

**North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200**  
**Minutes of the Facilities-Long Range Planning Committee Meeting**  
**North Boone District Office**  
6248 North Boone School Road  
Poplar Grove, IL 61065  
Tuesday, May 6, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mr. O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Committee members present were Mr. O'Donnell, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Schilling, Dr. Greenlee, Jim Nolen, Marc Eckmann, Chris McKibben, Nick Augustine, Jasen Chamberlain, and Robert Dreyer. Absent were Chad Cunningham, Donnie Livdahl, and Ken Squires.

Committee introductions were made.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

*(none)*

**SUMMER JOB LIST**

An overview of the Summer projects, which include approximately 50 projects, was presented. These include electrical upgrades (LED lights, scoreboard), dugout repair, antenna removal, carpet replacement, curtain installation, sewer/steam line repair, manhole repair, and painting. Preventive Maintenance (PM) included boiler checks, rooftop units, and gym floors.

Discussion included concerns about whether critical items (ADA, fire safety, VFDs, motors/pumps) are covered. A suggestion was made to create a more detailed asset condition list for forecasting and budgeting, a prioritization system, and clear deadlines. The budget and funding were also discussed. A request was made to review warranty terms and evaluate rising costs.

Two-way radios are another item that will need to be scheduled. The transition from analog to digital is pending an FCC mandate. The cost could be between \$50,000 and \$150,000. The consensus was reached to defer the purchase for now.

The shed near the baseball area will be re-roofed and resided with bids pending at the moment.

**CARPET BIDS (NEW)**

Previously, the district was requested to send out another RFP for carpet installations. Three proposals were received: NPN Carpet Installation for \$161,677.70, Taza Tiles and Styles LLC for \$147,849 (they did not complete the required site visit), and Benchmark Flooring for \$110,500. The committee agreed to go with Benchmark Flooring. This will now be brought to the May Board Meeting for approval.

## **ARCHITECT**

The Board previously approved a life safety study contract with the District Architect, Cashman/Stahler. To date, no work or charges have occurred. Due to unresolved HVAC issues, there is interest in rescinding the contract and pursuing a new architect through an RFQ (Request for Qualifications) process.

Discussion topics included that the last life safety audit was filed in August 2016, and the District must file the next audit by December 2026 to stay in compliance.

The committee agreed to rescind the life safety contract with Cashman/Stahler and to move forward with an RFQ for a new architect. An architect is legally required for life safety and should lead all district facility projects, coordinating other engineers as needed.

Another item to consider is the possibility that the District may later explore design-build options for specific projects, such as athletic fields, to reduce architectural fees.

## **SCOREBOARD**

The Board previously approved a new scoreboard project, which includes a \$29,000 donation of the scoreboard from Solutions Bank and an additional \$17,000 for installation, shipping, and game clock components. A discussion was held to explore value engineering options to reduce costs. A potential additional \$3,800 for an extra play clock was mentioned, however, it may already be included per Coach Frederick. The high school was awarded a \$5,000 T-Mobile grant for stadium beautifications that will be applied, which will reduce the costs to approximately \$12,000.

There are plans to run a 110V power supply for the east end zone game clock, which will not be a problem. An on-site meeting with Firebird's rep (supplier of the scoreboard) is pending to finalize details. The scoreboard is expected to arrive by the end of July. Installation/demolition is being handled by Firebird's team as the option for internal demo was deemed ineffective due to equipment, safety, and liability concerns.

## **LED LIGHTS UPDATE**

The district partnered with AP Energy Solutions and ComEd to upgrade all interior and exterior lighting in district buildings and the football field to LED.

The District Office, Capron Elementary, Manchester Elementary, and Poplar Grove Elementary have been completed. The Middle School and Upper Elementary are in progress. The high school is scheduled for after graduation, with field lights and exterior work to follow. The final walkthrough will ensure that all lights are functioning as expected.

No significant issues have been reported, and all minor cleanup items have been addressed. A financial report on cost savings and wattage reduction is available from ComEd, though it has not been finalized.

## **OTHER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Regarding the drainage concerns of the Soccer and Softball Fields, Mr. O'Donnell and Mrs. Schilling had an engineer and consultant brought in to assess some concerns the board members and community raised. Site visits were made, and initial evaluations were done at no cost to the district. The goal is to identify quick, low-cost fixes and long-term recommendations (up to five years out). Soil samples may be taken soon to inform the analysis. There is no formal report yet, but updates will be shared as they come in. The soccer field is a high priority, ensuring it is ready and safe for next season. Additional areas, like the track, are also being reviewed, and community suggestions for other capital needs are welcome.

## **DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

An email was received from the University of Illinois requesting permission to conduct a soil boring near the north fence line of the high school as part of a county-wide water table mapping project. The boring would go 100-120 feet to bedrock. The committee agreed to allow the boring with the following conditions: there will be minimal disturbance to sports fields, all boreholes will be filled in afterward, work will be avoided during rain/saturated ground, "Julie" will be notified for utility marking, and the district receives a copy of the results.

An update on the athletic storage issues was requested. Storage remains a problem, and no final decision has been made. The previous options were revisited. Next steps would be to inventory all athletic equipment to determine needs, engage coaches to clarify what is used/needed, and consider the convenience of access and logistics in future solutions.

Finally, the univent system problems were discussed. Four suspected causes are sensors, oversized fresh air intakes, valve placement, and steam traps. The district gave the vendor one last chance to propose a fix before legal action is taken. A resolution plan is expected on Thursday and will be reviewed in a closed board session. Emphasis was placed on ensuring no more district funds are wasted and that no internal staff will be used for repairs as we advance.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Russell O'Donnell, Chair

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Judy Hutchinson, Vice-Chair