

JUNE 15, 2026

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Monday, June 15, 2026 at 8:00pm in the conference room. Present: Ross Litsey, Jordan Jenner, Lyle Fey, Amy Schlepp, *Corey Ulmer, Jason Schmidt, Teresa Dockter.

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

Motion by Schlepp to approve the minutes of the May 13th meeting as written. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve payment of general fund bills (\$24,515.72) and Sinking & Interest fund bond payment (\$146,903.35). Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

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

There were no public comments.

Motion by Schlepp to approve contracts as listed:

Neil Meidinger--\$53.53/trip (Zeeland route)

Rebecca Meidinger-\$65,300

Denise Martz—extended contract (\$346.15/day (max 5)

Evan Mellmer—extended contract (\$291.21/day (max 30)

Dean Christianson-\$4,072 (Asst boys golf)

Tucker Meidinger-\$5,090 (Head baseball)

Kara Salzer-\$2,545 (JHVB)

Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Election results were canvassed for the 120 votes cast:

City Representative:

Cody Lippert—102

Scattered—6

At Large Representative:

Dillon Spurr—111

Scattered--3

Motion by Litsey to approve the election results. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

The first reading was held on the Library Collection Development Policy.

G&R Controls provided a quote to retrofit 3 air handlers that aren't working properly—they were put on hold last year when work was shifted to some classrooms—cost for the project is \$29,435.

Motion by Litsey to proceed with the proposed repairs. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt reported the current balance for the playground fund is \$136,693—need about \$18000-\$20,000 to meet the target number. Motion by Schlepp to pay up to \$20,000 toward to project. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Bus update--#15 pheasant damage has been repaired—covered by insurance; #9 is still out for repairs but will also be covered by insurance. Put a bid in on two of Zeeland's buses—a 2007 minibus and a 28 passenger large bus. *Corey Ulmer entered the meeting at 8:40pm.

Mr. Schmidt's report: 1) Put a bid on some items at Zeeland school (teacher desks, tables, music stands & instruments); 2) Eric Heupel is applying for a health grant for hospital employees—will include memberships to the fitness center; 3) Sizzling Summer Days parade will start at school grounds—may also use bus barn electricity for bands in case of inclement weather; 4) Discussion on the upcoming budget—good possibility the legislature will close the loop hole on the miscellaneous fund levy. Last session they put a 3% increase cap on general fund levies, however districts had the option to max out the 12 mill miscellaneous levy. We are not currently using the levy so if that remains at zero, the district will likely lose the option to use it at all in the future if needed. Additionally, if we levied 3 mills for example, we'd likely be stuck there and lose the option to go to 12 if needed. Considering using the 12 miscellaneous mills this year (about \$118,000 at current valuation) and could then decrease the Sinking & Interest levy by the same 12 mills. Would then make part of the bond payment from the 12 miscellaneous levy dollars and the remaining from the Sinking & Interest levy. Essentially, would be levying the same amount of taxes, just in a different way. Board members agreed it would be wise to implement the 12 mills in the miscellaneous levy this year and decrease the Sinking & Interest levy by the same—budget will be figured using that method and will be presented at the July meeting for approval.

President Fey thanked Amy Schlepp and Corey Ulmer for their service on the Ashley school board.

Next meeting will be July 22, 2026 at 8:00pm. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Ulmer. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President