

# UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

- Specifically, the Board anticipates entering into Executive Session for the following

reason:

- a. (#6) to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or persons.

In: 6:01 Motion: Sue Russell Second: Tom Broderick Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**  
Out: 6:15 Motion: Sarah Kullman Second: Debra Spaulding Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

**No action taken.**

Motion to return to regular session at: 6:16

Motion: Deb Spaulding Second: Darlene Hooper Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Approve the minutes of the March 13, 2025 Regular Meeting and March 25 Budget Meeting as presented.

Motion: Evan George Second: Deb Spaulding Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

## **7. Public Comment**

- a. Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections; opinions, ideas and concerns that are offered by the public will be considered and taken under advisement. We have set aside a 15 minute period giving the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Please raise your hand to be acknowledged by the Board President. When called upon, please identify yourself and give your address, limiting your comments to three minutes.

Paul Hooper: Inquires about the use of a speaker/sound system.

Rachel Douty Beech: Would like to thank the Board of Education for the work that has been done for the merger and navigating a pandemic. She would like to urge the Facilities Committee to address safety concerns.

Sita Sanders: Praises the environment in the elementary building and appreciates district educators.

Jen Williams: Echoes Ms. Sanders' comments and notes a positive district experience.

Jason Welch: Disappointed to see an item on the personnel agenda due to connections made between the faculty member and his daughter.

Kristin Fiegl: Raises concerns about the Facilities Committee recommendations and urges the community to support a facilities plan that balances the needs of both taxpayers and students, ensuring it leads us into a future that does not compromise academic offerings.

Jessica Darney-Buehler: Notes thriving alumni from BVCS and applauds the district and its educators. Expresses concerns about a facilities plan that only covers the basics and does not include items such as parking, a bus garage, and athletic fields.

Olive Stewart: Notes that students feel like the community does not care about the students, and that students just want the basics that she feels other area schools have.

## **8. Financials**

a. Approve the following financial reports:

- i. Revenue Status Report 3/31/25
- ii. Warrant 3/10/25 Health Insurance
- iii. Warrant 3/10/25 Multi Fund
- iv. Budget Status Report 3/31/25
- v. Warrant 3/21/25 AP Warrant
- vi. April Budget Transfers
- vii. Treasurer's Report March 2025

b. Resolution to Amend the 2024-2025 General Fund Budget - Insurance Recovery Revenue

WHEREAS, the Boquet Valley Central School District has received insurance recovery funds in the amount of \$287,469 related to damage sustained at the Lake View Campus boiler room in July 2024, damage to the gym at the Mountain View Campus in July 2024, damage to the Mountain View cafeteria and janitors closet in January 2025 and a February 2025 bus accident involving bus #6.

WHEREAS, the insurance recovery constitutes unanticipated revenue to the General Fund and may be appropriated in accordance with Education Law and Commissioner's regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to authorize the use of such funds for the repair, replacement or restoration of the affected property or equipment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby increases the 2024-2025 General Fund budget in the amount of \$287,469 to reflect insurance recoveries received, and appropriates said amount as follows:

- Revenue Code: A2680-Insurance Recoveries.....\$287,469
- Expenditure Code: A1620 and A1621

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby authorized to take all necessary steps to implement this budget amendment in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Motion: Evan George    Second: Sarah Kullman    Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0    **Accept**

## **9. Action Items - Consent Agenda**

- a. Establish and approve the compensation rate of \$15.50 per hour for inspectors and clerks serving at the Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election to be held on May 20, 2025.

- b. Accept and approve the University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc. Agreement for Services Modification #1 modifying the term of the agreement through completion of the services between 1/1/25 and 12/31/25, the cost of the agreement increasing by \$10,000 with a revised not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000 and payment in full to be made upon execution of the agreement.
- c. Accept and approve the proposal as received from Stafford, Owens, Murnane, Kelleher, Miller, Meyer and Zedick, PLLC for legal services for the 2025-2026 school year at an hourly blended rate of \$230 per hour for all attorneys, \$130 for law clerks and \$100 per hour for paralegals.
- d. Approve the disposal of ballots from the May 21, 2024 Annual Budget Vote & Election.

Motion: Sarah Kullman

Second: Tom Broderick

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Accept**

### **10. Personnel - Consent Agenda**

- a. Accept and approve the letter of retirement as submitted by Paul Buehler from his position as Physical Education Teacher effective September 19, 2026.
- b. Approve the following permanent civil service position appointments:
  - i. Dawn Haase 10 month School Nurse effective April 1, 2025, and
  - ii. Lisia Griffin 10 month Food Service Helper effective April 18, 2025.
- c. Approve the daily rate increase for Building Substitute Darcy Hudson from \$135 to \$175 effective April 7, 2025 through April 30, 2025 while covering an extended leave.
- d. Approve the appointment of Jeremy Ward to the full-time (10 month) civil service position of Bus Driver at an hourly rate of \$20.50 effective March 24, 2025 with a 120 day probationary period beginning March 24, 2025 and ending approximately December 2, 2025 (fingerprint clearance on file).
- e. Approve the appointment of Sasha Pulsifer to the full-time (10 month) civil service position of Cook at an hourly rate of \$17.50 effective April 7, 2025 with a 120 day probationary period beginning April 7, 2025 and ending approximately December 16, 2025 (fingerprint clearance on file).
- f. Approve the appointment of Olivia Montville as a substitute (non-certified) Teacher Aide at a daily rate of \$108.50 effective March 26, 2025.
- c. Approve the appointment of Olivia Montville to the full-time (10 month) civil service position of Teacher Aide at an hourly rate of \$15.50 effective ~~March 31, 2025~~ April 10, 2025 with a 120 day probationary period beginning ~~March 31, 2025~~ April 10, 2025 and ending approximately ~~December 9, 2025~~ December 19, 2025 (fingerprint clearance on file).
- g. Approve the following extracurricular appointments for the 2025-2026 school year:
  - i. Jason Demar - Varsity Baseball Volunteer Assistant (no stipend)
  - ii. Chris Markwica - Varsity Baseball Volunteer Assistant (no stipend)
- h. Approve the Chairperson and Inspector List for the Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election to be held on May 20, 2025 as presented.
- i. Accept and approve the letter of resignation submitted by Renee Pelkey from her position as School Counselor effective June 30, 2025.

Motion: Evan George

Second: Tom Broderick

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Accept**

### **11. Policy**

- a. As recommended by Erie I Policy Services, approve the revision of policy #1210 Board Members: Nomination and Election.

Motion: Deb Spaulding

Second: Darlene Hooper

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Accept**

- b. First Reading - policy #3311 Notification of Disclosure of Employee Disciplinary Records

### **12. Principal's Report - Lee Kyler, Principal LVC**

**See attached.**

### **13. Superintendent's Update**

- a. Superintendent's Report
  - i. Presentation - Josh Ettinger - Day Automation - **see attached.**
  - ii. Presentation - Joe Dragone, Capital Region BOCES - Facilities Committee Facilitator - **see attached.**
    - 1. WHEREAS, the Boquet Valley Central School District Board of Education charged the Superintendent of Schools to establish a Facilities Committee tasked with providing input and recommendations to the Board of Education regarding the district's long-term facility needs, long-term capital improvement planning, and other long-term facilities-related matters;  
WHEREAS, the committee was further charged with reviewing data, touring buildings, engaging the community, and working collaboratively with district leadership, consultants, and other stakeholders;  
WHEREAS, the Superintendent established a sixteen member Facilities Committee including representatives from the community, administration, faculty and student body, and facilitated by Capital Region BOCES Strategic Planning Services;  
WHEREAS, the Committee met monthly from September 2024 through March 2025 to fulfill its charge;  
WHEREAS, the Committee reviewed and discussed program, financial and construction information including site evaluation and assessment, various renovation and new construction options, updated building condition survey materials, state aid estimates and related data to reach recommendations to present to the Board of Education;  
NOW THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, the Boquet Valley Central School District Board of Education adopts the following recommendations from the Facilities Committee:

1. The Committee recommends that The Thrall Dam site should not be considered as a site for any future facility needs, and further, no viable property options currently exist for a new school site;
2. The Committee recommends new construction and renovations at the Mountain View Campus to accommodate the PK-12 academic program;
3. The Committee recommends that Lake View Campus not be used for the transportation facility or the athletic fields;
4. The Committee recommends further collaboration and partnership with Camp Dudley as the recommended location for athletic fields;
5. The Committee recommends continuing to evaluate suitable properties for the construction of a new transportation facility.

Further after an extensive review of the potential financial implications that construction and renovation will have on the school community, the Committee recommends that all construction and renovations at the Mountain View Campus consider the Maximum Cost Allowance to maximize aidable expenses. Although the Committee understands that the Maximum Cost Allowance will be exceeded based on the scale of necessary renovations, the Committee recommends every effort to balance the scope of the project with local tax impact.

Motion: Deb Spaulding      Second: Darlene Hooper      Yes: 5   No: 2   Abstain: 0      **Accept**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Spaulding: Yes

Kullman: No

Hooper: Yes

George: No

Russell: Yes

Broderick: Yes

Reynolds: Yes

b. District Grants Update: ESSA, ESD, 611/619, Title I/II/IV, UPK

c. Budget Review & Adoption, Property Tax Report Card Approval

i. The Board of Education adopts the proposed spending plan for the 2025-2026 school year:

1. Be it resolved by the Board of Education to establish \$16,466,120 as the sum dollar amount that the Board of Education shall place before the qualified eligible voters of the Boquet Valley Central School District, as proposition #1 at the Annual Budget Vote & Election to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Motion: Sarah Kullman      Second: Deb Spaulding      Yes: 7   No: 0   Abstain: 0      **Accept**

- ii. The Board of Education approves the Property Tax Report Card for the 2025-2026 proposed budget.

Motion: Sarah Kullman      Second: Evan George      Yes: 7 No: 0    Abstain: 0    **Accept**

#### **14. Public Comment**

- a. Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections; opinions, ideas and concerns that are offered by the public will be considered and taken under advisement. We have set aside a 15 minute period giving the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Please raise your hand to be acknowledged by the Board President. When called upon, please identify yourself and give your address, limiting your comments to three minutes.

Sarah Kingzack: Recognizes positive experiences in the district with her children, teachers, and principal. She states she feels supported as a faculty member and notes relief of the Facilities Committee recommendation passing. Expresses concerns about eliminating the cafeteria and auditorium from the addition of the committee's proposal.

Phil Mero: Expresses gratitude for the Facilities Committee and the Board of Education. Urges the BOE to go above the bare-bones recommendation. Stating that health and safety are basic and that education needs to be the priority. Express concerns regarding faculty turnover and retirement timelines, and request that the board investigate these concerns.

Kelly Ecker: Would like to thank the teachers who work in the current building conditions. Asks the board to not only consider basic health and safety, but also things that support the children and teachers to make them want to be at school.

Sita Sanders: Inquires what would happen if the capital project vote fails. She also inquires if a tiered approach to voting could be on the ballot.

Jessica Darney Buehler: Would appreciate it if the Facilities Committee could share their research with the community. This information could help influence the community votes by providing a side-by-side comparison of the committee's recommendations versus the Thrall Dam project, and the associated costs and assets for both.

Kristin Fiegl: Believes the previous capital project failed due to social media misinformation and wants to ensure a strategy exists to combat it in the future.

Tom Bisselle: Would like the community and the board to consider the potential costs if the anticipated capital project were to fail.

Mary McGowan: Discusses Elizabethtown's upcoming town plans, such as septic replacement and increased assessments, and their potential financial burden.

Megan Ostroski: Expresses fear of what will happen if the anticipated capital project vote fails. Urges people to look at the work that the Facilities Committee has done. Thanks the committee and the board. Expresses worry about missing out on merger incentives.

### **15. Executive Session**

Specifically, the Board anticipates entering into Executive Session for the following reason:

- b. (#6) to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or persons.

In: 8:43 PM Motion: Sue Russell Second: Tom Broderick Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**  
Out: 9:22 PM Motion: Sue Russell Second: Sarah Kullman Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

**No action taken**

### **16. Next Meeting**

- a. Special Meeting - CVES Budget & Board Member Vote Tuesday, April 29, 2025  
Mountain View Campus Time TBD
- b. Public Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 13, 2025 6:00 PM  
Mountain View Campus
- c. Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:00  
Noon - 8:00 PM Lake View Campus

### **17. Adjournment**

Time: 9:23 Motion: Deb Spaulding Second: Darlene Hooper Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

Minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Education.

Date approved by the BOE:

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Bridget Belzile, Deputy District Clerk