

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**  
**OF**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172**  
**ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**HELD ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2007**

- Meeting Convened                    The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in special session on September 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Room in the Baldwin Intermediate School Building located at 3000 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois, in said school district.
- Roll Call                                The meeting was called to order by President Dickerson, who directed the secretary to call the roll. On the call of the roll, the following members were present and answered to their names: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, Mays, Nichols, and Niekamp; and the following member was absent: none. Whereupon the president declared that a quorum was present.
- Questions and  
Comments                                President Dickerson opened the meeting to questions and comments to members of the Board, by members of the public and employees of the district, in compliance with state statutes. There were none.
- Hearing on  
Tentative Budget                      President Dickerson opened the public hearing on the Tentative 2007-2008 Budget at 7 :02 p.m. There were no questions or comments on the budget at this time. The hearing remained open for comments during the meeting.
- Budget  
Amendments                              Business Manager Rich Royalty presented a comparison of the 2007-2008 Tentative Budget with the 2007-2008 Amended Tentative Budget. The Board received a copy of the changes and the comparisons were shown on the screen for the audience. He stated that state revenue has increased due to the state passing a budget. Per the Board's direction, salaries in the Tort Fund were moved to the Education Fund. Mr. Royalty pointed out that the Fire Prevention and Safety Fund revenue includes \$3,253,000 for summer 2007 projects, approximately \$900,000 for summer 2008 projects and \$5,392,045 for QZAB. Areas of interest which may increase or decrease are water and utilities, self- insurance fund and the timing of state aid payments. Member Mays said that the budget as presented does not reflect any effort to reduce spending in response to the Tort ruling. There was continued discussion about backing off any increases in spending to the 2006-2007 pre-audit levels. Member Nichols asked why 2006-2007, as the lawsuit is for 2003. She asked how this can be done with insufficient information. Member Mays stated that as each month passes, adopting lower spending levels will allow the District to pick up a piece of the Tort deficit through attrition instead of assuming cuts later. He said there is more flexibility by lowering spending now.
- Superintendent Leahy recommended the adoption of the Amended Tentative Budget. He said the full Board can direct administration to make changes and to lower spending after the Budget is adopted. Attorney Gorman reiterated that state law requires the budget be approved by September 30 but it can be amended later. Member Daniels proposed reducing the Amended Tentative Budget by \$600,000 in salaries in the Education Fund. Member Nichols questioned arbitrarily cutting salaries by \$600,000. She said that staff levels should be based on needs not just the amount available. She said it is not sufficient to say what the total number of staff should be. Changes should be made with all data in mind such as IEP requirements, inclusion, etc. Administration needs concise

information on needs and then aggregate that to the entire District. Superintendent Leahy indicated that staff levels are set for this year. Any decision about reducing staff for next year must be made by March 2008. He said the District is continually in the same place every year – making decisions for next year without definitive information on funding at the time decisions must be made. Member Bemis stated the Board represents all tax payers and is spending their money. He said the Board needs to think of the broader picture. Superintendent Leahy stated it is important to remember the Board represents everyone; students, parents, staff, and community.

Close Public  
Hearing

President Dickerson asked if there were any questions from the public regarding the 2007-2008 Budget. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 8:12 p.m.

Adopt Amendments  
to Tentative Budget  
with Additional  
Amendment

It was moved by Member Daniels and seconded by Member Bemis to approve the amendments to the Tentative 2007-2008 Budget as presented by Mr. Royalty with the additional amendment of \$600,000 reduction in salaries in the Education Fund. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, and Mays; and the following members voted Nay: Members Nichols and Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Adopt 2007-2008  
Budget

It was moved by Member Daniels and seconded by Member Lovelace to adopt the Tentative Budget for 2007-2008 as the 2007-2008 Budget (Doc. Reg. No. 2284). On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, Mays and Nichols; and the following member voted Nay: Member Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried. Member Nichols commented that she voted in favor of the budget reluctantly due to the \$600,000 reduction in salaries.

Executive Session

It was moved by Member Mays and seconded by Member Lovelace that the Board suspend the rules and go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and collective bargaining. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, Mays, Nichols, and Niekamp; and the following members voted Nay: None. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Resumption of  
Rules

It was moved by Member Daniels and seconded by Member Bemis to resume the conduct of the regular meeting under rules. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, Mays, Nichols and Niekamp; and the following members voted Nay: None. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Daniels and seconded by Member Nichols that the special meeting adjourn. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Bemis, Daniels, Dickerson, Lovelace, Mays, Nichols, and Niekamp; and the following members voted Nay: None. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Thomas Dickerson  
President

Phyllis Stewart  
Secretary