

**Minutes of the April 6, 2020  
Regular School Board Meeting  
Starmont Community School District Board of Directors**

**1. Call to Order Regular School Board Meeting**

*It is impractical due to the government mandating a school shutdown and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to hold the meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, with all persons in person. Thus, the meeting will be held by electronic means pursuant to Section 21.8.2011 Code of Iowa. The public will be provided access to the meeting at 6:30 PM via teleconference means (Zoom).*

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, April 6, 2020, at the High School Conference Room. President Puffett called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Tony Recker, Doug Puffett, Julie Uhlenkamp, Darren West, Kevin Powell. Administration present: Superintendent, Troy Heller. Present through Zoom: Elementary Principal, Annie Bradford; MS/HS Principal, Shauna Koppenhaver; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Robyn Hosch.

**2. Receive Communications and Visitors (Including Board Members)**

None.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – March 9, 2020
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations

**Hiring:**

1. Rieley Rodman as 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher & MS Softball Coach- \$32,290 + TSS Monies & \$2,098.85
2. Matt Vagts as Elementary PE Teacher, JV Football Coach, JV Girls' Basketball Coach- \$34,550 + TSS, \$2,260.30, \$2,906.10
3. Erick Schroyer as a Kindergarten Teacher- \$39,362 + TSS Monies
4. Shelby Egemo as HS English Teacher- \$42,332 + TSS Monies
5. Kristi Donlon as TLC Coach- \$6,000 Stipend
6. Todd Beatty as Head Boys' Basketball Coach- \$4,843.50
7. Carson Willie as JV Boys' Basketball Coach- \$2,906.10
8. Tracy Curtis as JV Softball Coach- \$1,614.50
9. Debra Recker as Bus Driver- Pay TBD Upon Route

**Resignations:**

1. Aaron Coghlan as Elementary PE Teacher. Good luck with your future endeavors, Aaron!
2. Meg Gelner as Elementary Paraprofessional. Good luck with your future endeavors, Meg!

Motion by Powell to approve the consent agenda with the exception of changing the resolution presented in item #6, which would then eliminate item #'s 7, 14, 16, Uhlenkamp seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**4. Public Hearing for 2020-2021 Budget**

Puffett started the public hearing for the 2020-2021 budget at 6:48 PM. Heller gave a quick overview of the presented FY21 budget, including the tax rate and management levy. Powell wanted to point out that the Board and Administration have really been working on lowering the tax rate over the past few years, and it shows with the presented tax rate of only 10.82337. There were no further questions or comments, so the public hearing closed at 6:51 PM.

## **5. Review and Consider Approving 2020-2021 Budget**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the presented 2020-2021 budget, Recker seconded, motion carried 5-0.

## **6. Review and Consider Approving Starmont Community School District Pandemic Pay Resolution Regarding District Employees & Approval of Essential Workers vs. Nonessential (March)**

This item has now changed, as Heller was given a new resolution by the school's attorney. Heller reviewed the main points of the new resolution, which included the payment of certified staff and the classified staff through the March and April pay periods. This also allowed Starmont to not have to change their school calendar for the remainder of this school year. There was a question by teacher, Jill Jensen, about whether E2020 would continue and if those students were still able to graduate. Koppenhaver explained how she has been looking into those questions, and the answer is yes. Motion by Powell to approve the Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy Resolution, West seconded. Roll call. Ayes: Powell, Uhlenkamp, West. Nays: Puffett, Recker. Motion carried 3-2.

## **7. Review and Consider Approving Starmont Community School District Pandemic Pay Resolution Regarding District Employees (April)**

This item was eliminated, as it was addressed in item #6.

## **8. Elementary Principal's Report/Curriculum Coordinator's Report**

Bradford shared the new staff PD program she setup through Solution Tree.

## **9. MS/HS Principal's Report/AD's Report**

Koppenhaver shared that last Monday she asked the MS/HS staff to start getting units together to share with the students, and she is hoping to send that out hopefully tomorrow. She also wanted to add how proud she was of the entire district for working so hard for the students.

Whittle reported that all spring sports and activities are on hold right now, but he shared a list of dates in which they have planned events for the postponed activities and sports.

## **10. Review Lagoon Process**

School engineer, Lindsay, was present via Zoom. She asked the Board if they would be interested in adding a lift station to the project. This is not necessary; however, she believes it could be a maintenance issue without one and there would not be much of a cost difference because of the smaller piping required. Puffett asked about a distance waiver, as he would like to see the lagoon closer to Highway 3 to hopefully not have to take away land from the FFA test plot. Heller will be working with AMPI on the distance requirements. Lindsay is suggesting that the total cost *could* be less than \$1,000,000; however, she would need to do some more figuring. The estimated cost will be presented to the Board before bidding.

## **11. Review and Consider Approving 2020-21 HR & Transportation Sharing Agreements with Oelwein & Guidance Counselor with Central**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the 2020-21 HR & Transportation sharing agreements with Oelwein and the 2020-21 guidance counselor sharing agreement with Central, West seconded, motion carried 5-0.

## **12. Review and Consider Approving the 2019-20 Graduating Class**

Heller included a list of students that are on target to graduate at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Motion by Powell to approve the list of graduates for the Class of 2020 as presented, conditional upon satisfactory completion of all graduation requirements, Recker seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**13. Review and Consider Approving Lawn Mowing Contract for FY20 & FY21**

Motion by Recker to approve the Lakeview Lawn & Ground Maintenance contract for the 2020 season only, Uhlenkamp seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**14. Review and Consider Approving Amendments to 2019-20 School Calendar**

This item was eliminated, as it was addressed in item #6.

**15. Review and Consider Approving Hazardous Pay for Classified (Essential Worker) Employees**

Motion by West to approve temporarily increasing the hourly wage for essential workers by \$5 per hour only for hours actually worked during the entirety of the school shutdown, Powell seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**16. Review and Consider Approving Resolution #2020-1**

This item was eliminated, as it was addressed in item #6.

**17. Superintendent's Report**

Heller talked about bus and roof bids and if the Board was interested in viewing these with the lagoon project underway or not. Puffett mentioned the school should stay current on the roof repairs. Heller will share the bids with the Board at the next meeting.

**18. Set May Board Meeting Date**

The next regular board meeting will take place on May 11, 2020. West will audit bills at this time.

**19. Adjourn**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to adjourn, Powell seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

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Douglas Puffett, Board President

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Robyn Hosch, Board Secretary