**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting –March 9, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Board President Cale Rieger in the administration office on the above date at 7:07 a.m. with everyone present except J. W. Milliken.

 Troy Hilt made a motion to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried.

The Board reviewed and discussed the items on the consent calendar. A motion was then made by Dustin Andrist, seconded by Chris Hingst, to approve the consent calendar, including the following items: a) The minutes of the regular Board meeting on February 9, 2023. b) A list of bills being paid on direct deposit slips numbering 0217001 – 0217079 and on checks numbering 12167-12179 on BANKWEST, and checks numbering 16430-16482 on FNB Bank for a total of $333,533.89. c) The Cash Summary Report (including one transfer: $4,562.22 from General Fund to the At-Risk Fund)¸ the Grade School Activity Fund Report, and the High School Activity Fund Report – all as of February 28, 2023. d) The following gift offers were approved: $4,200.00 for the Jean Ann Confer Memorial Fund; $19,255.81 from the Lila Oster Estate.

No Audiences.

Principal Morrow and Shayla Orten will have the necessary scholarship information ready for the scholarship committee sometime later this month. We will contact the scholarship committee members with a meeting day and time.

The Hiring Committee will have recommendations for head cook and elementary principal under Personnel Items.

Under Old Business Superintendent Penka discussed some of the legislative issues regarding schools.

Superintendent Penka reported that he had gotten more information on insuring the Cheyenne County Daycare. He also reported that we are unable to secure liability insurance; Jessica Matthies will work to get that put in place.

Next, Superintendent Penka requested a 25 minute executive session. Chris Hingst made the following motion: Mr. President, I move that the board recess into executive session to discuss the performance of individual staff members in order to protect their privacy pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA and that the open meeting shall resume at 8:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Troy Hilt and carried.

At this time under New Business, Superintendent Penka discussed some of the staffing needs at this time. We have the following vacant positions: Grade School Music.

The Board was reminded that by law (K.S.A. 72-5411, as amended), a school board must notify a teacher in writing on or before the third Friday in May (May 19th this year) if said teacher’s contract will not be renewed; and a teacher must notify the school board in writing on or before 14 days after the third Friday in May (June 2nd this year) if (s)he is resigning from their teaching contract.

Contract offers and proposed reassignments (if any) for the 2023-2024 school year can be acted-on at the regular meeting on April 13, 2023, or at the May 11, 2023, meeting if necessary.

In new business under personnel items, Superintendent Penka reported that we have received a resignation letter from Scott (Hoagie) Carmichael, resigning from his position of junior high football coach and high school wrestling athletic director. Mr. Carmichael also indicated that the 2023-2024 school year will be his last year teaching. Mr. Carmichael has been with USD 297 for 36 years. A verbal resignation was also received from Deanna Grice resigning her position as a grade school part-time cook. Mrs. Grice has been with the school district for 11 years. Danielle McAtee made a motion to accept these resignations; the motion was seconded by Shawna Blanka and carried.

Also under personnel items, the hiring committee recommended Michelle Daniels for the Elementary School Principal position (on a two year contract); Ryan Agan to be assistant junior high track coach; and Leslie Steggs for the Director of Food Service. Chris Hingst made a motion to approve these three hires; motion seconded by Dustin Andrist and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka recommended that we continue to use Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center as our General Interlocal Establishment from 2023 through June 30, 2028. Dustin Andrist made a motion to continue with NKESC; seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on April 13, 2023, at 7:00 a.m.

At 8:19 a.m., Troy Hilt moved that the meeting adjourn; the motion was seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

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CLERK DATE BOARD PRESIDENT