

**MACON COUNTY R-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION – TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2004**

The Macon County R-I Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, January 27, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Scott Blodgett, Danny Orbin, Allison Rowland, David Hamilton, Jim Cerva, and Toni Riekeberg. Eugene Stueve was absent at the start of the meeting.

President Toni Riekeberg called the meeting to order and asked everyone to join her in the pledge to the flag. She then asked for a moment of silence in honor of a former district student, Michael Blaise, who had lost his life while serving the United States in Iraq. President Riekeberg then thanked everyone for coming and opened the meeting with a few comments regarding the districts financial situation and the upcoming budget cut proposals.

President Riekeberg announced that one patron had signed up for public comments, and gave Lois Stueve the floor.

Lois Stueve invited everyone to join her at the state capital on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, which is a holiday, to lobby for kids. MSTA, MNA, and DESE are organizing this day to make a statement to the legislatures, by trying to get as many people as possible to attend and try to influence the governor to release funds that have been withheld from schools, and to find a way to fund the formula.

President Riekeberg reported that she would like to change the order of business on the agenda, by having the New Business before the Old Business. This would mean having Ernest Motley give his curriculum report, before the budget cut proposals and asked if anyone had any other changes. There being no further requests she asked for a motion to approve the amended consent agenda.

A motion was made by David Hamilton, seconded by Allison Rowland and passed unanimously to accept the amended consent agenda, which consisted of:

- A. Approval of agenda.
- B. Minutes of previous meeting.
- C. Attendance report.
- D. Revenue/expenditure comparison.
- E. Treasurer's report.
- F. Monthly bills.
- G. Resignation of certificated personnel.
- H. Employment of support staff personnel.

Eugene Stueve entered the meeting.

Dr. Long reported that the week of January 26-30 is "School Board Recognition Week" in honor of school board members throughout the state who unselfishly volunteer their personal time and talents to serve as advocates for children, youth, and education. Dr. Long thanked the board for their donation of time to the school and their leadership to the district.

Dr. Long reported that school board candidate filing for the April 6, 2004 board election closed at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20. Five people have declared their candidacy. They are, in order of filing, James Cerva, Michael Kindle, Lesa Bonnett, Jim Rehard, and John Walker.

Dr. Long noted that MSBA's Legislative Forum that was scheduled for today, Tuesday, January 27, 2004 was postponed until Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. This will be in conjunction with the rally to be held that day at the capital that Lois Stueve talked about. This day is designated annually as a time when administrators and board members can visit with their senators and representatives about educational issues that are scheduled for discussion during this legislative session. Dr. Long asked board members to check their calendars and let him know if they could attend.

Dr. Long reported that as required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Act (AHERA), every six months the district must conduct a surveillance of the existing asbestos-containing buildings and materials. Jeff Roberts has conducted the required surveillance and is up-to-date on the district's responsibilities.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Principal Motley gave the board an update and handout on the progress and plans for the 2003-2004 academic year on curriculum and instruction.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Dr. Long gave a report on how the two proposed budget cut lists were developed. The first list of \$300,000 in cuts are mandatory to bring the school's budget to a balanced state for the 2004-2005 school year. These cuts will not affect classroom instruction. The second list of \$700,000 in cuts are contingent upon the levy not passing and the district not receiving the amount of money they are anticipating from the state. The \$700,000 in cuts list was made using a .75 proration factor in the state formula. Dr. Long stated that if the state gives the district more money, he would recommend removing things from the contingency list as quickly as possible. If less money comes in more things will have to be added to the list.

President Riekeberg asked for a motion to approve the \$300,000 in cuts.

A motion was made by Danny Orbin, seconded by David Hamilton and passed unanimously to approve the mandatory list of \$300,000 in cuts for the 2004-2005 school year recommended by Dr. Long.

President Riekeberg asked for a motion to approve the \$700,000 contingency list of cuts.

A motion was made by David Hamilton, seconded by Allison Rowland and passed 6-1 to approve the contingency list of \$700,000 in cuts if the levy doesn't pass and the district does not receive funding from the state that is needed to meet the budget. Scott Blodgett cast the only no vote.

Set date for next regular Board meeting for Thursday, February 26, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

There was no executive session needed, President Riekeberg asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Jim Cerva, seconded by David Hamilton and passed unanimously to adjourn.

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Toni Riekeberg, President

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Deborah Baker, Secretary