A Meeting of the Board of Education of the Ozark Mountain School District.

Type: Regular

Place: St. Joe Campus – Administration Building

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Date: February 19, 2018

Members Present: Jesse Rose, Travis Freeman, Ben Taylor, Donald Morris, Randy Brumley, and Brad Gibson

Members Absent: Jared Morgan

The Ozark Mountain School District’s February Board meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Jesses Rose at 6:06 p.m...

The first item of business was the motion to appoint Brad Gibson to the vacated position for Zone 1. Mr. Gibson had already been sworn in by Searcy County Clerk, Debbie Loggins, prior to the Board meeting.

Motion was made by Ben Taylor, second by Donald Morris, motion passed.

Ben Taylor made the motion to accept the January 31, 2018 Board Minutes as presented. Travis Freeman second the motion and all approved.

The Financial Report for January, 2018 was presented by Superintendent, Jayme Jones. Ms. Deannie Stills provided a letter of explanation that was mailed in the Board packets clearing up the questioned discrepancies from the prior months Financial Report. Ben Taylor asked Mr. Jones how the ending balances compared to last year, at this same time, and Mr. Jones stated he was not sure but would check into the comparison. Mr. Jones noted that the Food Service Fund was down due to the loss of some students, and Ms. Deannie stated that OMSD should be getting some Isolated Funding next month. Ben Taylor made the motion to approve, Randy Brumley second, motion passed.

Next on the agenda was a Pumpkin Patch proposal by Tim Earwood and the Agriculture/FFA teacher, Matt Eddings. Because this project is a district-wide FFA initiative, Greg Evans, and Alex Hale, were both present to represent their respective campuses. The proposal to plant a pumpkin patch on the St. Joe Campus, on a 1-acre plot near the current location of the Greenhouse, was presented with detail to layout, irrigation, flow-rate and soil preparation. It was also shared that at the time of harvest, the pumpkins would be sold, and that each chapter would use that as a fundraiser in the fall. The presenters explained that pumpkins were a fun crop and a good test crop with less red tape in “G.A.P.” regulations but that future food crops could be considered if the pilot project went well. The group explain that there would be a small start-up cost associated with the project of approximately $750.00, but that each FFA Chapter was going to split that expense. The project will also be a collaboration of all three FFA Chapters for planting seeds, transplanting, and harvesting. Tim Earwood and Matt Eddings will do all the tilling and a hot wire will be placed around the 1-acre plot to deter livestock in tromping. If approved, the crop will be planted this spring, and then harvested in the fall when students are back on campus. Board member, Ben Taylor questioned expenses to the district, such as water. Tim Earwood said he had considered this expense and the only way to truly calculate if the pumpkins would be driving the water bill up, was to take a 5-year average water cost and monitor the bills once the crop was being irrigated. Travis Freeman inquired into the profits of the crop and how they would be distributed. It was explained that the pumpkins will be a fundraiser and each FFA Chapter within the district would get an amount for each pumpkin that the Chapter sold. It was also noted that Mr. Earwood would receive $1.00 for each pumpkin sold for his efforts in the project. All sales would go through the FFA Chapter’s Activity Account. It was discussed that potentially some of the work would require week-end attention, but those days would be considered more “extra-credit” and would not be used against a student if they had other obligations and could not attend. Mr. Earwood had researched the project in great length and visited with Marshall Milling, two County Extension Agencies, and Clyde Fenton regarding the project. All parties felt as if the project was a great effort in collaboration, hands on experience, and something that would benefit the community. After all questions were answered, Ben Taylor made the motion to accept the proposal, Donald Morris second, and the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. David Pilgrim presented E-Rate Upgrade for the Bruno-Pyatt Wireless. A quote from IK Network Solutions, the only company that submitted a bid, was given to each Board member reflecting cost and installation fees associated with the project. After some questions were presented, Mr. Pligrim explained that E-Rate was issued by the Federal Government and the amount was based on the number (or percentage) of free and reduced lunch applicants you have within your district. Our current e-Rate discount is at 85%, which is the highest for which anyone can receive. The bid for the proposed upgrade from IK Network Solutions was $10,223.28 but after the e-Rate discount, OMSD would only be responsible for $1,533.49. Mr. Pilgrim informed the Board that currently, Bruno-Pyatt receives their wireless service through routers that are on the Western Grove Campus, but with ACT Aspire, the required new online Civics Test for Juniors, and with 505 Chrome Books throughout the District, the service to Bruno-Pyatt was strained and that this option would greatly benefit the District. Donald Morris made the motion to accept the proposal, Brad Gibson second, and the motion passed.

Next on the agenda was the ASBA Model Policy Service Contract Renewal. The cost of the Model Policy Service Contract renewal was $2,850 for a 36-month agreement, effective the first day of January, 2017 and terminating on the last day of December, 2020. The cost associated with the renewal was a lump sum of $2,850 or a yearly installment payment of $950.00. Ben Taylor made the motion to accept, Travis Freeman second the motion, and the motion passed.

Mr. Jones presented the BXS Insurance renewal election to the Board. This insurance covers the renewal of School Board/Educators Legal Liability Policy ($5,734.00), with the option to include a General Liability Endorsement ($600.00). Ben Taylor made the motion to approve the renewal of both, School Board/Educators Legal Liability Policy and the General Liability Endorsement, Donald Morris second the motion, and the motion passed.

The next item for business was a proposal presented by Jayme Jones for payment of basketball stipends to he and Mitzi Cantrell. He stated that Ms. Cantrell had in no way asked for the stipend, that the stipend was not part of the original deal when he and Ms. Cantrell first began coaching the Bruno-Pyatt basketball teams, but that he felt with the departure of Coach Josh Henley, the pair had worked very hard, the teams had both qualified for the Regional Tournament, and they deserved to be compensated accordingly. The stipend was figured at pro-rated amounts and the final figure was less than what would have been awarded to Josh Henley, had he remained the coach of the Bruno-Pyatt teams. Randy Brumley made the motion to issue a stipend to Mitzi Cantrell in the amount of $2,583.80 and to Jayme Jones in the amount of $2,628.54. Travis Freeman second the motion and the motion passed.

At 7:07 p.m. the Board went into executive session to discuss personnel.

Board President, Jesse Rose, reconvened the regular board session at 10:15 p.m…

Ben Taylor made the motion to extend the Superintendent, Mr. Jayme Jones’ contract for one year, which would take him through the 2019-2020 Academic Year. Randy Brumley second the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board accepted the resignation of Anna Besperat effective immediately. A motion was made by Travis Freeman, second by Ben Taylor, and the motion passed.

The Board also accepted the resignation of Sarah Blair from the Western Grove campus. Donald Morris made the motion to accept, Travis Freeman second the motion, the motion passed.

Mr. Jones explained that there had been a late personnel request by Denise Turney to hire Kristian Goodrich to fill a vacated position in the St. Joe Cafeteria. Ben Taylor made the motion to accept the proposal to hire, Donald Morris second, and the motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m. with the next OMSD Board Meeting currently scheduled for March 19, 2018.

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Board President, Mr. Jesse Rose Board Treasure, Mr. Ben Taylor