



**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Lapeer Community Schools Board of Education  
held on Thursday, June 22, 2017 at  
the Administration and Services Center**

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Mike Keller, President, called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:00 PM.

When no one wished to address the Board regarding the 2017-2018 Budget, President Keller immediately called the Board Meeting to order. The Budget hearing ran simultaneously with the Board Meeting until noted in the minutes below.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Becker, Peggy Bush, Wendy Byard, Mike Keller, Mike Nolan, Lisa Novak, Jan Peabody

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Becker led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Mike Keller read the following statement:

*A Board meeting is a meeting of our school district business that is held in the public. It is not a public meeting.*

*The Board sets aside 30 minutes for Public Comment. Public comment is not an open forum and we request presenters address the Board. The Board will not respond to those making public comment, but may direct the Superintendent to follow up with the presenters. That lack of response should not be construed as agreement or disagreement with those comments; it is merely the Board staying in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and the posted agenda for this meeting.*

*The Board does not comment in public on any student or employee, and ask the presenters to be respectful of any person they comment about.*

Karen Braschayko and Ann Kanarski addressed the Board of Education.

**REPORTS**

**Finance and Operation Committee** – Peggy Bush reported on the F&O Committee Meeting that was held on June 13, 2017 when the following items were discussed: Auditor pre-meeting; bus bids; cash flow resolution; 2016-2017 final budget amendment; 2017-2018 budget adoption; and type of serving containers being used in the lunch rooms.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Keller made the following statement:

*Board, as you are aware, board member, Jan Peabody, plagiarized the work of another when she gave the graduation commencement at Community High School June 2, 2017. Plagiarism, as defined by Black's Law Dictionary (10th ed. 2014), is "[t]he deliberate and knowing presentation of another person's original ideas or creative expressions as one's own ...." Other than her opening remarks and personal additives, Mrs. Peabody's commencement address contained the works from the June 1, 1997 Article of Chicago Tribune Columnist Mary Schmich, entitled: "Advice, like youth, probably just wasted on the young." Mrs. Peabody's actions are regrettable and the Lapeer Community Schools Board of Education formally and whole-heartedly apologizes to Ms. Schmich and the Chicago Tribune for this unfortunate misappropriation of Ms. Schmich's beautifully written expression well worthy of repetition, but not without attribution to its rightful source.*

*This action violated the high ethical standards that this board holds for Lapeer Community Schools. Plagiarism is a serious violation in any case, but especially in an educational institution. This action coming from a board member is especially concerning and has caused great consternation to this body. We are self-governing and cannot allow this to go unaddressed. The board's legal authority is limited to censuring the member. Mrs. Peabody has personally contacted each board member to apologize, and has heard their thoughts and concerns regarding her actions. Additionally, Mrs. Peabody has requested to address the board. It is my desire that this be a learning experience that should never be repeated and that we get back to the business we were elected to do.*

#### **Censure Resolution**

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the following resolution be approved:

***WHEREAS***, *this Board recognizes its responsibility as a public body to conduct itself collectively and as individuals, in a manner that evidences the highest standards of ethics, integrity, and honesty to ensure public confidence; and*

***WHEREAS***, *this Board has adopted Bylaws and Policies which clearly delineate the expectations for all individuals affiliated with this School District, including members of the Board of Education; and*

***WHEREAS***, *this Board is aware of recent conduct by Board Member Jan Peabody during the commencement ceremonies for the Lapeer Community High School on June 2, 2017 which did not comport with the exacting standards of conduct for members of the Board of Education; and*

***WHEREAS***, *Ms. Peabody has acknowledged her improper conduct and apologized individually to the members of the Board of Education for her actions, this Board deems it necessary and appropriate to formally and publicly express its position that Ms. Peabody's conduct is contrary to the ethical principles of this Board; and*

***WHEREAS***, *this Board is of the opinion that Ms. Peabody should be censured for her actions.*

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:***

*The Board hereby censures Board Member Jan Peabody for engaging in conduct that is inconsistent with the expectations for individuals associated with the School District, including members of the Board of Education.*

Mrs. Peabody made the following statement:

*In the spring of this year, an email was sent out to school board members asking for volunteers to give commencement speeches at either the Community High School or Adult Education Commencement ceremonies. As a new school board member, I felt I could contribute by volunteering to give one of the two commencement speeches and I volunteered to give the one at the Lapeer Community High School Commencement to be held on June 2, 2017.*

*In preparation for the Commencement speech I delivered to the Community High School graduates on June 2, 2017, I utilized material from an online source. The online material was not attributed to any source. I deeply regret that I did not research deeper and discover for myself the origin of this material that I used during a portion of my speech.*

*When I was made aware of the fact that a portion of my comments had come from a published Chicago Tribune article I immediately (based on our schedules) met with or spoke with fellow Board members regarding my omission in giving credit to the source that I used in a portion of the commencement speech I gave on June 2, 2017 and have apologized to each of them for my omission.*

*In no way were my intentions to discredit or to take credit for someone else's words. My intention was to inspire a group of young people embarking on their next journey in life.*

*This has been a learning experience that I have prayed in depth about. Going forward I will be much more diligent in any future research I do as a Board member and reach out to fellow Board members on a regular basis for advice and with questions.*

*I am unaware of any precedent for censuring a fellow Board member in the manner proposed here tonight. My understanding is that in the past, this Board of Education has been very forgiving and shown a great deal of grace as it relates to Board of Education members and administrators and my hope is the same grace will be shown to me this evening regarding this matter.*

*At this time as a member of the Lapeer Community School Board, I look forward to focusing on what is best for the students and parents of Lapeer Community Schools and proceeding with the business of the district.*

*Again, I want to express with a heavy heart my sincerest apologies for any undue stress this may have caused. I also want to express my deep regrets for my omission in regards to the commencement speech I gave on June 2, 2017.*

Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-abstained.  
Motion carried 6-0.

#### Consent Items

1. That the minutes from the June 1, 2017 Regular Meeting be approved as presented.
2. That the following policies be approved for second reading and adoption:
  - Policy 6110 FINANCE Grant Funds
  - Policy 6111 FINANCE Internal Controls
  - Policy 6112 FINANCE Cash Management of Grants
  - Policy 6114 FINANCE Cost Principals Spending Federal Funds
  - Policy 6116 FINANCE Time and Effort Reporting
  - Policy 6320 FINANCE Purchasing
  - Policy 6325 FINANCE Procurement-Federal Grant/Funds

- Policy 6550 FINANCE Travel Payment & Reimbursement
- Policy 8321 OPERATIONS Criminal Justice Information Security
- Policy 8500 OPERATIONS Food Services

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the reading of the minutes and policies be waived and the consent agenda items be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Bus Bids**

Moved by Mrs. Byard, supported by Mr. Nolan, that four used busses be purchased from Hoekstra Transportation for an amount not to exceed \$247,880.00. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Assistant Superintendent Contract**

Moved by Mrs. Becker, supported by Mrs. Novak, that the 2017-2018 contract for Assistant Superintendent Mark Rajter be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Superintendent Contract**

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the 2017-2018 contract for the Superintendent be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Cash Flow Borrowing Resolution**

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Becker, that the Cash Flow Borrowing resolution be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

### **2016-2017 Final Budget Amendment**

Moved by Mrs. Byard, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2016-2017 General Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Becker, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the 2016-2017 Food Service Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the 2016-2017 2007 School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Byard, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2016-2017 Sale of District Property Capital Project Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Novak, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2016-2017 2013 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Becker, that the 2016-2017 District Athletic Complex Capital Project Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the 2016-2017 2014 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Becker, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the 2016-2017 2015 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Capital Project Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the 2016-2017 2015 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Byard, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2016-2017 2016 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund amendments be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

**President Mike Keller closed the Budget Hearing at 7:31 PM.**

#### **2017-2018 Budget Adoption**

Moved by Mrs. Becker, supported by Mrs. Bush, that the 2017-2018 General Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Peabody, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2017-2018 Food Service Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the 2017-2018 2007 School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Byard, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2017-2018 2013 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Becker, that the 2017-2018 2014 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the 2017-2018 2015 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Mrs. Novak, supported by Mrs. Becker, that the 2017-2018 2016 Limited Tax School Building & Site Bonds Debt Retirement Fund budget be adopted as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

## CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Mr. Nolan, supported by Mrs. Peabody, that the Board move to closed session to discuss negotiations. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting recessed from open session at 7:36 PM. Meeting convened in closed session at 7:40 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Becker, Wendy Byard, Peggy Bush, Mike Keller, Mike Nolan, Jan Peabody, Lisas Novak

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Wandrie, Kim Seifferly, Mark Rajter, Michelle Bradford

The Board and others discussed negotiations.

Meeting returned to open session at 7:46 PM.

### **2017-2019 SEIU Mechanics Master Agreement**

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mr. Nolan, that the 2017-2019 Mechanics Master Agreement be approved as presented. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0.

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Bush, supported by Mrs. Byard, that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Becker-aye; Bush-aye; Byard-aye; Keller-aye; Nolan-aye; Novak-aye; Peabody-aye. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

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Peggy Bush, Board of Education Secretary