

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013

1.0 Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

The special meeting of the Warren County School District Board of School Directors was called to order by Mr. Stewart, President, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Warren County Career Center, 347 East Fifth Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Roll Call

Present:

Mr. John Grant	Mr. Jack Werner
Mr. Thomas Knapp	Dr. Paul Yourchisin
Ms. Mary Anne Paris	Mr. Michael Zamborik
Mr. Arthur Stewart	Mrs. Donna Zariczny

Others Present:

Mrs. Amy Stewart, Director of Instructional Technology/Communications; Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht, Director of Buildings & Grounds Services; Mr. James Grosch, Director of Business Services; Mr. Gary Weber, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Mrs. Patricia Hawley-Horner, Interim Director; Mr. Chris Byham, Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Eugene Casasanta, Hearing Officer; Mr. Jake Perryman, Times Observer; Mr. Paul Leach, Data System Specialist; Mr. James Miller, Supervisor of District-wide Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities; Ms. Claudia Solinko, WCEA President and approximately 10 members of the public in the audience.

1.4 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2.0 New Business

2.1 Interview/Appointment Region III Candidate

Mr. Stewart welcomed Mrs. Marcy Morgan and thanked her for her application to fill the vacated seat in Region III.

The Warren County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment practices and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to Mrs. Amy Stewart, Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator at 589 Hospital Drive, Suite A, Warren, PA 16365 or (814) 723-6900.

Mr. Stewart opened the floor for questions.

Mrs. Zariczny asked Mrs. Morgan what she thought the most pressing issues facing the School Board are currently.

Mrs. Morgan responded that she felt dwindling resources and making due with less are the most pressing issues, and it will take some thinking outside the box to deal with them.

Dr. Yourchisin asked Mrs. Morgan if she had family in the District.

She stated she has grandchildren in the District, and her daughter volunteers at Sugar Grove Elementary.

Mr. Grant remarked that for some reason if a person does twenty-five things in the County that are outstanding, and then does one thing someone doesn't like, you will hear about it as a criticism in some form. He asked if Mrs. Morgan had thought through how she is going to handle that criticism, especially when it becomes personal.

Mrs. Morgan responded that she has had some experience with criticism. She was in charge of writing and implementing medical policies and procedures at the Warren State Hospital. Broad medical policies were implemented dealing with medical procedures and surgeries, and sometime people didn't like it. She handled those criticisms straight out.

Mr. Knapp questioned if Mrs. Morgan is aware of the amount of time it takes to be a Board member, with at least two meetings a month and sometimes more depending on what is happening.

Mrs. Morgan stated she is aware of the time commitment, and it took her some time to decide to apply, because she is retired. She was approached by others to consider the position. She saw there was a need and decided to apply.

Mr. Werner commented that since Mrs. Morgan is the only candidate, he assumes the community is in support of her application.

Mrs. Morgan replied she is supported, at least in Sugar Grove.

Mr. Werner asked Mrs. Morgan if she is aware that even though board members are selected regionally, each board member must make decisions in the best interest of the children of the entire District.

She affirmed that she is aware of that aspect.

Mr. Stewart asked if Mrs. Morgan is interested in serving beyond the seven months she would be appointed to serve.

She stated she had not yet made up her mind, but she is interested, adding, the first part of the process will be to acclimate herself to the processes of the board.

Mr. Stewart asked Mrs. Morgan, if she did decide to stay on longer, what her immediate goals would be.

Mrs. Morgan stated she would do a lot of reading and educate herself as to the role of a board member.

With no further questions, Mr. Stewart opened the floor for a motion.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Knapp and seconded by Mr. Grant that Mrs. Marcy Morgan be appointed to the open seat on the Warren County School District Board of School Directors.

Region III Board Member Appointment Approved 8-0-0
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Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mrs. Zariczny, Mr. Grant, Mr. Knapp, Ms. Paris,
Mr. Stewart, Mr. Werner, Dr. Yourchisin, Mr. Zamborik

The result of the vote: passed unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan took the Oath of Office with District Justice Glenn Carlson administering and was officially seated as the Region III Board member.

2.2 Orientation Points/Effective Boardsmanship

Mr. Stewart shared with Mrs. Morgan information regarding the board's role, protocol and other thoughts and helpful information as she begins her role as a board member.

- a. duties of the Board
- b. authorized spokesperson for the Board
- c. why the board does not respond to public comment at a Board meeting

Solicitor Byham shared with Mrs. Morgan the highlights of the Sunshine Law, also known as the, Open Meeting Law. He discussed the exceptions to the Sunshine Law which allows for executive session for the Board to meet privately. The Right-to-Know law was also touched upon as well as the Ethics Act. He also stated that the meetings are governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

Additionally, Mr. Byham gave Mrs. Morgan a handout with more detailed information regarding each of the statutes discussed.

Each of the Board members shared points of interest to help Mrs. Morgan as she begins her work with the Board.

Mr. Stewart announced there would be an executive session to consult with the Solicitor on legal matters at the adjournment of the meeting.

3.0 Closing Activities

3.1 Adjournment

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Paris and seconded by Mr. Knapp that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary