

**Coal City Community Unit School District #1
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 27, 2017 – Special Meeting**

ROLL CALL

President Ken Miller called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Coal City Community Unit School District #1 District Office Board Room. In attendance were Board members Robert Bianchetta, Jeff Emerson, Mary Gill, Shawn Hamilton, Chuck Lander and Ken Miller. Board member Quint Harmon was not in attendance. Superintendent Kent Bugg, CSBO Jason Smith, and Board Secretary Karen Vota were also in attendance. High School Principal Mitch Hamann, Athletic Director Dan Hutchings, and Member of the Press Ann Gill were in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Miller led the Board of Education and others present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR


1. In regard to agenda items – none.
2. In general (Limited to 5 minutes per person.) – none.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President Miller asked if there were any items that the Board wanted to remove from the consent agenda. Hearing none, President Miller asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Mr. Hamilton moved and Mr. Lander seconded to approve the consent agenda which contains personnel items including:

Employment – pending satisfactory completion of all state requirements

 [Jessica Palmer](#) – custodian at the Early Childhood Center

 [Jannell McMullen](#) – custodian at the High School

Retirement

 [Gloria Smith](#) – custodian at the Middle School – effective September 29, 2017.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Shawn Hamilton, Chuck Lander, Robert Bianchetta, Jeff Emerson, Mary Gill, Ken Miller

Nays:

Motion Carried.

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OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERSTATE 8 CONFERENCE

For over a year, the Interstate 8 conference leadership has been discussing potential changes to the conference, based on concerns with the disparity in enrollments between the large and small divisions of the conference. When Seneca decided it was in their best interest to leave the conference, that left the conference with 11 schools for the 2018-2019 school year. It is very difficult to develop a conference schedule with only 11 schools, so the conference leadership started actively looking for a 12th school. Morris and Kankakee High Schools showed an interest in joining our conference but neither of them received the requisite number of votes to join the conference. The failure of either school to receive enough votes once again left the conference at 11 schools for the 2018-2019 school year.

Since that time, there have been discussions of some schools breaking away from the I-8 to form a new conference. Coal City High School has been asked to join this group, which includes Manteno, Peotone, Herscher, Wilmington, Reed-Custer, Streator and Lisle. The Board will need to take action to withdraw from the I-8 conference.

Prior to the vote, the Board expressed their disappointment that the I-8 Conference was disbanding. Their preference, and the preference of the high school administration, would have been to add another school and keep the conference intact. In fact, our high school administration voted to add Morris High School to the conference, but we were in the minority on that potential conference addition. When it became clear that keeping the conference together was a view not shared by the majority of the conference schools, the Board and high school administration had to take action that would assure that students had a conference to participate in after the 2018-2019 school year. .

Mr. Hamilton moved and Mr. Lander seconded to approve providing Notice of Intent for Coal City High School to withdraw from the current Interstate-8 Conference effective at the conclusion of the 2018-2019 school year.

Roll Call.

Ayes: Shawn Hamilton, Chuck Lander, Robert Bianchetta, Mary Gill, Ken Miller

Nays: Jeff Emerson

Motion Carried.

OPEN FOR ITEMS NOT KNOWN AT AGENDA PREPARATION TIME – none.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

1. In regard to agenda items – none.
2. In general (Limited to 5 minutes per person.) – none.

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**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:
In District Office Board Room**

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 @ 6 P.M.

**NEXT BOARD STUDY SESSION:
In District Office Board Room**

Wednesday, October 25, 2017 @ 6 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hamilton moved and Ms. Gill seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. President Miller asked if there was any opposition to the motion, hearing none considers the motion approved.

Kenneth P. Miller, President

Mary Gill, Secretary