

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Board of Education**

Work Session - January 10, 2022

MINUTES

President Shiflett called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Marcus Davenport indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort, Jon Shiflett, Nicole Shannon, Jarrod Smith and Sara Clark Pierson **Central Office Administrators:** Marcus Davenport, Steve Gabriel, Bill Barnes, Julie Waterbury, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Jason Devenbaugh, Tim Totten, Pam Grable, Howard Pizzo, Nell Pizzo, Tara Kopietz, Ashley Oneil, Kim Laforet, Alison Walczak, Sarah Fuller, Julie Tadgerson, Shari Kissane, Jon Wise, Melissa Mazzola, Mary Moore, Marlene Promer, Jeff McNeilly, Trevor Bouwens, Lara Hubbard, Sally Jo Nelson and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Devenbaugh addressed the board expressing concerns regarding his high school student and encouraging putting kids and education first.

Lara Hubbard addressed the board regarding the mask mandate.

Ashley Oneil addressed the board regarding COVID protocols, next steps, the mask mandate and the end goal.

ACTION ITEMS

**A. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**B. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRING**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Teacher Hiring of Patrick McKennon, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**C. APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the purchase of Beagle and Holbrook Network Switches and Staff MacBooks using Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief**

**(ESSER III) Funds in the amount of \$57,992 and \$381,340 respectively, for a Grand Total approval of \$439,332, as presented.**

Executive Director of Technology Mark Deschaine provided the board with background information noting this will be a replacement of network switches at Beagle and Holbrook as part of the building construction. He further referenced that the staff MacBooks will replace current devices that have some noted deficiencies. He further shared that the old staff computers will be resold to help offset the cost.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**D. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Capital Funds Invoices in the amount of \$285,418.49, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted all the following invoices were reviewed at the Board Bond Advisory Meeting prior to this meeting. These invoices represent work as part of the Fine Arts Center Construction at the High School.

**The motion carried unanimously with Member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.**

**E. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$24,787, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this is not bond related, but addresses playground improvements at Hayes Intermediate School.

**The motion carried unanimously with Member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.**

**F. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$489,542.03, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this is finalizing the construction at Holbrook and Beagle under the Bond.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**G. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$11,850, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this represents invoices for projects at Delta Center Elementary as we move into a new phase of construction.

**The motion carried unanimously with Member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.**

**H. APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 2, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$423,491.99, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this represents ongoing work on the pool.

**The motion carried unanimously with Member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.**

**I. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$573,551.55, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this represents ongoing work at the track.

**The motion carried unanimously with Member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.**

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD**

Ms. Clark Pierson commented that the issues with the sound system are not just because of masks noting the system is very old. She noted the board has approved obtaining design work to upgrade the system moving to a system that will allow for streaming of the meeting to allow those at home, who are unable to attend in person, to be able to watch the meetings in real time.

Executive Director of Technology Mark Deschaine noted the design work is complete and we are moving into crafting the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to continue to move this project along.

Mrs. DuFort noted she understands that we need to learn how to live with COVID, but commenting that things change, sometimes on a daily basis, with regard to information and suggested safety measures. She confirmed her goal is to keep students in school while

ensuring we provide an environment that is as safe as possible for all students and all staff. She noted the last two years have been very difficult and it is her goal this year to put the focus back on educating our students. She remarked feels she has done the right thing and is doing her personal best. She stated she would like to see the board focus on the education issue, implementing the EDIC recommendations and establishing a long-term Strategic Plan.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. McKennon for his years of service and congratulated him on his new position. He thanked outgoing President Clark Pierson and Secretary Shannon for their leadership during 2021 and noting he looks forward to moving forward.

President Shiflett noted if he pronounced any of the names incorrect of those who spoke during public comment to let him know after the meeting and that he will try his best to get it correct going forward.

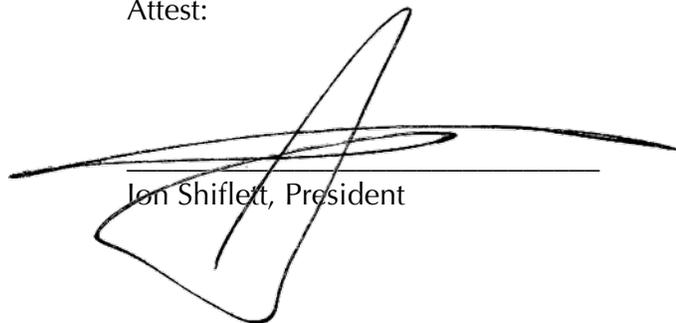
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Jarrod Smith, Secretary

Attest:

  
Jon Shiflett, President