

OCTOBER 9, 2024

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on October 9, 2024 at 8:00pm in the conference room. Present: Ross Litsey, Corey Ulmer, Lyle Fey, Jordan Jenner, Amy Schlepp, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Erich Kroh.

Motion by Jenner to approve the agenda. Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve the minutes of the September 11th meeting as written. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ulmer to approve payment of general fund bills (\$46,062.65), building fund bill (\$3,606), bond fund bill (\$502,050.38). Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve financial reports as presented. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Building project: 1) Some rotted wood behind the metal above the front office windows that will need to be replaced. Change order to complete that front entrance area is about \$5,000; 2) Started toilet/fixture installation, bathroom flooring still a couple weeks out; 3) AVI person was here and front entrance door controls are working now. Should be back next week to install door camera; 4) Still looking for a better option to clean entry carpets—will be trying a wider commercial vacuum; 5) Painting is done until the final punch list; 6) Will start on flooring in fitness center and should be finishing baseboards in all areas; 7) Electrical mostly complete, except lights in fitness center and stage panel; 8) Finished tiling in bathrooms and girls locker room, starting on boys locker room; 9) Ceiling tile people will be back next week.

Regarding AVI proposal to monitor the fire alarm system for \$600 yearly--Mr. Schmidt said there is no insurance discount for that. As he stated before, since we have no sprinklers, monitoring is not required. Board members agreed the district will not contract that service.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the contract for Eric Weissner for elementary boys basketball (\$1,485). Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on ground beef—Jenner said he has six sponsors to date that will donate \$300 each towards the purchase of local ground beef. Ryan & Marcie Brokaw have 275# available at \$5 per pound and will have more at a later date. Jordan will have about 400# ready in January that he would sell for \$5 per pound. Board members agreed to use those two sellers for this year and would like to continue using local farmers next year. School will get the word out as people may not realize the ground beef has to be processed at a USDA approved facility in order for the school to be able to use it.

Mr. Schmidt said we should have one storage container empty by the end of this month but would like to continue renting the other one for the rest of the school year. Some discussion on purchasing instead, but would prefer to see what the status is on storage by end of year and go from there. Will continue to rent one for now.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the tuition agreement and open enrollment agreement for three students that will be moving to a South Dakota farm this fall. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the proposed budget revisions to accommodate the BIC grant and extra speech aid days during the speech teacher's maternity leave. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Lyle Fey is willing to rent his tractor to the school again for snow removal at \$25 per hour with a \$750 minimum. Motion by Litsey to allow Fey to declare a conflict of interest. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously. Motion by Litsey to approve tractor rent from Lyle Fey as proposed. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt's report: 1) Currently, co-op coaches receive a \$350 stipend if they have a CDL bus license. Wishek school pays both administrators that as well. He is requesting the stipend for himself also. Motion by Jenner to grant that request. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously; 2) Mr. Alcala currently holds an H1-B Visa, which is good for one more year and then he would have to start the process again to extend it for another three years. He wants to apply for a Green Card, which would allow him to stay in the United States permanently. It is a very long process and the employer portion of the cost for that is \$4,500. The downfall is that he would not have to stay in the Ashley school. Discussion on whether the district could pay the cost with a condition that he would have to remain employed for a certain number of years. Administrators and Mr. Alcala have a meeting scheduled to get some questions answered. Board will revisit the issue in November;

3) Minibus #1 is out of operation—options are a 2016 minibus with 75,000 miles for \$36,000 or motor replacement through Triple J. Aftermarket rebuilt ATK would be \$9,000-\$10,000 installed. GM rebuilt would be \$11,000-\$12,000 installed, warranty 100,000. Time frame for either rebuilt would be about a month. Motion by Schlepp to get the GM motor installed. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously; 4) NDA+ testing will start soon; 5) Discussion on measure 4 and how to communicate its impact on schools and community services.

Mr. Doane's report: 1) 7-12 will start NDA+ testing in the next couple weeks; 2) HS teachers have been discussing goals and how to incorporate real world teaching styles in their classrooms; 3) update on fall sports.

Next meeting will be November 13, 2024 at 7:00pm. Motion by Ulmer to adjourn, second by Jenner. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:22pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President