

Monroe County Board of Education

Special Meeting

February 2, 2017

Ballard Volunteer Fire Department

I. Roll Call

- a. Mr. Lively called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.
- b. All members were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda/Adjustments

- a. Mrs. Fisher made the motion to approve the agenda as written. The vote to approve was unanimous.

IV. Public Comments

- a. None.

V. Presentation of Bond and New School Information

- a. Mrs. Basile and Mr. Shriver presented new school and bond information.
- b. Speakers from the audience indicated that including turf for the JMHS football field would not encourage the passing of the bond levy. The PES and PMS buildings are in poor condition and need replaced.
- c. A parent spoke about the need for some students at PES having to walk outside to get to the school cafeteria.
- d. It was suggested that handouts containing information about the new school and the bond levy be sent home with students.
- e. Mr. Lively stated that the physical design of the new school will be as two separate schools. There will be one gymnasium with bleachers. The SBA will not fund an additional gym, but will fund physical education classrooms.
- f. Mr. Sams stated that maintenance on the building will be required or the building will become in poor shape. He believes that JMHS needs the outside of the building sealed rather than turf on the ball field.
- g. An audience member asked if security cameras would be included in the proposed security addition at JMHS. The response was yes, they would.

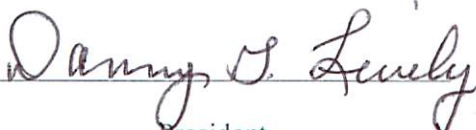
- h. It was announced that the Public Service District will bring public sewage, high speed internet and public TV to the area of the new school, according to one of the parents in the audience. This will also be a bonus for the Ballard community.
- i. The need for a turning lane is a great relief has been a concern. Mr. Shriver stated they have communicated with the DOH and a turn lane would be constructed.
- j. Senator Kenny Mann stated that the state began the year with a \$500 million deficit. The projected deficit for the year is \$700 million. The state will operate on \$400 billion this year and he believes if the money from SBA is not utilized this year, it will be a long time before SBA funds are available again. Mrs. Basile stated the county has been informed that the governor's budget cuts cannot take the currently allocated \$14,192,000 unless the bond does not pass.
- k. Mr. Evans stated that the county is one step away from a \$24 million school. That step is the passing of the levy. He asked how that can be accomplished.
- l. Mr. Berry presented information on the cost to taxpayers of the bond levy.
- m. A member of the audience stated that when citizens hear "\$10 million bond" they fear a tax increase. There is a need to explain that taxes will increase for some a mere \$14 monthly, depending on property appraised value.
- n. There is a need to show the benefit and value to the voters. Ballard Volunteer Fire Department has made plans to improve their equipment to provide for the new school. Voters need to know that the single gym at MVS housing more than one physical education class creates a safety issue.
- o. Audience members inquired if the new school would include athletic fields. Mrs. Sabol stated that the SBA will not contribute money for athletic fields or locker rooms. Mr. Sams hopes to see volunteers from the community assist with the fields as was done at JMHS.
- p. Questions were asked if the new school would have an auditorium, a gym, bleachers on the inside, the name of the school and the mascot.
- q. Some discussion was had about the gas line crossing the property.

VI. Discussion Items

- a. A question was asked about the deed to the former school in Ballard.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Lively adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.



President



Secretary