President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m. on October 9, 2018 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

Present: Duane Teter, Jason Kloepping, John O'Dea, Ondrea McConville, Jason Neseth, Principals Kathy Latta and Matt Springer, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: Jenni McConville.

Visitors: Don and Donna Behnke, Garrett Mead, Cori Hage, and David and Julia Lytle.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.


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

Awards & Recognition: The girls’ golf team participated at the District Competition in Ogallala on October 1, with three students achieving their season’s personal best scores. FFA Land Judging was held in Franklin on October 3 with the Southwest Chapter placing fourth overall. One team qualified for the State Land Judging Contest in Wahoo on October 17. U.S. Bank and the Nebraska School Activities Association announced the 2018-19 Believers and Achievers. Two Southwest students were recognized for the awards program, Suzanne Roggenkamp and Dylan Hofman, represent the very best of Nebraska’s high schools as outstanding leaders within their schools and communities.

Moved by O'Dea, seconded by Kloepping, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 special hearings and regular monthly board meeting as presented. Ayes: Kloepping, O. McConville, O’Dea, Teter, Neseth, abstaining from approval of the special budget hearing minutes. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville. Motion carried.

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

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Superintendent Porter reviewed New Business Action Item 1, the Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract. Board members were instructed to complete the evaluation and return the document to President Teter as soon as possible.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by O’Dea, to approve the quote from Hegwood Concrete in the amount of $14,800.00 to replace the west entry concrete pad at the Junior-Senior High School Building. Ayes: Teter, O. McConville, Kloepping, Neseth, and O’Dea. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville. Motion carried.

Superintendent Porter discussed the current district use of the former life skills classroom with the Board. An inquiry as to the possibility of leasing the building for use as a private daycare facility has been
expressed to the administration. Several considerations were discussed among the Board and administration as to what actions need to be considered if the project were to move forward. The board decided to continue with minimum utility use and keep it for future needs that may arise for students in case of expansion, special education needs, etc.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Kloeppeing, to approve five students, as recommended by Principal Matt Springer, to participate in Board Policy 5605.1 Early Dismissal for Seniors, effective second semester. Ayes: Teter, O. McConville, Kloeppeing, Neseth, and O’Dea. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville. Motion carried.


Superintendent Porter reported the district currently is optioning in twenty-seven more students than students optioning from the Southwest School District. Adjusted county real estate valuations have been increased by $20,752,471 or 2.957% since the counties notified the district of valuations in August. An attorney’s letter identifying the distribution of school land lease and tax payments to the counties in Nebraska was discussed. The auditors visited the district on October 2. Mr. Porter will be attending a School Safety and Security Summit on October 17 and the Western Nebraska Administrators’ meeting on the 18th.

Principal Latta reported on completion of the elementary evacuation drill and attendance at the Twin Valley Public Power District Electrical Safety Presentation, Health and Fitness Day, and a Fire Safety Presentation by the Indianola Fire and Rescue Department during Fire Safety Week.

Principal Springer informed the Board of the Open House at the Junior-Senior High School on Wednesday, October 10, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. which is open to the public. He also discussed the process of obtaining a 48-passenger route bus quote from dealers.

Moved by O’Dea, seconded by Neseth, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Ayes: O’Dea, Teter, Kloeppeing, Neseth, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: J. McConville. 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 12, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.