**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting and Budget Hearing – August 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by President Cale Rieger in the administration office on the above date at 7:00 a.m. with everyone present, except Danielle McAtee and Dustin Andrist.

Superintendent Penka had one addition to the agenda New Business – e) Personnel (15 minute executive session). Chris Hingst made a motion to approve the agenda with the one addition; the motion was seconded by Troy Hilt and carried.

Items on the Consent Calendar were next considered. An amendment has been made to the July 13, 2023 minutes as follows: it was voted unanimously to exceed the Revenue Neutral Tax Rate. Following review of these items, Shawna Blanka moved, J. W. Milliken seconded, and it carried to approve the consent calendar, including the following items: 1) The minutes of the regular Board meeting on July 13, 2023 2) The list of bills being paid on direct deposit slips numbering 0719036-0719043, and on checks numbering 12269-12281 on BANKWEST in the amount of $50,504.99 and checks numbering 16753-16847 on First National Bank totaling $185,877.33 for a grand total of $236,382.32. 3) The Cash Summary Report , the Grade School Activity Fund Report, and the High School Activity Fund Report--all as of July 31, 2023. 4) No Gift offers.

There were no audiences.

There were no committee reports.

There was no old business.

Next under new business, the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing and the budget hearing for the 2023-2024 school year were held. There were no patrons present for the hearings. Chris Hingst moved that the Revenue Neutral Rate and the budget be adopted as published in the July 19, 2023 edition of the St. Francis Herald; the motion was seconded by Troy Hilt and carried with a 5 to 0 vote.

Superintendent Penka reviewed the proposed bus routes with the Board. Currently, there will be five routes, the same as last year. All of these proposed routes are still subject to change as more information becomes available.

There were six contracts brought before the board for signature.

The administration is recommending the hiring of Jeffrey Parsons as head high school girls’ basketball coach and Brittney Lamb as head cross country coach. A motion was made by J. W. Milliken, seconded by Shawna Blanka and carried to approve the two contracts. Superintendent Penka informed the board that we are still in need of a full-time cook at the elementary school.

A new signature card is needed for the Grade School Activity account at BANKWEST, removing Anne Coon and Darla Raile, remaining signatures will be Mark Penka, Traci Neitzel, and Jackie Butler. Troy Hilt made a motion to make the necessary changes; seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka requested a 15 minute executive meeting to discuss personnel issues. Troy Hilt made the following motion: Mr. President, I move that the board recess into executive session to discuss the individual staff members in order to protect their privacy under KOMA and that the open meeting shall resume at 7:42 a.m.; the motion was seconded by J. W. Milliken and carried. Regular meeting resumed at 7:42 a.m. with no action being taken.

Under miscellaneous items, Superintendent Penka reviewed the current enrollment numbers. The official student count will be on September 20, 2023.

Jessica Matthies, Director for the Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation has requested using the grade school cafeteria for an after school program from 3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. It was the consensus of the Board to approve using the grade school cafeteria.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 A.M.**

At 8:10 a.m., Chris Hingst moved that the meeting adjourn; the motion was seconded by Shawna Blanka and carried.

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CLERK DATE BOARD PRESIDENT