

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called a Regular Session to order at 6:15 pm. The meeting was held at Knightstown High School located at 8149 W. US 40, Knightstown, IN 46148. Those in attendance were:

Attendance:

- **Board Members:** Wade Beatty, Steve Dalton, Mark Fort, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp, Timothy Wehr
- **Central Office Staff:** Gary Storie, Superintendent; Jena Schmidt, Administrative Assistant
- **School Administrators:** Scott Ritchie, Christopher Bundy
- **Classroom Teacher Association:** Jane Rodgers, President; Karen Gardner, Vice President
- **Media:** Knightstown Banner, New Castle Courier Times
- **Patrons:** Approximately 24 patrons

I. Call to Order

Steve Dalton called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Roll call was taken and six members were present. Melissa Toth was not in attendance tonight.

II. Solar Energy

The Superintendent informed the Board and patrons present that a presentation would be given by Bond Counsel regarding the Lease for the solar project. Jeff Qualkinbush, Bond Counsel, gave a brief explanation of steps the Board would need to take to move forward with this project. There was some discussion and questions from the Board for Mr. Qualkinbush. He then explained the difference between one project and the difference of an artificially divided project. This particular project is five separate projects because they are in five different locations/buildings and each project can be built independently and not dependent on each other. Bond Counsel then went through the lease proposal with the Board. The Board also wanted to clarify this was step 2 of a 4 step process and could be stopped at any point in the process. Bond Counsel confirmed that was true. Wade Beatty moved to accept the resolution as drafted and to move to the next step with a second by Mark Fort. After some discussion, the motion carried 4-2 with Kevin Knott and Leah Kopp casting the negative votes.

III. Public Expression –

- Don Meade, Kennard – Asked what kind of maintenance would be required on this project, and would there be several people required to maintain it. Kurt Schneider answered his question. His company would do the maintenance.
- Jim Hope, 120 N. McCullum St, Knightstown – Asked Kurt Schneider how he would be compensated if half the funds would be returned to the school? Kurt Schneider stated he would receive a tax credit over the next 20 years as well as half the proceeds. Mr. Hope also wanted to know if the Board President knew Mr. Schneider prior to these projects? The President stated he did not. Mr. Hope then questioned the need for seeking \$4 million if the project is only costing the corporation \$2 million? He also presented an

additional 50 signatures of community members against the project. He said he would push this as far as he needed to stop the project.

- Darrell Wineman, 7410 W. 750 S. – Stated the Board said the community would not be “gambling”, however there will be a lease payment, and guarantee. Then later heard the corporation would be responsible for half of a shortfall. He also informed the Board that presentation seem to be looking speculatively. Because we live in the Midwest, we have some of the lowest energy costs in the country. We seem to be speculating the cost of electricity is going to rise, and costs will go up, but we are still speculating. People are putting money into other forms of energy. He then stated that if Johnson Melloh would guarantee any shortfall, then it would be a no brainer. He raised questions regarding the fair market value mentioned in the lease and asked if any thought had been given to the overall impact to the community if we pull that much revenue from them (Knightstown Power). He believes there is a lot to be learned and we are gambling based on what energy costs may do in the future.
- David Wilson, Carthage – Clarified some of the comments he has heard regarding a two year analysis of renewable energy and the installation of the project at Johnson Melloh. He also wanted clarification on the lease payments and if the amount was for all five projects or for each project. He said if this amount would be over 20 years at 5.7% interest; understanding some of the funds would be generated from revenue on the solar panels, how can we spend these funds if we are going to close a school. He then asked for a guarantee that no schools would be closed within the next 20 years. He had questions about how much revenue they would actually produce during cloudy or rainy days. Johnson Melloh answered it was not the number of sunny days, but the quality of the sun. This is based on a study over 40 years. They also stated their small plant is out-performing by 15%. Mr. Wineman then asked if they were located in other states and how many of these panels have they sold to other people. Johnson Melloh stated they are only in Indiana and have sold to four others.
- Richard Voris, West Street, Knightstown – Asked Bond Counsel who he is representing, the corporation or Johnson Melloh. He then asked why we are selling more bonds if two were sold in February. Jeff Qualkinbush stated he represents the school corporation and does what is in their best interest. He also stated previous bonds were issued for projects done at KIS and KHS. After looking more closely at this project, it was determined a better solution would be to install panels in all five locations instead of two. Therefore, a bond would be issued for each school.
- Gerald Leonard, Grant City Road, Knightstown – His question was regarding the need for five bonds; however Bond Counsel answered the question.
- Jim Roderick, Knightstown – Asked if the project would be presented for approval at a utility regulatory? Bond Counsel stated it would not be subject to those regulatory oversights because the power produced would not fall in the required limits. He stated it may fall within limits in the future if the power produced increased. Jim Roderick asked if any other state agencies would be required to regulate the project. Counsel stated no.
- Richard Voris, West Street, Knightstown – He still maintains his belief of the legalities of separating this into five projects and therefore should be subjected to more regulations.
- Jeff Eakins, Knightstown Banner – Asked if this is five projects at five different schools, why is there just one lease agreement? Jeff Qualkinbush stated for simplicity reasons. He went on to explain each project is clearly defined and can be removed individually.

- David Wilson, Carthage – Asked who would decide the contractor for the project. Bond Counsel said the decision to approve Johnson Melloh was determined earlier in the process. Kurt Schneider then stated he uses local contractors.
- Erma Keller, 238 E. Brown, Knightstown – Stated she has listened to the information presented and read and informed herself on this project. I don't believe we (community) have been presented any new information on other types of energy. She said she was very aware what wind power can do and thinks there are several in attendance who would like information about wind energy. She said if expert presenters were given the opportunity the patrons would feel better and feel less like they are being "over-powered". She asked if it would be possible to have such a presentation on wind energy within the next two months. She also said it would be nice to hear from universities and others who may not have a direct advantage in solar energy. She also wanted to state the first goal of this Board should be to students, then teachers. Priorities should be given to hiring the right teachers and stimulating students to learn each day.
- Tom Ellis, W. Carey Street, Knightstown – Wanted to commend the Johnson Melloh marketing staff and added their timing was exquisite. He said he lived in Marion County for 50 years and moved to this area a year and a half ago. He let them know that for the second time, voters in Franklin Township have moved forward on projects with not all the information. He then stated he was not familiar with the current situation, and challenges of declining enrollment and possible school closing to keep operations moving forward, but I think moving forward with this gentleman (Kurt Schneider), is questionable at best. "CAB is not a piggy bank and should not be treated as such."
- Don Scheumann, 5 S. Walnut, Carthage – Told the Board this corporation is not alone in its quest to seek revenue from other sources. He read an article of May 10, 2011, that in Lafayette, IN the public transportation system city bus has installed three wind turbines and is anticipating saving \$30-40 thousand per year. He sees the solar panels as a way to cut costs. This same company is also anticipating increased revenue. We need to look to other areas so we can continue to offer services for kids.

IV. Personnel

- a. Retirement – Daryl Keesling rescinded his Intent to Retire – no action is required.
- b. Resignation – Amanda Ruble turned in her resignation effective for June 3, 2011.
- c. New Hire –
 - i. Jane Rodgers, KIS Assistant Principal – 210 day contract, Annual Salary of \$55,000
 - ii. Tyler Roberts, KIS 5th Grade Teacher
 - iii. Alicia Meeks, KIS Elementary Teacher
 - iv. Greg Everson, KIS 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher
 - v. Ashley Schinker, KIS 8th Grade Science Teacher
 - vi. Russell Spiker, Transportation Coordinator – Annual Salary of \$55,000

Wade Beatty moved to approve all new hire recommendations. Kevin Knott gave the second and motion carried 6-0.

- d. ECA Appointments –
 - i. Shea Idelwine – Junior Varsity Assistant Football - \$2342
 - ii. Patrick Mallory – Summer 2011 Football - \$485
 - iii. James Jahrsdoerfer – Varsity Cross Country - \$3347
 - iv. Eben Graves – Junior High Cross Country - \$1148

- v. Bobby Allen – Varsity Boys Basketball - \$7644
- vi. Ryan Davis – Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball - \$4300
- vii. Bobby Allen – Summer 2011 Boys Basketball - \$485
- viii. Dawn Basicker – Varsity Girls Basketball - \$6745
- ix. Joseph Canary – Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball - \$4300
- x. Dawn Basicker – Summer 2011 Girls Basketball - \$485
- xi. Jana Burton – Varsity Cheer - \$947

Mark Fort moved to approve all ECA appointments as recommended with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 6-0

- V. Textbook Adoption – The Superintendent recommended approval of science textbook adoption as presented. After some discussion, Wade Beatty moved to approve as presented with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.
- VI. Grade & Attendance Policies – The Superintendent stated he had met with Dawn Wineman on a couple of occasions to discuss her concerns regarding grading scale and attendance policies. He stated he is discussing the issues with building principal’s as well as the Classroom Teachers Association. His plan is to work over the summer but wanted to report on the progress from her comments during last meeting. There was some discussion.
- VII. KHS Student Handbook – The Superintendent recommended approval of the changes as presented. Wade Beatty moved to table until June 22, 2011. Mark Fort gave the second and motion carried 6-0.
- VIII. Other – There were no other items to come before the Board.
- IX. Adjournment
 With no further business to come before the Board, Wade Beatty moved to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

 PRESIDENT

 MEMBER

 VICE PRESIDENT

 MEMBER

 SECRETARY

 MEMBER

 MEMBER