

**Board of Education
Worth School District 127**

Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administrative Center, Gymnasium
11218 South Ridgeland Avenue
Worth, Illinois 60482

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 8, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present:	Drew Sernus, Rebecca Roti, Meghan Sisk, Dave Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Bernadette Strama	
Administrators:	Dr. Rita Wojtylewski, Superintendent	Cindy Dykas, Business Manager/CSBO
	Tim Hathhorn, Worth Elementary Principal	Linda Esposito, Worthwoods Principal
	Joe Zampillo, Worth Junior High Principal	Maureen Eichstaedt, Worth Junior High Assistant Principal
	Sinéad Chambers, Special Education Director	
Others Present:	Robert Jeffers, Technology Coordinator	Joe Kratzer, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
	Lisa Bray, Worth Junior High	Sean Kelly, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
	Brenda Miller, Recording Secretary	

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. **Worthwoods' Fifth Grade Community Service Project – Wax Museum Trailers**

On behalf of the fifth grade students and staff involved with the project, Shannon Fisher thanked the Board for the opportunity to share the excitement of the 6th annual wax museum event. The new laptops and iPads provided this year were of great curricular benefit. Students produced trailers introducing the person they chose to study and used the trailers to entice family, friends and students to visit the Wax Museum. All proceeds that will be collected from the event will be donated to a community outreach program.

The trailers were shown. Dr. Wojtylewski and the Board members thanked the students for sharing the very creative and impressive trailers and noted that the trailers most definitely persuaded them to visit the Wax Museum and learn more about famous people in history.

B. **Staff and Student Recognition**

Several reports of student recognition and events were provided in the Board packet.

C. **Metropolitan Water Reclamation Project**

Joe Kratzer and Sean Kelly, using a SmartBoard, provided an overview of a written narrative, design drawings, and photos of materials for the Flood Control Project in the Worthwoods area. These documents were also provided to the Board members. Concerns expressed at the February Board meeting were addressed in these documents. The Board entertained discussion regarding what was needed from District 127 to authorize the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to proceed with the project design phase. It was the consensus that the MWRD submit the information in presentation form for review by the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Education at the April Board meeting.

Dr. Wojtylewski and the Board members thanked Joe Kratzer and Sean Kelly for the revised design and taking the time to address the Board's questions and concerns.

D. Drinking Water Testing

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that the law now requires districts to test the drinking water in schools by December 30, 2017. Prior to being required to test, the District already had drinking water tested in 2012. The testing will be done this summer.

E. Technology Plan

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that she and Robert Jeffers attended the ICE Conference. One of the workshops they attended dealt with seven components needed for developing a Technology Plan. The workshop provided useful information that will benefit the district as it moves forward in providing Chromebooks for student use in the classroom.

F. Reading Program Study

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that the Reading Committee is scheduled to meet with a seventh publisher. Upon completion of the meetings with publishers, the Committee will make a decision and submit a recommendation to the Board for adoption. Regardless of the decision, the curriculums are all technology based. The administration is currently investigating the purchase of 30 Chromebooks with charging stations for each classroom using Title I and local dollars. During the April 4th Institute Day, instructional staff will be introduced to Google and the unlimited instructional apps available through Google Classroom. The migration to Google will allow the district to set up email accounts for each student which will allow students to communicate directly with their teacher in a protected mini-environment. Students and parents will also have the ability to access information from home regarding classroom assignments. Dr. Wojtylewski stated that she and the Technology Coordinator will be meeting with District 230 for insight on our implementation, as they are already using Chrombooks and Google Classroom. She will also reach out to District 218 as a source of networking.

G. Board Committee Meetings

Dr. Wojtylewski provided calendars for the months of April and May to assist in setting meeting dates for the Finance, Policy and Education Committees. Since not all members were present, the recording secretary was directed to poll Committee members. A Board member reiterated a previous request that the Education Committee begin at 6:30 p.m. to accommodate the attendance of Board members not on the Committee.

H. Board Procedures as a Result of Election

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that she was contacted by the ISC₄, which serves as the Regional Office of Education, regarding the upcoming election. School districts are required to report to the Regional Office when there is a vacancy on the School Board. Dr. Wojtylewski stated that there are four openings. Three incumbents (Blanks, Flores, Sernus) are seeking reelection and one write-in candidate (Danette Keeler) has filed for the fourth seat. The official election results must be available by April 24th. Districts are required by law to seat new and returning Board members by May 1st. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to hold its reorganization meeting on Wednesday, April 26th, at 6:30 p.m.

I. Details on Board Agenda Items

Approval of Milk Contract – The Board will take action on the approval of a contract with CloverLeaf Farms Distributors for milk delivery.

Michelle Egan excused herself at 8:05 p.m. to attend the Shepard Band Festival at which her daughter was performing.

Fire Alarm (Life Safety) Testing and Inspection, and Life Safety Changes – The Board will take action on the approval of a five-year Master Agreement with ESSCOE, LLC for fire alarm testing and inspection at Worth Elementary, Worthwoods, Worth Junior High and Worthridge/Administrative Center buildings.

DCEO Efficiency Program – The Board will take action on the approval to authorize Electrical Solutions Network to provide consulting services for the application and management of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Energy Efficiency Program.

Resolution: Nonrenewal of Non-Final-Year Probationary Teachers – The Board will take action on the approval of a Resolution authorizing nonrenewal of non-final-year probationary teachers.

5. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no remarks made.

6. BOARD MOTIONS

A. Consent Agenda

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education approve the following consent agenda items:

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) <u>Accounts Payable</u> | February 10, 2017 | \$10,000.00 |
| | March 8, 2017 | \$120,523.45 |
| 2) <u>Payroll Summary</u> | Education Fund | \$575,997.93 |
| | Building Fund | \$35,649.79 |
| | IMRF and FICA/Medicare | \$41,586.68 |
| 3) <u>Additions to Call List of Substitute Teachers, Instructional Aides, Office and Lunch Supervisors</u> | | |
| 4) <u>Resignation of Certified Staff</u> | | |
| Jessica Osmani | Teacher, Worth Junior High | End of the 2016-17 School Year |
| Ruth Bengston | Media Specialist, Worth Elementary | End of the 2016-17 School Year |
| 5) <u>Request for Contractual Leave of Absence</u> | | |
| Anastasia Heimberger | Teacher, Worth Junior High | Effective the 2017-18 School Year |
| (end consent agenda) | | |

Meghan Sisk seconded the motion.

Dr. Wojtylewski responded to questions from Board members. The resignations of certified staff members were a result of individuals on contractual leaves of absence who have notified her that they will not return for the 2017-18 school year. Once staff has had an opportunity to express an interest in openings for the upcoming school year, vacancy notices will be posted. The openings for Media Specialists at Worth Elementary and Worth Junior High will be posted soon, since no current staff member holds media certification.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

B. Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 8, 2017, regular meeting.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education approve the first closed session minutes of the February 8, 2017, regular meeting

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education approve the second closed session minutes of the February 8, 2017, regular meeting

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

C. Approval of Milk Contract

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education approve a contract with CloverLeaf Farms Distributors for milk delivery, as presented in Attachment E.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

D. Fire Alarm (Life Safety) Testing and Inspection, and Life Safety Changes

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education approve the five-year Master Agreement with ESSCOE, LLC for the fire alarm testing and inspection for Worth Junior High, Worth Elementary School, Worthwoods Elementary, and Worthridge/Administrative Building, as presented in Attachments F1-F20.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

President Sernus recommended that the Board not approve the agreement as ESSCOE is a not a union shop. A Board member commented that he is not in favor of denying individuals an opportunity to make a living for their families based on union involvement. This could affect employees who might reside in our own community. The administration responded to questions from Board members. The company used prior to ESSCOE was not responsive nor thorough in the performance of maintenance and repairs. The Board has approved agreements with ESSCOE in the past. The relationship has been great. They are responsive, thorough, and overall a pleasure to work with.

President Sernus asked that discussion be tabled pending further discussion. Bernadette Strama rescinded her motion and Vince Flores rescinded his second of the motion.

E. DCEO Efficiency Program

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education authorize Electrical Solutions Network to provide consulting services for the application and management of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Energy Efficiency Program, as presented in Attachments G1-G3.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

Cindy Dykas and Dr. Wojtylewski responded to questions from the Board. The consultant services for this State funded program do not require that the District bid in order to participate. Electrical Solutions Network has reviewed energy bills for the past twelve months, walked-thru all the buildings, identified lighting that should be upgraded, and calculated and estimated the amount of rebated money the district will receive for the upgrades. Upon approval of specific jobs, Electrical Solutions will proceed with the bid process as required by law, accepting the bid of the lowest responsible bidder. Due to the uncertainty of the State budget, it is not known how long the State will continue to offer this program.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 2 Absent – Motion Carried

- F. Consider Authorization for Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Project Design Phase
As agreed to earlier in the meeting, this item will be presented for discussion at the next Finance Committee meeting.
- G. Resolution: Nonrenewal of Non-Final-Year Probationary Teachers
Dave Blanks moved that the Board of Education approve a 'Resolution Authorizing Nonrenewal of Non-Final-Year Probationary Teachers', as presented in Attachments H1-H3.
Bernadette Strama seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

7. BOARD DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

- A. Finance Committee Meeting Date
- B. Policy Committee Meeting Date
- C. Education Committee Meeting Date

As noted earlier, the recording secretary will contact Committee members to discuss possible meeting dates. A Board member requested that the Education Committee meeting be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in order to give all Board members an opportunity to attend.

8. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

A Board member voiced his concern of the continuous inconsistent presence of the crossing guard on the corner of Oak Park and 112th. He thanked Tim Hathhorn and Officer Cozzi for providing coverage recently when a substitute crossing guard was not available. Dr. Wojtylewski stated that she will discuss the matter with the Police Chief and report back to the Board.

9. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A Board member noted that the American Legion is having a corned beef dinner on March 11th and the Boy Scouts are having a pancake breakfast on March 18th.

A Board member shared the success of her sons' hockey team which raised over \$7,000 for various charities. She thanked those who contributed.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: All Aye – Motion Carried

Bernadette Strama excused herself at 8:50 p.m.

The Board took a short break before entering closed session.

11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education, upon completion of its discussions in closed session, reconvene in public session at 9:27 p.m.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 2 Absent – Motion Carried

12. EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL AS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Meghan Sisk moved that the Board of Education employ Matthew Aggen as Technology Specialist effective March 9, 2017, with a starting salary of \$50,000.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 2 Absent – Motion Carried

Fire Alarm (Life Safety) Testing and Inspection, and Life Safety Changes

Vince Flores moved that the Board of Education approve the five-year Master Agreement with ESSCOE, LLC for the fire alarm testing and inspection for Worth Junior High, Worth Elementary School, Worthwoods Elementary, and Worthridge/Administrative Building, as presented in Attachments F1-F20.

Meghan Sisk seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 2 Aye, 3 Nay (Blanks, Roti, Sernus), 2 Absent – Motion Denied

A Board member requested that Dr. Wojtylewski provide the Board with the crossing guard schedule of times for this school year. The schedule will be included in the Friday update.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meghan Sisk moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

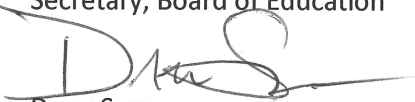
Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Aye - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education



Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education