

The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met January 11, 2016 at the Hitchcock County Junior/Senior High School in Trenton. Present were board members Kolbet, Baker, Scott, Marks, and Rippen. Matson was absent. Also present were Superintendent Apple, Principal Kershaw, representatives from Ameritas Investment Corporation, the Hitchcock County News, and Peggy Fyn.

Vice-President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board's adherence to the Nebraska Open Meetings Law posted on the north wall of the meeting room was given.

Moved by Marks; seconded by Baker to excuse Matson. Aye votes Baker, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and Rippen; nay votes none. Motion passed 5-0.

Moved by Baker; seconded by Rippen to approve the January 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, Rippen, and Baker; nay votes none.

There were no visitors.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Baker to approve the consent agenda. Aye votes Marks, Scott, Rippen, Baker, and Kolbet; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following: (1) Minutes of the December 2015 regular board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill rosters with general fund bills totaling \$295,815.58 and lunch fund bills totaling \$14,049.13. (4) Other funds.

Vice-president Scott asked for nominations for board president. Rippen nominated Scott for president. Baker ceased nominations. Scott was elected president by acclamation.

President Scott asked for nominations for board vice-president. Baker nominated Matson. Scott nominated Rippen. A paper ballot was taken. Rippen was elected vice-president with 3 votes.

President Scott asked for nominations for board treasurer. Baker nominated Kolbet; seconded by Scott. Kolbet was elected treasurer by acclamation.

President Scott asked for nominations for board secretary. Marks nominated Baker; seconded by Rippen. Baker was elected secretary by acclamation.

Marc Munford and Dallas Watkins from Ameritas Investment Corporation presented the board with the A1 rating from Moody's Investors Service. Mr. Munford told the board that the bonds would be ready to market on Thursday, January 14, 2016. Mr. Munford presented the board with two parameter's resolutions:

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Marks to adopt a resolution calling for the early redemptions of six million one hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$6,195,000) in aggregate principal amount of general obligation bonds, series 2011, issued by Hitchcock County School District 0070 (Hitchcock County Schools System) in the state of Nebraska. Aye votes Scott, Rippen, Baker, Kolbet, and Marks; nay votes none. Matson was absent.

Moved by Baker; seconded by Kolbet to adopt a resolution authorizing the issuance by Hitchcock County School District 0070 (Hitchcock County School System) in the state of Nebraska of its general obligation refunding bonds, series 2016, in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed six million five hundred thousand dollars (\$6,500,000) for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of the District; prescribing the form and details of such bonds; authorizing the President of the Board of Education or the Superintendent of Schools to determine the final aggregate principal amount, maturities, rate, terms and other details of such bonds, imposing an ad valorem tax on all taxable property within the District to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and the interest on such bonds; designating the bonds as qualified tax-exempt obligations; authorizing the sale and delivery of the bonds to the purchaser thereof; adopting certain post issuance tax compliance and disclosure policies and procedures with respect to the bonds; authorizing certain actions and documents; and prescribing other matters relating thereto. Aye votes Rippen, Baker, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none. Matson was absent.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Baker to adopt board policies 6016-6034; using option A for policy 6023; and the Special Education Procedures policy as presented. Aye votes Rippen, Baker, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none.

Athletic Director Kershaw asked for the boards' guidance on three different proposals the NSAA will be voting on; a transgender policy, a policy on the enrollment cutoff for eight man football, and possible changes to sub-district & district assignments and brackets in basketball.

Moved by Rippen; seconded by Marks to approve the Culbertson Bank and Community First Bank as the official depositories for Hitchcock County Schools for 2016. Aye votes Baker, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and Rippen; nay votes none.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by Baker to reappoint Linnette Kisker to the Hitchcock County Schools Foundation. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, Rippen, and Baker; nay votes none.

Superintendent Apple informed the board that the teachers have agreed to a \$500 (3.45%) raise in base pay and a \$50 increase to the deductible reimbursement. Moved by Rippen; seconded by Marks to approve the 2016-2017 teachers' negotiated agreement as presented. Aye votes Marks, Scott, Rippen, Baker, and Kolbet; nay votes none.

Superintendent Apple presented the board members with a letter of resignation to take place at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Board member Baker thanked Mr. Apple for all he had accomplished during his time as Superintendent of Hitchcock County Schools. Board members Scott, Kolbet, and Marks all commented on the strength it took for Mr. Apple to achieve the goals for the district. Moved by Baker; seconded by Kolbet to accept Superintendent Apple's resignation at the end of the 2015-2016 school year with gratitude and regrets. Aye votes Scott, Rippen, Baker, Kolbet, and Marks; nay votes none.

Board members reviewed handouts from two superintendent search services. Moved by Baker; seconded by Scott to hire the NRCSA Superintendent Search Service. Aye votes Scott, Baker, Kolbet, Rippen, and Marks; nay votes none.

Principal/AD Kershaw's report as follows: (1) Mrs. Smith's 5th & 6th grade classes collected 25 pairs of pajamas to donate to H.H.S. (2) Mrs. Smith's 5th grade class raised \$50 to donate to the McCook Humane Society. (3) DARE classes for the 5th grade start January 12. (4) Over 50 parents & grandparents ate with students for the holiday feast on December 10th. (6) Thank you to Roger Kolbet and the Culbertson Ambulance for lending their ice cream machine to celebrate the AQuESTT rating of excellent. (7) Thank you to Aaron Kolbet for moving gravel on the playground with his skid loader. (8) There will be a student teacher at the elementary this semester. (9) HCS is hosting RPAC wrestling on January 22 at 2:30 PM. (10) HCS is hosting RPAC basketball on January 28th & 29th. (11) There are now 180 students at the elementary and 120 students at the secondary.

Superintendent Apple's report as follows: (1) There will be a teachers' PLC in-service in McCook on January 18th. There will be no school for students. (2) The Hitchcock County Schools Foundation will be serving a pulled pork sandwich dinner at the RPAC games on January 28th & 29th. (3) Board committees will be assigned, and Mr. Apple wants to meet with the buildings and grounds committee to discuss a roofing issue at the elementary. (4) The Hitchcock County Schools Foundation will hold a farm safety workshop in the fall.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM. The next board meeting will be held on February 8, 2016 at 12:00 PM, at the Hitchcock County Elementary. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public in the school office during normal hours. The board may modify the agenda within 24 hours of the meeting for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

Craig Scott, President

Michael Baker – Secretary

General Fund bills

20/20 Technologies – contracted services	3,164.00
Aflac – payroll deduction	233.45
American Family Ins Co – payroll deduction	1,301.05
Ameritas Life Ins Corp – payroll deduction	346.75
Michael Baker – board mileage	44.85
Bentley & Kisker – audit services	5,400.00
Blick Art Materials – classroom supply	127.76
Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance	38,402.96
Colonial Life – payroll deduction	523.94
Community First Bank – FICA, taxes	38,038.70
D&L Pest Control – pest control	97.00
D&S Hardware – building supply	80.00
Dans R Us – trash	154.50
ESU #15 – contracted services	13,806.50
ESU #16 – contracted services	182.50
Farmers Coop – building/bus fuel/supply	7,849.77
HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursement	711.60
HCS – payroll deduction	220.00
HCS Flex Plan – contributions	1,488.35
Heritage Hills Golf Corp – green fees	750.00
Hershberger’s Music – equipment repair	284.40
Credit Management Services – payroll deduction	48.71
Hot Lunch Fund – payroll deductions	1,294.36
Ideal Laundry – custodial supply	80.16
JMGR Financial – payroll deduction	49.78
JW Pepper – music supply	291.24
Kildare Lumber – building supply	12.28
Aaron Kolbet – board mileage	119.60
Lakeside Sand & Gravel – gravel	660.27
Legal Shield – payroll deduction	159.43
Larry Marks – board mileage	265.65
Gary Matson – board mileage	55.20
McGraw-Hill School Ed – textbook	80.02
MCI – long distance	77.29
MG Trust Company – annuities	3,164.54
NE Department of Education – meeting fees	160.00
HCS Retirement Acct – retirement	31,299.46
NE Department of Revenue – state taxes	4,805.55
New York Life Ins – payroll deduction	47.00
Optum Health – FSA fees	150.00
Pearson Education – textbook	73.80
Brigitta Post – reimbursement	13.08
Principal Life Ins Co – payroll deduction	710.36
Quality Urgent Care – DOT physicals	490.00
Quill Corp – music/office supply	56.47
R&W Repair – bus fuel/parts/labor	1,127.08
Rasmussen Mechanical Service – services	4,842.92
Theodore Rippen – board mileage	104.65
Schamel’s Auto Supply – parts	22.41
Craig Scott – board mileage	14.95
Seven D Lock – keys	35.00
Southwest Fertilizer – building fuel	7,665.98
Southwest NE Physical Therapy – contracted services	249.10
Southwest Public Power District – electric	2,493.02

Stamp Fulfillment Center – postage envelopes	1,482.50
NE State Education Assoc – dues	1,304.05
The Thompson Co – custodial supply	625.07
Titan Machinery – bus repair	524.69
Top Office – copiers/usage	4,244.88
Trails West – bus fuel	1,421.61
UniFirst Corp – custodial supply	123.63
Unitech – custodial supply	1,424.30
U.S. Bank – credit card	60.54
Village of Culbertson – water/sewage	94.42
Village of Trenton – water/sewage/electric/trash	1,999.31
David Wimer – reimbursement	5.64
Payroll – net (gross - \$166,576.55)	108,577.50

Lunch Fund bills

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/supply	3,485.56
Colonial Life – payroll deduction	62.67
Community First Bank – FICA, taxes	888.07
Culligan Water Conditioning – salt	47.70
Dean Holding Co – milk	1,592.15
Food Distribution Program – commodities	707.61
HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursement	9.99
Credit Management Services – payroll deduction	1.29
Hot Lunch Fund – payroll deduction	2.99
Ideal Laundry – kitchen supply	72.51
JMGR Financial – payroll deduction	122.88
MG Trust Co – annuity	65.20
HCS Retirement Acct – retirement	939.37
NE Department of Revenue – state taxes	53.71
Schmicks Market – food	116.62
The Thompson Co – food/supply	2,196.01
Payroll – net (gross - \$4,973.28)	3,684.80