

MORTON UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709

August 18, 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Morton Unit School District 709 held August 18, 2020, at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order and Roll Call –

President Shad Beaty called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

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

Reports –

Administrative –

Superintendent's Report –

Dr. Hill expressed his gratitude to the staff, parents, and students for the good start to the school year given the extraordinary circumstances this year. He is proud of the students for following the guidelines and complimented the teachers, as there is more to manage this year than in years past. The principals are demonstrating patience and strong leadership as they work with teachers and students. Dr. Smock's role is different at this time as he works with the Tazewell County Health department tracking staff and student COVID cases. Dr. Teater is leading remote learning and all that entails.

COVID Update – Dr. Hill reported the latest information available up to the time of the meeting:

- 8 students positive/0 teachers
- 96 students are quarantined (due to contact with a positive case)
- 225 remote learners – Early Childhood – 2; K-5 – 104; 6-8 – 52; 9-12 – 67. Of these students, 43 have IEP's with a remote learning plan.
- 79 home schooling (former students that were expected to return to school this year)
- Transportation – operating within ISBE guidelines. No problems or issues to report.
- Food Service – grab and go lunches are being served. Meals served are down 2000 from last year; there is open campus for high school juniors and seniors.
- Current COVID expenditures are at \$560,000. 75% of that should be reimbursed through federal grant funds.
- Communication – Superintendent is sending out a weekly report at the end of the week with updated information; Communications Director Mike Bailey is hosting short video clips titled "Potter Points." Episode 1 was a Q & A surrounding the reopening of schools; Episode 2 was interviews with the Transportation and Food Service Directors. Episode 3 features athletics.

President’s Report –

Dr. Beaty thanked the administrative team for their preparations and success in the most trying start to a school year. He noted that when there is a positive COVID-19 case, it is tracked and those in contact must be quarantined for 14 days. There will be times when many may be out of school due to quarantine, but those are not necessarily positive cases. Any illness symptoms at school will be sent home. He noted could not be more proud of the district at this time.

Other board members mentioned their appreciation for the work of the administrators and teachers along with tremendous parental support. Dr. Hill thanked the Board members for their support and encouragement.

Action Item –

Approve 2020– 2021 Tentative Budget –

The 2020-2021 tentative budget was presented to the Board at its August 4th meeting.

Motion by Mr. Austin, second by Mr. Neeley that the Board of Education approve the tentative budget, put it on display for thirty days, and set the budget hearing date for September 22, 2020, at 7:15 p.m. at the Morton Education and Administration Center.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda –

Motion by Mr. Rinkenberger, second by Dr. Cross, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve Transportation Claim
- Approve Minutes of the August 4, 2020, Regular Meeting; and the August 4, 2020, Regular Meeting Closed Session.
- Approve Bills

	Bills 8-7-20	Bills 8-14-20
Ed. Fund	\$195,216.37	\$305,554.66
Bldg. Fund	900,066.60	17,540.77
Trans. Fund	37,794.05	13,848.90
TORT	596.00	--

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

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

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Schmidgall, second by Dr. Cross, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 7:44 p.m.

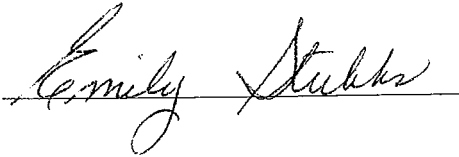
Adjournment –

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mr. Schmidgall, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

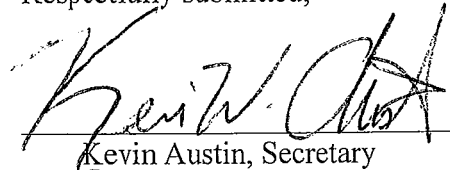
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Recorded by,

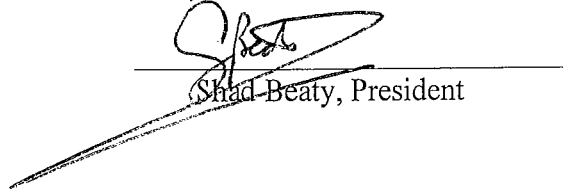


Emily Stubbs

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Austin, Secretary



Shad Beaty, President