before it was seconded.

Mr. Bolin asked the Board for permission to withdraw the Resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mr. Crull to accept the request by Mainstream Renewable Power, Inc. to withdraw the Resolution in Support of the North Boone Wind Farm Project to be Developed by U.S. Mainstream Renewable Power, Inc. from the agenda.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

A. July 2011 Bills

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the July 2011 Bills.

Ayes: Mrs. Balsley, Mr. Crull, Mr. Gratz, Mr. Kinser, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Zwart

Nays: *(None)*

Abstain: Mr. Ward

Motion passed 6-0, with one abstention.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 8:49 p.m. by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Crull to recess to Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; collective negotiating matters; pending litigation; closed session minutes; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz and Mrs. Amy Morris.

The Open Session of the Board of Education was called to order at 9:58 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz and Mrs. Amy Morris

Absent: *(None)*

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Kinser to release the following Executive Session minutes and destroy the audio tapes of these and any previously opened Executive Session Minutes.

June 16, 2008	January 26, 2009	September 2, 2009
July 16, 2008	February 23, 2009	September 8, 2009
July 28, 2008	March 19, 2009	September 10, 2009
August 18, 2008	April 27, 2009	September 28, 2009
August 18, 2008	May 11, 2009	October 8, 2009
August 26, 2008	May 21, 2009	October 14, 2009
September 8, 2008	June 22, 2009	October 26, 2009
October 27, 2008	July 20, 2009	November 2, 2009
November 24, 2008	July 27, 2009	November 23, 2009

December 10, 2008	August 24, 2009	December 14, 2009
December 15, 2008		

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

- A. **District Activities Calendar**
- B. **Enrollment**
- B. **FOIA (FY2011 & FY2012)**
- C. **Student Activity Fund Reports**

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Morris and seconded by Mr. Kinser to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

PRESIDENT _____
Don Ward

SECRETARY _____
Tom Kinser

APPROVED: _____