

**TRUTH-IN TAXATION HEARING AND
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
MIDLAND COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #7, MARSHALL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

DECEMBER 21, 2009 Board President Steve Jesse called the Truth-In-Taxation Hearing to order at 7:03 P.M. Board Members present were: Foster, Colvin, Leigh, Streitmatter, Poignant and Jesse. Koehler was absent. Also present was Rolf Sivertsen, Dan Mair, Julie Albers, Peg Frey and Terri Davis. Please refer to the regular meeting for other visitors.

Superintendent Rolf Sivertsen gave a presentation that showed the problems that were encountered during the levy process which a projected loss of \$420,000 in General State Aid during Fiscal Year 11 due to the increase in EAV. He said that state funding is unknown for next fall and that no categorical payments have been made this year and that only one is expected. He stated that categorical payments are about \$700,000 in yearly revenue. Mr. Sivertsen also stated that Midland has only taxed based on need and not want and they have been very careful to balance the need with a levy that will not overburden the taxpayer.

Superintendent Sivertsen opened the floor for comments from the public. After a brief discussion regarding a Special Education Litigation last year, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

The Board of Education, Midland Community Unit District #7, Marshall County, Illinois met in regular session on December 21, 2009, pursuant to due notice given. The meeting was called to order at 7:25 P.M. by Board President, Steve Jesse.

ROLL CALL Members present were Colvin, Streitmatter, Leigh, Poignant, Foster, and Board President, Steve Jesse. Koehler was absent.

Also present were Superintendent Rolf Sivertsen, Principal Dan Mair, Principal Julie Albers, Principal Peg Frey and Recording Secretary, Terri Davis.

VISITORS Other present were: Midland Jr. High Girls' Basketball team, Terry Giosta, Gloria Giosta, Gary Smith, Mark and Jillian Monier, Lisa and Jeff Bessler, Lori Toepper, Christine Hunt, Mrs. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Kent McKee, Austin Martin and Coach Ken Keuhn.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Motion was made by Leigh, seconded by Poignant and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to approve the agenda as presented with no additions or deletions. Koehler was absent.

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Terry Giosta questioned whether or not the administration received a 3% pay increase this fiscal year. Superintendent Rolf Sivertsen informed Mr. Giosta that both the administration and the non-certified staff took a wage freeze.

Middle School Principal, Peg Frey introduced the Midland Jr. High Girls' Basketball Team for their appearance at State. The girls were coached by Jim Foster and Ken Keuhn. She stated that most of the girls were also on the softball team that made an appearance at State earlier in the school year. Mrs. Frey was also proud of the facts that not only are these girls great athletes, but they are very good academically.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent Rolf Sivertsen informed the Board that one of the school vans will need to have a new crate engine installed which will cost approximately \$5,000. He stated that since the transmission, front end, and rear end are fine and a new van would run between \$16,000 and \$17,000, he would rather not expend that kind of money at this point.

Mr. Sivertsen stated that he attended the first wrestling meet. He said that he had initially recommended against this program, he now thinks he was wrong.

PRINCIPALS'
REPORTS

In her report, Principal Julie Albers told the Board that during December, students have been donating pennies and loose change to the Lacon Home Journal Red Stocking Fund. Students and their families generously donated during the collection, and they made a donation of \$519.19 to the Red Stocking Fund. She also spoke regarding the generosity of the teachers, staff and community this holiday season. She stated that almost all teachers and staff members assisted in some way by purchasing presents, donating food items, donating money for gift card purchases, etc. to ensure that the children in the neediest families would have a special Christmas.

Principal Dan Mair stated that he would like to recognize Josh Wier for his selection to the Illinois All-State Honors Chorus. Josh is the first student in Midland High School history to earn this prestigious honor! Josh will be participating in the Illinois Music Educators Association Conference January 27th-30th.

CONSENT
AGENDA

Motion was made by Poignant, seconded by Streitmatter, and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. This included minutes from November 16, 2009 Board Meeting, approval of bills, payroll, resignation of Terry Junker as Middle School Assistant Softball Coach and review of suspensions. Koehler was absent.

OLD BUSINESS	None.
CLOSED SESSION	Motion was made by Leigh, seconded by Foster, and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to enter into closed session at 7:55 P.M. for appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees and possible future or impending litigation. Koehler was absent.
RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION	Motion was made by Poignant, seconded by Streitmatter and carried by a unanimous roll vote to reconvene to open session at 8:27 P.M. Koehler was absent.
ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION	None.
NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS	<p>Motion was made by Colvin, seconded by Streitmatter and carried by a unanimous roll call vote for approval of the resolution adopting the final tax levy. Koehler was absent.</p> <p>Motion was made by Streitmatter seconded by Poignant and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to accept the fuel bid of Ag View FS, Inc. Koehler was absent.</p> <p>Motion was made by Foster, seconded by Leigh and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to approve the independent employment contract of Elizabeth Myers, a legally certified Speech and Language Pathologist. Koehler was absent.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	Motion was made by Colvin, seconded by Poignant and carried by a unanimous roll call vote to adjourn at 8:34 P.M.

Board President

Board Secretary