

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON JUNE 2, 2011

Meeting Convened

The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in special session on June 2, 2011 at 7:30 a.m. in the Board of Education Office Room 214 located at 1416 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois, in said school district.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Daniels, 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 Daniels, Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, and Stone; and the following member was absent: Member Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared that a quorum was present.

Comments

President Daniels 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.

Attorney Gorman explained to the Board and audience that there are three classifications of Life Safety Projects: 1) urgent, 2) required, and 3) recommended. The Flinn Stadium repairs are classified as recommended and may be immediately completed as long as there are no urgent or required needs for that facility. If there are required Life Safety projects for that facility, those must be addressed immediately. There is approximately \$125,000 of other required Life Safety Projects that will also be completed at Flinn including concrete work and replacing drinking fountains and locks. These projects will be addressed immediately.

Todd Moore, an architect who has been promoting the Flinn resurfacing effort, distributed a chart detailing the difference between putting in new grass and installing artificial turf. He said the subterranean work approved as Life Safety will need to be done regardless if the field is resurfaced with turf or natural grass is reinstalled. The subsurface work would cost \$367,800 for grass and \$377,800 for turf. Additional costs for maintaining the artificial surface is approximately \$4,000 per year while maintaining a grass field is \$20,000 a year. The estimated savings over 12 years would be \$192,000 for an artificial surface. The initial cost of the artificial turf is \$394,660 and will be covered privately. Quincy University is paying \$75,000 to use the field for its football games for three years. Football, soccer and band boosters will contribute \$50,000 within five years and the Quincy Public Schools Foundation will cover the remaining cost which is approximately \$270,000.

Dr. George Crickard addressed the Board as the president of the QPS Foundation and as an orthopedic surgeon. He said Flinn Stadium playing surface in its current state is atrocious and the topography is unsafe. Although he hasn't kept specific data on the number of injuries due to the field surface, it poses a safety risk to students. Artificial turf is the safest surface for student activities. He said it can also be used 24/7. Unlike the current field which has limited use. Dr. Crickard said two of the areas to be addressed by the QPS Foundation for their

capital campaign are Fine Arts and Athletics. Flinn Stadium fits both areas and that is the reason the Foundation would like to assist. The money the Foundation raises for Flinn will not take away from curricular areas and other Foundation initiatives. He said much interest in the project has already been generated. Many in the community and former residents love their school and want to contribute.

Member Mays said he does not think the subterranean work should be a Life Safety Project. He said other schools have been in trouble for funding swimming pools and decks. He said it would be inappropriate to have a top of the line facility. He questioned how it could be moved to the top of the list when there are other projects to be completed. He said how could this project be more worthy than others. The question should be put to the voters. Member Stone said he has received several calls with concerns about doing the project in this manner.

Attorney Gorman reiterated that the subterranean work at Flinn has been approved by the State as a Life Safety Project and the district is not required to do projects in chronological order.

Member Krause said it is important that the public know the surface is also unsafe in addition to the electrical work needed below the surface. Member Stone said that according to Maintenance Director Dennis Peters, an electrician has inspected the electrical system and said the playing field is not unsafe. Member Erwin said no written report from the electrician has been provided and neither Dennis Peters or the electrician have addressed the Board. She said that Quincy University, QPS Foundation and private donors partnering together is the first example of a way to do many things in the district. She said sports are big in Quincy and students should not be cheated of this opportunity. Member Krause said the taxpayers paid for the field 30 years ago. It's broke now and needs to be fixed

Jeff Kerkhoff asked about the library at Baldwin School which will be retained next year. He suggested the district exert as much effort to clean up the audit as it has for the Flinn Project.

Quincy University
Commitment

The Board acknowledged the commitment of Quincy University to lease Flinn Memorial Stadium for Quincy University Football Games for a \$75,000 initial payment. A formal lease agreement will be completed and approved at a future meeting.

QPS Foundation
Commitment

The Board acknowledged the commitment of Quincy Public Schools Foundation to pay for the cost of the Sports Field Replacement for Flinn Memorial Stadium not covered by Health Life Safety Code funds.

Sports Field
Replacement Bids

It was moved by Member Erwin and seconded by Member Dickerson to accept the following bids for sports field replacement: Byrne & Jones Sports for \$377,800 and Field Turf Company for \$389,660 (Doc. Reg. No. 2536). Total cost of the project is \$767,460. On the call of the roll, the following members vote Aye: Members Daniels, Dickerson, Erwin, and Krause; and the following members voted Nay: Members Mays and Stone; and the following member was absent: Member Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Member Stone suggested the Board consider establishing a fund for future

repairs and replacement of the athletic field.

Executive Session

It was moved by Member Dickerson and seconded by Member Krause that the Board suspend the rules and go into executive session to discuss employment of personnel. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Daniels, Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, and Stone; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following member was absent: Member Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Exit of Member
Krause

Member Krause exited the meeting prior to executive session at 8:15 a.m. which was duly recorded by the Board Secretary.

Resumption of
Rules

It was moved by Member Mays and seconded by Member Stone to resume the conduct of the special meeting under rules. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Daniels, Dickerson, Erwin, Mays, and Stone; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Members Krause and Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Dickerson and seconded by Member Mays that the special meeting adjourn. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Daniels, Dickerson, Erwin, Mays, and Stone; and the following members voted Nay: None; and the following members were absent: Members Krause and Niekamp. Whereupon the president declared the motion carried and the special meeting was duly adjourned.



Bill Daniels
President



Phyllis Stewart
Secretary