BENNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL

PROCEEDINGS OF BUDGET HEARING AND

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 12, 2021

The Bennett Board of Education met for a budget hearing/regular monthly meeting in the staff work room of the Bennett Community School, Bennett, IA. Vice President Greg Reynolds called the budget hearing to order at 6:45 PM, and the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Directors Kaitlin Rasdon, Chad Petersen, and Greg Reynolds answered roll call and a quorum was declared. Directors Danielle Pratt and Lisa Syring were absent. Also present were Superintendent Lonnie Luepker, Principal Jeremiah Costello, Board Secretary Amanda Skriloff, Jodi Freet, Stacey Hennings, Bobbi Havill, and Lonna Moeller.

Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Petersen to approve the agenda. Motion carried 3/0.

The mission statement and board goals were read.

**Staff/Student Forum**: None

**Public Forum:** Jodi Freet from the Cedar County Emergency Management presented the Cedar County Hazardous Mitigation Plan to the board.

**Superintendent’s Report:** Mr. Luepker reported that our current focus is on filling the operational sharing we lost with the counselor position, which is the equivalency of three full time students; reaching out to area schools to see about a shared librarian; Amanda and Lonnie have been working on the budget and plan on amending our current budget in May; and lastly just seeing what the last of the year looks like with students in school.

**Principal’s Report:** Mr. Costello reported that ISASP testing starts this week for grades 3rd-6th; Ms. Bruno and the tag students finished their CogAT testing; the Siegfried Scholarship committee plans on meeting in the next couple of weeks; the Conditions for Learning survey will be going out soon to staff and parents for the students to take during guidance class; 3rd trimester conferences are this Thursday by email, phone or virtual meet; During teacher in-service over Easter break, teachers worked on their PLC’s and 103B training, Kindergarten round-up went smoothly, a virtual parent meeting was held in the evening and was well attended; Statewide tornado drill happened; E-rate form 470 and 471 were filed; the go kits are put together and our crisis response guides are printed, everything is ready to be handed out.

**General Business of the Board:**

8a: Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the minutes from March 8, claims totaling $123,541.77 and March financials. Motion carried 3/0.

8b: A review was done of board policies 902.1-904.7. Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Petersen to approve all policies as read. Motion carried 3/0.

8c: There being no audience comment with regard to the budget, Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the FY22 budget. All ayes. Motion carried 3/0.

8d: Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the FY20 audit report. Motion carried 3/0.

8e: Director Rasdon moved, Seconded by Director Petersen to approve the insurance package for district staff. Motion carried 3/0.

8f: No contracts or resignations to approve.

8g: No open enrollments to approve.

8h: Director Petersen moved, Seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the Cedar County Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Motion carried 3/0.

8i: Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve having Technology Solutions manage our broadband and technology. Motion carried 3/0.

8j: The board entered into exempt session from 7:40 pm to 7:55 pm for a negotiations strategy session as allowed by Iowa Code Ch. 20.17(3).

8k: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Petersen to approve the purchase of new accounting software. Motion carried 3/0.

8l: Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the AEA purchasing agreement. Motion carried 3/0.

8m: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Petersen to approve the hail damage estimate from M&T Drywall and Construction, LLC. Motion carried 3/0.

8n: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Petersen to set May 10, 2021 at 6:45 PM in the staff work room for the FY21 budget amendment. Motion carried 3/0.

**Announcements/Discussion:** A discussion was held on the return to learn plan with the continuation of masks, opening the building back up, hosing a music concert and 6th grade graduation; Directors Pratt and Rasdon met with staff individually to discuss climate and culture of the building and offered feedback to Lonnie; Jeremiah and Lonnie started having conversations about some things everyone could work on; the parking lot project that was approved last month will start in June or July.

**Correspondence:** None

Exempt session to discuss support staff and administrative salaries was tabled.

**Adjournment:** Director Petersen moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Motion carried 3/0.