President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:34 p.m. on October 12, 2015 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.


Absent: John O’Dea.

Visitors: Mary Marsh, Jolene Miller, Don and Donna Behnke, Sarah Krause, and Jason Kloeppeing.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.


Moved by Daffer, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: O. McConville, Baumbach, J. McConville, Teter, and Daffer. Nays: None. Absent: O’Dea. 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.

Superintendent Porter announced that Ryan Van Pelt placed fourth overall in the Land Judging Contest hosted by the Middle Republican NRD on the NCTA Campus in Curtis on October 7. Kailee Miller, Alexus Schmitz, and Suzanne Roggenkamp were selected to receive FFA jackets from the Nebraska FFA Foundation’s Blue Jacket Bright Futures Program.


John O’Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by Daffer, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: J. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, O’Dea, Teter, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by O’Dea, to accept the sealed bid by Jack Ryan for $1,100.00 for the elementary storage building advertised in the Indianola News and the McCook Gazette. Ayes: J. McConville, O. McConville, Daffer, Teter, O’Dea, and Baumbach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
President Teter reviewed New Business Action Item 2, the Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract. Board members were instructed to complete the evaluation and return to President Teter as soon as possible.

A date and time to begin the negotiations process between the Southwest Teachers Association and the School Board Negotiations Committee was discussed. The SWTA negotiation team will contact President Teter with possible dates and times for meetings.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Baumbach, to approve the elementary electrical work proposal by Holdrege Electric in the amount of $19,479.00. Ayes: O’Dea, Teter, J. McConville, O. McConville, Daffer, and Baumbach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by O’Dea, to approve the bid from Karr Tuckpointing in the amount of $23,325.00 for maintaining the exterior of the elementary building. Ayes: Daffer, Baumbach, O. McConville, Teter, O’Dea, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A quote from Esslinger’s Construction for possible addition of building awnings at the junior-senior high building was tabled until details on the construction process can be finalized.

Building Committee members Baumbach and J. McConville and high school coaches will review possible designs and line coloring for approval by the Board.

Superintendent Porter discussed the donation of a greenhouse and hydroponic system by Schaffert Manufacturing. The project will be used by the Ag and Science departments at the junior-senior high building, and a website will be linked to the Schaffert Manufacturing website. Mr. Porter attended the School Law Update and will attend the Senators Round Table. The district is reviewing options to increase investment interest, and the dates of callable bonds with the possibility of pre-paying principal was reviewed. A caterer for the Staff-Board Christmas party has been secured.

Principal Latta reported that Sarah Krause is currently working on the internship component for her administrative degree in K-8 education, and the elementary completion of evacuation and lock-down drills. Fire Prevention Week was celebrated with a visit by the Bartley Fire Department, and Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 15 from 2:00-7:00 p.m.

Principal Springer discussed finalization of the MAPS testing with 100% participation, sponsorship of a student participating in the National FFA Choir, and the October 21 Junior-Senior High Open House from 5:30-8:00 p.m. with a fund-raising meal by the FFA and entertainment in the auditorium.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by J. McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Ayes: J. McConville, Baumbach, Daffer, Teter, O’Dea, and O. McConville. Nays: None. 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, November 9, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.