

## MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

December 17, 2019

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held December 17, 2019, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

### LEVY HEARING

#### Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Beaty called the Levy Hearing to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin,  
Mr. Tim Braker, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger

Dr. Beaty declared the Hearing open for the purpose of public comment and/or questions concerning the 2019 Levy.

There being no comments, Dr. Beaty declared the public hearing closed at 6:35 p.m.

### REGULAR MEETING

#### Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Shad Beaty, Mr. Jeff Schmidgall, Mr. Kevin Austin,  
Mr. Tim Braker, Dr. David Cross, Mr. Tom Neeley, Mr. Bart Rinkenberger

#### **Reports –**

##### Administrative –

##### Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hill noted there was one Freedom of Information request to report. Dodge Data & Analytics requested bid tabulation data for the MJHS gymnasium project. The response is posted on the District website.

##### Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Hill reported that:

- Teaching and Learning Council (formerly CAC) recently met and discussed vision of student success and E-learning days – a plan will be brought to the board in January. E-learning days would only be used if taking an emergency day would affect timing of

- finals at the end of the school year.
- A threat assessment team will be formed by the end of February and a formal procedure will be written. The district has always had a threat assessment process, but this new procedure will formalize the process.
- Mrs. Ripka will be presenting in the near future on MHS Career Readiness to the Morton Economic Development council and to the Morton Rotary Club. He noted MHS recently received a donation for the welding program from Parker Fabrication.

### **President's Report –**

Dr. Beaty reported that Mr. Neeley was recently elected President of the Illinois Association of School Boards. This is an honor for Mr. Neeley and an honor for the school district to be represented across the state in this way.

Board members and administrators who attended the Joint Annual School Board conference shared information from sessions they attended. It was a good time of learning and networking. All expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to attend.

**Agenda Building –** Dr. Beaty would like to have a discussion on cell phone usage at the January meeting.

### **Discussion Item –**

#### **15-Year Facilities Plan -**

Board members discussed scheduled maintenance projects for 2020 including Brown – resurfacing parking lots and playground; Jefferson – roofing and replacement of some interior doors; Lincoln – roofing; High School – roofing; weight room/art room – reconfigure; remodel faculty lounge and conference room into STEM classrooms. Mr. Neeley asked that an upcoming board meeting include a walk through at the high school to better understand the scope of these recommended projects.

### **Action Item –**

#### **Approve 2019 Levy Resolution –**

The administration has completed the tentative Levy for 2019 and the board approved it at the November 5, 2019, meeting. A public hearing was held for the purposes of inviting public comment earlier in this meeting. Final approval of the Levy resolution is being sought.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve the 2019 levy resolution.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea 7

Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Approve MJHS Phase 2 Bids --**

The bid opening for the Morton Junior High School gym addition was held on December 10, 2019. The administration requested a base bid and seven alternates.

As a result of the renovation, Morton Junior High School will have a new gymnasium that is built with acoustical treatments to provide an environment that can also be used for music or theatre purposes. Additionally, the following expenditures will be removed/modified on the 15- year maintenance plan.

- MEAC – Reduction of \$1M on 15 Year Plan. The remaining \$497,230 is to allow for modifications to the structure for other purposes as the Board approves
- Electric –MJHS branch wiring and devices – Reduction of \$150,000 on 15 Year Plan.
- Phase II – New gymnasium and lockers – Remove \$5,131,151 on 15 Year Plan.

Bids were received from eight companies – CAD Construction, CORE Construction, D. Joseph Construction, George Rump Construction, Hein Construction, JohnCo Construction, Peoria Metro Construction, Inc., and N. Zobrist & Sons, Inc. The base bids ranged from \$3,660,000 - \$4,074,000 and the base bid with recommended alternates ranged from \$4,374,800 - \$4,815,100 with N. Zobrist & Sons, Inc. submitting the low bid.

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the Board of Education accept the base bid plus Alternate Bids 1, 2, 3, 4, and 4a from N. Zobrist & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$4,374,800.

Mr. Braker expressed his disagreement with the process the school district uses to pre-qualify subcontractors. Dr. Beaty explained the process and reasoning.

Dr. Hill explained that the alternate bids are for a lobby addition; audio/visual and acoustics to make the space more flexible for musical/theatrical events. The intercom system throughout the building will be replaced, as it makes sense to include this much needed upgrade along with the other work.

The target date for completion is December, 2020.

Roll Call:

Yea 6

Nay 1 (Braker)

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda –**

Dr. Beaty asked that Item B be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion and a separate vote.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Mr. Rinckenberger, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented with the exception of Item B – Approve Overnight Trip Request – MHS Fine Arts Dept. – ILMEA All State - Peoria:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Minutes of the November 19, 2019, Regular Meeting, and the November 19, 2019, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills and Payroll

	<b>Bills 11-26-19</b>	<b>Bills 12-06-19</b>	<b>Bills 12-13-19</b>	<b>Payroll 11-22-19</b>	<b>Payroll 12-6-19</b>
Ed. Fund	\$105,927.92	\$31,190.65	\$102,513.79	\$827,075.57	\$805,944.39
Bldg. Fund	5,794.70	50,610.69	4,074.35	52,064.14	41,149.27
Trans. Fund	10,845.32	1,160.10	19,509.27	25,366.27	19,690.03
IMRF Fund	--	--	--	44,808.40	24,281.90

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried.

**Approve Overnight Trip Request – MHS Fine Arts Dept. – ILMEA All State – Peoria –**

Motion by Mr. Rinckenberger, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education approve members from the MHS Fine Arts Dept. to stay overnight at a hotel in Peoria to attend and participate in the ILMEA Conference All State Band.

Dr. Hill explained that this is a great honor for the four students that were chosen to participate in the All State Band. It is comparative to an athletic team qualifying for the state tournament. There are rehearsals and performances throughout the 2-day event. The Fine Arts Department budgets for this expense yearly. Mr. Schmidgall believes it is an unnecessary expense given the distance to downtown Peoria from Morton High School.

Roll Call:                      Yea 6                      Nay 1 (Schmidgall)

Motion carried.

**Closed Session -**

Motion by Dr. Cross, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for discussion of Purchase/Sale of Property, Student Discipline, and Personnel.  
**(5ILCS 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)**

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:17 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 8:40 p.m.

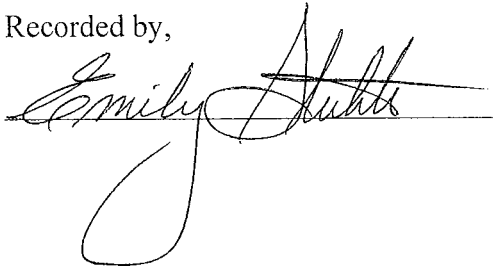
**Adjournment -**

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Rinkenberger, that the meeting be adjourned.

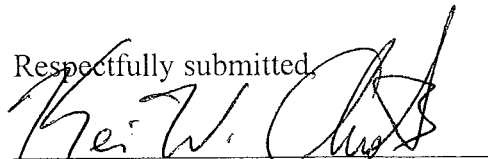
Voice Vote:                      Yea 7                      Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

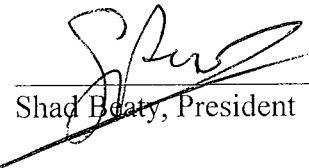
Recorded by,

  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Kevin Austin, Secretary

  
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Shad Beaty, President