

Regular January 2025 Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2025 7:00 PM
High School Media Center

as advertised in the *Pilot-Tribune/Enterprise* and on
fortcalhouschools.org

ROUTINE BUSINESS

- Call to Order: Superintendent Green presiding; The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. There were 4 administrators and 7 visitors present.
- Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted
- Excused Absences: There were none-all present.
- Roll Call: Josh Christensen-Present; Tony Dowling-Present; Cassie Kelly-Present; Amanda Schrum-Present; Ryan Sevcik-Present; Ted Welchert-Present
- Approval of Agenda: This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed.
Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea
- Board Members Make Declaration for the Record of Any Conflicts of Interest per Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Laws: Josh Christensen stated he has a conflict because of his ownership of Abes Trash Service.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Election of President: Amanda Schrum nominated Josh Christensen as president and Ted Welchert seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. After a ballot, Christensen was elected president on a 6-0 vote. President Christensen took over presiding at the meeting.
- Election of Vice President: Cassie Kelly nominated Amanda Schrum as vice president and Ryan Sevcik seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. After a ballot, Schrum was elected vice president on a 6-0 vote.
- Election of Secretary: Amanda Schrum nominated Cassie Kelly as secretary and Tony Dowling seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. After a ballot, Kelly was elected secretary on a 6-0 vote.
- Election of Treasurer: Amanda Schrum nominated Ted Welchert as treasurer and Cassie Kelly seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. After a ballot, Welchert was elected treasurer on a 6-0 vote.
- Oath of Office: All board members recited the Oath of Office.

REGULAR AGENDA

- Public Participation: No one asked to address the board.
- Approval of Claims: Moved that the board of education approve the claims in the amount of \$132,535.05 from the General Fund and \$9,814.26 from Savings and Depreciation. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed.
Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Superintendent Green and Ted Welchert went through the claims. Those of note were Calhoun Oil which encompassed 4 months of charges, the yearly ESU #3 Coop purchase; money voted on set aside for activities; SPARQ for negotiations and hiring; updating camera cabling and data center backups/updates at the elementary.
- Claim for Abe's Trash: Moved that the claim from Abe's Trash Service be approved in the

amount of \$1,692.50. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Abstain, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Consent Agenda: Moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Set Regular Board Meeting Day and Time: Moved that the Regular Meetings of the Fort Calhoun Board of Education be held at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum. Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. These motions are passed yearly as routine business.

-Designate the District Official Newspaper for Publications: Moved that Washington County Pilot-Tribune & Enterprise and the Daily Record, when needed, be designated as the official newspapers for the Fort Calhoun School District. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green explained the change in the law for posting meetings. Fort Calhoun will continue to have them printed in the paper and also on websites.

-Designate District's Legal Counsel: Moved to designate the attorneys of KSB School Law of Lincoln, Nebraska as district legal counsel. The District reserves the right to use the legal counsel of Nebraska Association of School Boards, as may be needed. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green said we have had KSB since their inception and they are doing a great job. Their legislative service which impacts policy is great.

-Board Authorization for Superintendent Actions: Moved that the Board of Education authorize and grant the superintendent or his designee, authority to represent the District in all matters relating to local, state and federal programs and funds. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Christensen, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. This is necessary for the superintendent to do his job.

-Appoint an Executive Secretary: Moved that Rose Tinkham be appointed as the Executive Secretary for the Fort Calhoun School District. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Selection of Bank Depository for District Funds: Moved that WCB, Blair and Fort Calhoun Nebraska be designated as the depository for all School District #3 accounts for 2025. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Schrum, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green said the district has been using them since they came to Fort Calhoun.

-Committee Assignments 2025: The board president has selected the committees for 2025. They are: Committee on American Civics/Facilities and Grounds and Transportation-Amanda Schrum, Tony Dowling and Ryan Sevcik. Finance/Technology-Josh Christensen, Ted Welchert and Cassie Kelly.

-Standing Committee Reports: American Civics-Schrum reported on policy updates to align with current practices; discussing an elementary Art teacher, extending benefits to the Foundation

director; receiving a grant submitted for Fort Calhoun by Lamp Rynearson who they thanked, and an update on the wrestling room. Cassie Kelly reported that the Finance Committee discussed the same topics.

-Policies 2007-Reimbursement and Miscellaneous Expenditures and Policy 6025-Student Cell Phone and other Electronic Devices: Moved that the board of education waive first reading and pass on second reading Policy 2007-Reimbursement and Miscellaneous Expenditures and Policy 6025-Student Cell Phone and other Electronic Devices as reviewed and revised. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Dowling, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. These policies will update the language for our mileage reimbursement to mirror the state and increase the amount for memorials/recognitions; and language so the handbooks are the same as the new PED practices.

-Hiring an Elementary Art Teacher: Moved that the Board of Education give the administration the authorization to hire an Elementary Art Teacher for 2025-26. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. The district needs elementary art for compliance with Rule 10. It is a decision to hire a teacher or design curriculum for each classroom. Everyone wants what's best for the district. Amanda Schrum said it comes down to money still having some major obligations including the elementary lease and hiring of staff. Elementary teachers spoke in approval of hiring a teacher citing giving the kids more in-depth curriculum, the amount of interest based on the after school Art program given by Mr. High Horse and Mrs. Rutledge at the high school, knowing basics of the course when they reach higher grades, and that classroom instruction can't do the same for the class and kids. There was discussion about Mrs. Horstman's restructuring the schedule and paras helping the kids get the support they need. Amanda said she understands the need is now and that staff would rather hire an Art teacher as special education has been revamped.

-Resignation: Moved that the resignation of Kim Szlachetka be accepted at the end of the school year. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea. Mr. Green said she has been in the district for 40 years taking care of our kids, leaving a legacy and impact on all the lives she's touched. She has been a wonderful part of the district and will be missed.

-Board Member Reports: Josh Christensen welcomed the new board members and thanked them for their commitment; Amanda Schrum welcomed them as well and said the "work is worth it" and to be sure to come to prom as it is fun including Dr. Wemhoff's "priceless" speech, Ted Welchert also welcomed them and said he doesn't say much and thanked them for stepping up; Cassie Kelly also welcomed them and thanked the teachers for attending and giving their insight on the art position; Tony Dowling said he knows he has a lot to learn but is excited to be here; and Ryan Sevcik thanked them for the training he received as it was very helpful.

-Administrator Reports: Dr. Wemhoff welcomed the new board members and then reported on having a student teacher in our Social Studies area; the drop in the number of classes being failed since the inception of the Multi-tiered Support System that Fort Calhoun has adopted with support with ESU #3 which gives students early intervention from teachers for better successes; upcoming I Love Public Schools Day, and upcoming events.

Mrs. Horstman also welcomed the new members and reported data on the various testing that has taken place at the elementary school. They are striving for the "below level numbers" to go

down. She also reported on upcoming events and that the PBIS (discipline) program expectations are being met.

Mr. Schleifer reported on recognitions for the Fall Sports season, how Mrs. Bruening has grown the Unified Sports program within other schools, the work and progress of the Winter Sports including the “Blizzard” tournament which the schools are working to continue, and gave upcoming important activity dates.

-Superintendent Report: Mr. Green gave an indepth synopsis of the board goals, updated the board on the progress of the wrestling building, that he will attend a college fair in hopes of attracting teachers to Fort Calhoun adding that our system of hiring aids the administration and staff in trying not only to find good teachers but “a good fit” for Fort Calhoun, an update on the first few days of the Unicameral and their new rules, and that there will be a staff mental health presentation during the inservice on January 20th. He thanked the board for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business the president adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.