Vice-President Tom Sughroue called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 8:02 p.m. on December 8, 2014 at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.

Present:  Kevin Potthof, Tom Sughroue, Ondrea McConville, Steve Daffer, Principals Kathy Latta and Matt Springer, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent:  Duane Teter and Steve McConville.

Visitors:  Mary Marsh, Kris Marotta, Dave McConville, Jenni McConville, John O’Dea, Lynda Baumbach, and Don and Donna Behnke.

Vice-President Sughroue observed Open Meeting Law requirements.


Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Potthoff, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented.  Ayes:  Sughroue, Potthoff, O. McConville, and Daffer.  Nays:  None.  Absent: Teter and S. McConville.  Motion carried.

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.

Ondrea McConville thanked Tom Sughroue, Kevin Potthoff, and Steve McConville for their service to the district and for the assistance given her during her time as a board member.

Superintendent Porter recognized donations by the Wilsonville Baptist Christian Church to the elementary backpack program and the National Honor Society.  Junior-Senior High School students were acknowledged for outstanding awards at the McCook Art Guild Art Show, Junior High Livestock Judging Contest, Jan Wymore Honor Band participants, and placing at recent high school Quiz Bowls.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2014 board meeting minutes as presented.  Ayes:  Daffer, O. McConville, Sughroue, and Potthoff.  Nays:  None.  Absent:  S. McConville and Teter.  Motion carried.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Daffer, to approve the claims as presented.  Ayes:  Potthoff, Sughroue, Daffer, and O. McConville.  Nays:  None.  Absent:  S. McConville and Teter.  Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the nomination of Janet Rippe to the Southwest Foundation Board.  Ayes:  Daffer, Potthoff, Sughroue, and O. McConville.  Nays:  None.  Absent:  S. McConville and Teter.  Motion carried.


Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Daffer, to approve the purchase and installation of carpet in the amount of $2,745.00 for the west entryway and area in front of the trophy cases in the junior-senior high building...
Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Daffer, to approve the 2015-2016 negotiated contract for certified staff, increasing the base salary by $1,000 to $32,550. Ayes: Daffer, Potthoff, Sughroue, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: S. McConville and Teter. Motion carried.

Item 5 of New Business, discussion of the administrative contract of Matt Springer, will be addressed following the Administrators’ reports.

Superintendent Porter reported on the completion of the main elementary restroom renovation and plans to begin the next restroom renovation during the Christmas break. He discussed installation of the junior-senior high gym railings and teacherage windows. Ondrea McConville and Steve Daffer, along with Mr. Porter, recently attended the NASB Convention, and new board members will be attending a workshop in North Platte. The possibility of purchasing a walk-in exterior freezer at the junior-senior high school building is being researched and will be an agenda item in January. Superintendent Porter thanked the outgoing board members for their service.

Principal Latta reported on restroom renovations, the Christmas program, and a pajama drive in exchange for books.

Principal Springer reported on the delivery of the new bus, semester tests on December 17 and 18, ideas to curb sun reflection in the practice gym, and the Staff-Board Christmas Party.

Outgoing Board Member Kevin Potthoff thanked Jenni McConville, Lynda Baumbach, and John O’Dea for donating their time to serve on the Board of Education and encouraged the Board to finalize the plans for the practice gym project. He reminded the Board that education is the top priority.

Moved by Sughroue, seconded by Daffer, to go into closed session to discuss personnel to protect the needless injury to the reputation of an individual at 8:50 p.m. Vice-President Sughroue repeated the motion, and the Board voted. Ayes: Sughroue, Daffer, Potthoff, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: S. McConville and Teter. Motion carried.

O. McConville declared the end of closed session at 9:16 p.m.


Moved by Daffer, seconded by Potthoff, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Ayes: Daffer, Sughroue, Potthoff, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: S. McConville and Teter. Motion carried.

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 12, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.