

**Minutes of the January 10, 2022  
Regular School Board Meeting  
Starmont Community School District Board of Directors**

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

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, January 10, 2022, at the High School Conference Room. President Powell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Kevin Powell, Tony Recker, Vicki Althoff, Julie Uhlenkamp, Jacob Moellers. Administration present: Superintendent, Gary Benda; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Activities Director, Daren Huisenga; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Robyn Hosch.

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

Moellers brought up the idea to the board members about using ESSER funding to provide staff bonuses. This will be placed on the next board agenda.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – December 13, 2021
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports- Hosch reported the budget was aligning with projections so far and a small increase in revenues compared to last year.
- d. Approve Monthly Bills- Moellers pointed out the open enrollment payments, snow removal and a September official payment.
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations

**Hiring:**

1. Kerry Northrop as Full-Time Substitute (January-June 2022)- \$10,560

**Resignations:**

2. Cristen Bockenstedt as Superintendent Secretary/HR Director as of June 30, 2022. Thank you for your 10 years of service and best of luck!

Motion by Uhlenkamp to pull out agenda item #'s 11 & 12 for separate consideration, Moellers seconded, motion carried 5-0. Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the consent agenda, Recker seconded, motion carried 5-0. Motion by Uhlenkamp to strike agenda items #'s 11 & 12 with the reason that the State of Iowa recently announced it will not be enforcing the OSHA mandates, Moellers seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**4. Elementary Principal's Report**

Hesse expressed concern for the low amount of staff and lack of applicants due to pay, which is being addressed at negotiations starting next month. He also explained the system that is used to generate report cards.

**5. MS/HS Principal's Report**

Huisenga spoke on behalf of Koppenhaver in her absence and addressed the huge drop of F's and behavioral issues compared to a year ago. A lot of this can be attributed to new programs in place, such as PBIS and the after-school study tables.

**6. AD's Report**

Huisenga expressed concern for the current water issues, particularly for hosting large events such as sectional wrestling. He is willing to help wherever needed to address and fix issues in the absence of a Maintenance Director in order to continue to host various activities. Huisenga has also been working with the superintendent on purchasing more vehicles to be used for extracurriculars.

**7. Review and Consider Approving New Shot Clock Request for \$12,000**

There were a few small adjustments made to the previously-approved shot clock bid from H2I Group. Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the shot clock bid from H2I Group in the amount of \$12,000, Recker seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**8. Review and Consider Approving Change Order of \$1,763 and Final Payment of \$9,859.30 to Modern Piping**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the change order of \$1,763 and final payment of \$9,859.30 to Modern Piping for the boiler project, Moellers seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**9. Review and Consider Approving Snyder & Associates Water Agreement of \$1,000/Month**

This agreement will ensure Starmont is compliant with having a properly-licensed water/wastewater operator oversee the water testing process and reports. The agreement will be in effect until Starmont has hired a maintenance director who has obtained the proper certifications. Motion by Recker to approve the presented Snyder & Associates water/wastewater agreement for \$1,000/month, Althoff seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**10. Review and Consider Board Policies (1st Reading): 105 Assistance Animals, 200.1 Organization of the Board of Directors, 210.8 Board meeting Agenda, 212 Closed Sessions, 212.1 Exempt Meetings, 307 Communication Channels, 401.4 Employee Complaints, 502.4 Student Complaints and Grievances, 606.6 Insufficient Classroom Space, 403.7**

The Board reviewed and discussed the policies. There were no suggested changes besides eliminating the italicized verbiage on policy 105 about emotional support animals.

**11. Review and Consider Board Policies (1st Reading): Employee Vaccination/Testing for COVID-19, 403.7R1 Employee Vaccination/Testing for COVID-19 Regulation, 403.7R2 Required Notices to Employees, 403.7E1—Employee Personal Attestation of Vaccination Status, 403.7E2 Medical Accommodation Request Form, 403.7E3 Religious Accommodation Request Form**

This item was struck from the agenda

**12. Review and Consider Approving Resolution #2022-2: A Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to Temporarily Suspend Policy 403.7, *Employee Vaccination/Testing for COVID-19***

This item was struck from the agenda

**13. Consider Approving Naming Kevin Powell (Board President) as Signer of All Bank Accounts Under Citizens State Bank in Strawberry Point, WC Financial in Independence and Farmers Savings Bank in Strawberry Point**

Motion by Recker to approve the naming of Kevin Powell as the signer of all bank accounts under Citizens State Bank in Strawberry Point, WC Financial in Independence and Farmers Savings Bank in Strawberry Point, Moellers seconded, motion carried 5-0.

**14. Superintendent's Report**

Benda gave reminders of the upcoming board work session on January 24<sup>th</sup> and the maintenance director interviews scheduled for Friday. He discussed the various options to maximize operational sharing next school year, particularly in the areas of maintenance, transportation and human resources.

**15. Set February 2022 Board Meeting Date (February 14, 2022) and Possible 2 Board Work Sessions (January 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>)**

The next regular board meeting will take place on February 14, 2022 with a board work session on January 24<sup>th</sup> and a possible board work session on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Recker and Althoff will audit bills at this time.

**16. Adjourn**

Motion by Moellers to adjourn, Recker seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

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Kevin Powell, Board President

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Robyn Hosch, SBO/Board Secretary