Vice-President Ondrea McConville called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on December 11th, 2017 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

Present: Ondrea McConville, Jason Neseth, Jason Kloepping, Jenni McConville, Principal Kathy Latta, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Natalie Meyers.

Visitors: Don and Donna Behnke, Cody Gerlach, Andy Long, Ryan Purdy, and Jody Tomanek

Vice-President O. McConville observed Open Meeting Law requirements.


Notice of the meeting was given in advance by the board-approved method of meeting notice.
Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

Awards & Recognition-Academic Decathlon competed recently and medal in several subjects. Quizbowl got 3rd and 4th place at the Cambridge meet. NHS has been busy with their wish trees and they caroled with the FBLA on Sunday. The Anatomy class went to UNK on the 29th to the physical activities and wellness lab. Nichole Dewey received All State Honorable Mention for Volleyball.

Matt Springer arrived at 7:40 p.m.


The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Andy Long from McCook Community College presented to the board what the college has to offer to our school and asked if there was anything they could assist us in.

Duane Teter arrived at 7:56 p.m.

John O’Dea arrived at 8:00 p.m.
Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Teter, to approve the 2016-2017 financial audit as presented by Bentley & Kisker, PC. Ayes: J. McConville, Kloeppping, O’Dea, Teter, Neseth, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.


No action was taken on Item 5, a work study program. The board requested further investigation on this program.

Moved by Teter, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the purchase of 40 IPADS for 1st and 2nd Grade for the amount of $11,760.00. Ayes: J. McConville, Kloeppping, O’Dea, Teter, Neseth, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Porter gave the board official notice that those board members that will be in their last year of their term need to file for candidacy by February 15th, 2018.

Superintendent Porter reported on his sessions at the legislative preview. He visited with the board about our ACT scores and NESA scores. Porter reported that we have received our first rebate check for the LED Lighting project in the gyms. The elementary gym gave us a $960 rebate through McCook Public Power District.

Principal Latta reported Rockin Riders a having a food drive for the food pantry as well as a fun activity for the students the last week of the semester. There is now an Art Club and a Lego Club at the elementary. The 3rd and 4th grade went to a performance of the Nutcracker in McCook. The Elementary Christmas Program is Monday, December 18th at 7:00 in Bartley.

Principal Springer reported there will be semester tests at the Jr/Sr High School next week on the 19th and 20th. First aid training will be administered to our bus drivers. The high jump pad has been poured. Mr. Springer reported he had great appreciation from patrons about the NHS/FBLA Caroling as well as NHS wish trees at the banks. He urged the board and public to view the new website. It is continually updated throughout the day.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, January 8th, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior Senior High School in Bartley.

President Teter moved to take a 10 minute recess and go into executive session to discuss strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining.

The executive session was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Moved by Teter, seconded by J. McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m. Ayes: J. McConville, Teter, O’Dea, Kloeppping, Neseth, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.