

JUNE 16, 2025

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Monday, June 16, 2025 at 8:00pm in the conference room. Present: Lyle Fey, Amy Schlepp, Jordan Jenner, Ross Litsey, Jason Schmidt, Teresa Dockter, Chris Doane, Matt Perkins (G&R control representative) via zoom*. Corey Ulmer was absent.

Motion by Litsey to approve the agenda with one addition. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jenner to approve the minutes from the May 14th and May 22nd meetings as written. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve payment of general fund bills (\$22,130.65) and sinking & interest fund bond payment (\$152,245.77). Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

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

A representative from G&R Controls joined the meeting via zoom to explain the quote they provided for suggested upgrades to the HVAC/boiler systems. Following review, he stated that the top priorities would be to retrofit two of the air handling units as well as the boilers with Siemens controls so all are on the same system. Cost for those projects is \$21,740—there's generally a 20% savings on energy costs when converting to that system. Also, that allows online troubleshooting so could save money on service visits for old pneumatic system issues. Could replace the pneumatic mixing valves in the two air handlers (\$3,089) for now but will have to change the systems over at some point. *Mr. Perkins left the meeting at 8:30pm. After further discussion, motion by Jenner to move ahead with #1 and #4 on the quote to switch the suggested air handlers (\$16,359) and boilers (\$5,381) to the Siemens controls and Desigo CC BAS system and pay those costs from the building fund. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Ancillary staff increases were discussed—Mr. Schmidt reminded the board that last year they approved wage realignments for the cooks, custodians and business manager with the intention of addressing the paras this year. He recommended 5% for the paras and 4% for remaining staff. Motion by Schlepp to increase the para salaries by 5% and 4% for the balance of the ancillary staff. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

The Ashley school district moved to approve the consolidated application for Title I, Title II, Title III and REAP funds. Mr. Schmidt (authorized representative) has the board's permission to submit this application. Motion made by Schlepp, seconded by Litsey and motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve the master contract for the 25/26 and 26/27 school years. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to accept the resignation from Eric Weisser. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schmidt is advertising the English position.

Election results were canvassed--61 total votes cast as follows: City Position: Lyle Fey-48, Alexandra Weszner-10; Rural at-large position: Ross Litsey-59; Publishing of minutes: For-46, Against-15. Motion by Schlepp to approve the election results. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt said he spoke to Jordan from Consolidated Construction and the cleaners will not be coming back. He would like to hire four of the ancillary staff to get everything wiped down & cleaned up before school starts. He'd like to offer them one week—pay would be \$17 per hour per person. Motion by Litsey to approve the request. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Denise Martz has requested an extended contract again for next year—currently at 7 days, cost would be \$2,829 if all days were used. Motion by Jenner to approve the request for an extended contract. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve contracts as listed. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously. Contracts listed as follows:

Ken Alcala--\$49,500

Kristi Bender--\$63,350

Wendy Bichler--\$52,700

Brenda Dohn--\$49,500

Dan Girard--\$63,350

Mary Hilgemann--\$49,500

Alexis Kempf--\$48,700

Kelsi Lippert--\$49,900

Denise Martz--\$61,100

Tucker Meidinger--\$51,600

Jordan Montgomery--\$49,100

Rachel Rueb--\$49,900

Sara Sathre--\$57,100

Breigh Schlepp--\$51,600

Jessica Schmidt--\$59,900

Teresa Thiery--\$49,900

Sara Thyen--\$49,500

Extra-Curricular Agreements:

Dean Christianson--\$4,016 (Asst boys golf)

Dan Girard--\$350 (Cognia)

Ali Harriman--\$1,350 (FBLA), \$4,016 (Asst girls golf)

Kelsi Lippert--\$350 (Cognia)

Tucker Meidinger--\$1,500 (Science Fair), \$5,020 (Head baseball)

Jordan Montgomery--\$925 (Sophomore/Junior class advisor)

Eugene Nolz--\$4,016 (Asst WR)

Sara Sathre--\$350 (Cognia)

Breigh Schlepp--\$350 (Cognia)

Jessica Schmidt--\$350 (Cognia)

Jeremy St. Aubin--\$5,020 (Head boys golf), \$5,020 (Head girls golf)

Update on teachers—advertising English and Ag positions. No interest in either one so far, researching options.

Mr. Doane update on open coaching positions: Head boys WR, Elem BBB, JHBBB, JHVB (looking for a second person), Asst girls WR. He stated that Matt Schlepp intends to do PWR, however there were 44 kids last year and although he had several volunteers, he would like to share that position with another coach (current salary is \$1,050). Motion by Litsey to allow Amy Schlepp to declare a conflict of interest. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously. Motion by Litsey to advertise for an additional PWR coach at a salary of \$1,050. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt's report: 1) Distributed Board Member Boot Camp information—instructed board members to let Teresa know if they want to register; 2) Currently reviewing cell phone policy provided by NDSBA—will need to get that in place before start of school.

Mr. Doane's report: 1) Registration will be August 4th and 6th; 2) Wishek requires physicals for grades 4-6 elementary students participating in sports—thinks we should do the same since all but PWR are combined now. Any 6th graders participating at the JH level do have to have physicals. Motion by Jenner to require physicals for all 4-6 grade students participating in sports activities. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting will be July 16, 2025 at 8:00pm. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Jenner. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President