

# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Directors Fort Cherry School District

---

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Fort Cherry School District was held Monday, June 27, 2022, beginning at 5:30 PM via Zoom electronic meeting / held in the Learning Commons at the High School located at 110 Fort Cherry Road, McDonald, PA 15057.

The following members were present:

Mrs. Jodi McKay	Mr. Chase Ogburn
Mrs. Cynthia Gaskill	Mrs. Jeanine Miles
Mr. Louis Ursitz	Mrs. Julie Sepesy
Mr. Cory Matchett	
Ms. Beverly Schwab	

The following members were excused/absent:

Mr. Paul Bianchini

The following non-members were present:

Mr. Thomas Samosky, Superintendent  
Mrs. Jessica L. Drylie, Business Manager/Board Secretary

The following community members were present:

Makayla Faletto – Student  
Laci Walker – McDonald Boro  
Douglas Lefebvre – Midway Boro  
Lon Libert – Mt. Pleasant Township

\* List of all members that attended virtual session will be filed with official Board minutes

### **I. Executive Session (5:30pm)**

Executive Session was held starting at 5:30pm and ending at 7:25pm.  
Executive session items discussed were Personnel and Safety matters.

### **II. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call**

By Whom: President McKay

Time: 7:27pm

**III. Approval of Agenda – Regular Meeting of June 27, 2022**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz to approve the agenda of the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**IV. Remarks by Visitors**  
(As per Fort Cherry School District Policy for Conducting Meetings of the Board of School Directors)

No remarks by visitors.

**V. Action on the approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 23, 2022**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 23, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**VI. Secretary's Correspondence**

None

**VII. Treasurer's Actions**

**A. Action on the approval of Bills for Payment**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Gaskill                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Matchett                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett that the Board approve the Bills for Payment. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**B. Action on the approval of Treasurer's Report Account Summaries**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Gaskill                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab that the Board approve the Treasurer's Report Account Summaries. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**C. Action on the approval of Budget Control Reports**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Gaskill                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Gaskill made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the Budget Control Reports. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**VIII. Reports**

**A. Board Reports**

No Board Reports

**B. Solicitor's Report**

No Solicitor's Report

**C. Superintendents Report**

Mr. Samosky announced the District was awarded the PA Smart Grant in collaboration with Avella and Burgettstown School Districts. The total grant is \$495,297, with Fort Cherry receiving \$201,900.

**IX. Personnel and Curriculum**

- A. Action on the approval to grant an annual stipend of \$5,000 to an administrator for the Director of Transportation position for the 2022/2023 school year (7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023)

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve to grant an annual stipend of \$5,000 to an administrator for the Director of Transportation position for the 2022/2023 school year (7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023). Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Acknowledge the resignation of Mrs. Jessica Drylie, Business Manager, effective May 24, 2022

Mrs. McKay acknowledged the resignation of Mrs. Jessica Drylie, Business Manager, effective May 24, 2022, and thanked her for her years of dedicated service.

- C. Action on the approval of the employment of Ms. Elaina Vaughan, Paraprofessional, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending all required employment documentation

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the employment of Ms. Elaina Vaughan, Paraprofessional, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending all required employment documentation). Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- D. Action on the approval of the employment of Ms. Tracy Ardeno, Paraprofessional, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending all required employment documentation

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the employment of Ms. Tracy Ardeno, Paraprofessional, per the Fort Cherry ESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending all required employment documentation). Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

## **X. Buildings and Grounds**

There were no Building and Ground items.

## **XI. Transportation**

There were no Transportation items.

## **XII. Finance**

### **A. Action on the approval of the adoption of the Total Tax Structure (Resolution #12)**

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the adoption of the Total Tax Structure (Resolution #12). Roll call was made and all present Board Members voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

### **B. Action on the approval of the adoption of the 2022/2023 Budget and Setting of Real Estate Millage for the 2022/2023 fiscal year (Resolution #13)**

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the adoption of the 2022/2023 Budget and Setting of Real Estate Millage for the 2022/2023 fiscal year (Resolution #13). Roll call was made and all present Board Members voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

### **C. Action on the approval of the adoption of the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Act (Resolution #14)**

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the adoption of the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Act (Resolution #14). Roll call was made and all present Board Members voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- D. Action on the approval of Resolution #15 to authorize Andrews and Price to file real estate tax appeals for the 2023 Tax Year

1<sup>st</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Matchett                      Motion: 8-0

Mr. Ursitz made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett that the Board approve Resolution #15 to authorize Andrews and Price to file real estate tax appeals for the 2023 Tax Year. Roll call was made and all present Board Members voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- E. Action on the approval of the Western Area Career & Technology Center's proposed 2022-2023 budget totaling \$5,822,873 with Fort Cherry School District's contribution of \$201,549.59

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the Western Area Career & Technology Center's proposed 2022-2023 budget totaling \$5,822,873 with Fort Cherry School District's contribution of \$201,549.59. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- F. Action on the approval to raise breakfast/lunch prices \$.15 for the 2022/2023 school year:

Elm Breakfast: \$1.80 (\$1.65 current price)

Elm Lunch: \$2.90 (\$2.75 current price)

HS Breakfast: \$1.85 (\$1.70 current price)

HS Lunch: \$3.00 (\$2.85 current price)

1<sup>st</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Matchett                      Motion: 6-2

Mr. Ursitz made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Matchett that the Board approve to raise breakfast/lunch prices \$.15 for the 2022/2023 school year:

Elm Breakfast: \$1.80 (\$1.65 current price)

Elm Lunch: \$2.90 (\$2.75 current price)

HS Breakfast: \$1.85 (\$1.70 current price)

HS Lunch: \$3.00 (\$2.85 current price)

Motion passed 6-2, with Ms. Schwab and Mrs. Sepesy voting No.

- G. Action on the approval of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. to carry the district insurance policies, effective July 1, 2022

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. to carry the district insurance policies, effective July 1, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XIII. Technology**

- A. Action on the approval of a donation of Chromebooks from the Lieb Family

1<sup>st</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Schwab

Motion: 8-0

Mr. Ursitz made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Schwab that the Board approve a donation of Chromebooks from the Lieb Family. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XIV. Athletics**

- A. Acknowledge the resignation of Mr. Paul Spinden, Jr. High Volleyball Coach, Jr. High Basketball Assistant Coach, and Varsity Track Assistant Coach

President McKay acknowledged the resignation of Mr. Paul Spinden, Jr. High Volleyball Coach, Jr. High Basketball Assistant Coach, and Varsity Track Assistant Coach and thanked him for his many years of service.

- B. Action on the approval to start a Girls' Wrestling Program at Fort Cherry

1<sup>st</sup>: Mrs. Sepesy

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Mrs. Sepesy made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve to start a Girls' Wrestling Program at Fort Cherry. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- C. Action on the approval to accept donations from Mr. Brian Temple and Mr. Brant Miller to complete necessary baseball field renovations

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mrs. Sepesy

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sepesy that the Board approve the donations from Mr. Brian Temple and Mr. Brant Miller to complete necessary baseball field renovations. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**XV. Activities**

There were no Activity items.

**XVI. Policy**

There were no Policy items.

**XVII. Miscellaneous**

- A. Action on the approval of granting School Board Members and Administrators the ability to attend seminars/conferences during the

2022/2023 school year at a cost not to exceed \$900 per conference, such amount to include all costs associated with the event

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve School Board Members and Administrators the ability to attend seminars/conferences during the 2022/2023 school year at a cost not to exceed \$900 per conference, such amount to include all costs associated with the event. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- B. Action on the approval of the Emergency Instructional Time Template for the 2022 - 2023 school year

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the Emergency Instructional Time Template for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- C. Action on the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Cherry School District and Washington Communities Human Services, Inc for services for the 2022-2023 school year

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Cherry School District and Washington Communities Human Services, Inc for services for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

- D. Action on the approval of the contract with Freight Farm with the cost being covered by the PASmart Grant

1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz                      Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the contract with Freight Farm with the cost being covered by the PASmart Grant. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

### **XVIII. Public Comment**

(As per Fort Cherry School District Policy for Conducting Meetings of the Board of School Directors)

Miss Lacie Walker introduced herself to the Board and thanked them for hiring her as the Varsity Cheer Coach. She mentioned that the Varsity Cheer Team wanted different uniforms than what was approved by the school board in May. Lacie announced that the football boosters were going to pay the difference and asked that the board accept that donation. The Board agreed to add that to the July agenda.

**XIX. Executive Session**

This item was not held.

**XX. Adjournment**

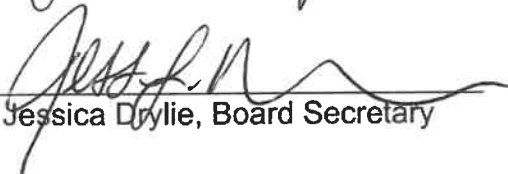
1<sup>st</sup>: Ms. Schwab

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Ursitz

Motion: 8-0

Ms. Schwab made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Ursitz that the Board approve the adjournment of the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, 8-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

  
Mrs. Jodi McKay, Board President

  
Mrs. Jessica Drylie, Board Secretary