

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD RE-ORGANIZATION AND REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 4, 2021

7:30 p.m.

Minutes of January 4, 2021

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to appoint Jean Flynn, Board Secretary, as temporary chair to conduct election, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith, all voting yes, motion carried.

Call to order by Board Secretary

Time: 7:32 p.m.

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Washington Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be emailed on January 17, 2020, to The Star Gazette and the Clerk of Washington Township.

Results of the Election held on November 3, 2020 were as follows:

Edward S. Kemp, Jr. (3 year-term) - 2,540
*Robert D. Hinck (3 year-term) - 5
Write-ins - 103

*Robert D. Hinck respectfully declined the 3 year-term on the Washington Township Board of Education.

Administering the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board Member. (Newly elected Board Member sign the Oath of Office).

3 - Year Term
Edward Kemp, Jr.

Members in attendance: Karen Graf, Edward Kemp, Jennifer Knittel, Kimberley Morris and Anita Smith.

Members absent: Lauren Schlaffer

Flag Salute:

B. RE-ORGANIZATION MOTIONS

Board Secretary requests nominations for President.

Anita Smith nominated Karen Graf for President. Edward Kemp seconded nomination. Are there any other nominations? (Following the close of nominations.). RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

C. NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT ASSUMES CHAIR

President requests nominations for Vice-President.

Anita Smith nominated Edward S. Kemp, Jr. for Vice-President. Kimberley Morris seconded nomination. Are there any other nominations? (Following the close of nominations.). RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

D. CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Review

Board will review New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics (board members sign acknowledgement of receipt of File Code 9271). (Please sign and return in the envelope enclosed).

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to adopt the following 2021-2022 calendar of board meetings for the Washington Township Board of Education: RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

REGULAR MEETINGS FOR 2021-2022

January 4, 2021	(Monday) Board Reorganization/Public Hearing on School Safety Report
February 8, 2021	
March 8, 2021	
April 26, 2021	Public Hearing on Budget
May 10, 2021	2021-2022 Annual School Appointments and Adoptions
June 14, 2021	
July 12, 2021	Public Hearing on School Safety Report
August 23, 2021	
September 13, 2021	
October 4, 2021	Public Hearing on Nursing Services Plan
November 8, 2021	Public Hearing on Audit
December 13, 2021	
January 3, 2022	(Monday) Board Reorganization/Regular/Public Hearing on School Safety Report

Board President appointed Jennifer Knittel and Anita Smith, alternate, as Delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Board President appointed Karen Graf and Kimberley Morris, alternate, to the Warren County School Boards Association.

Board President appointed Jennifer Knittel as Legislative delegate.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the minutes of December 14, 2020, as presented. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Anita Smith, to approve the executive session minutes of December 14, 2020, as presented. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

E. INTRODUCTION/INTERVIEWS

- Candidates for open board seat:

Patrick Rock

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Anita Smith, to approve the continuation of Nathanya G. Simon, as Board Counsel, January 1, 2021-January 3, 2022, with the firm of Scarinci Hollenbeck, per the same terms and rate of current retainer, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

a. School Safety Report

As per Public Law 6A:16-5.3, each school district shall report incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, substance abuse and HIB two times per year. Those incidents shall also be reported between September 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, to the NJ Department of Education via the department's Student Safety Data System.

- 0 - Violence, vandalism, substance abuse or weapons reports
- 1 - Confirmed HIB
- 3 – HIB Investigations

As reported to the Department of Education, there was zero incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, substance abuse, during the 2020-2021 school year for the period ending December 31, 2020.

There was one confirmed HIB during the 2020-2021 school year for the period ending December 31, 2020.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept the Bi-Annual Student Safety Data Report, dated December 31, 2020, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

G. PUBLIC QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS (agenda Items) - None

The public may speak for three (3) minutes, on agenda items, unless they have requested to be on the agenda.

H. SECRETARY'S REPORT - None

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the following substitute for the 2020-2021 school year, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

- Jocelyn Struble - Custodian

Motion Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to acknowledge the receipt of the approved 2020 Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Grant between Washington Township and the County of Warren for the Port Colden Schoolhouse project for \$95,936 [County Funds \$71,952 and Municipality (Board of Education) Funds \$23,984 (25% match)], as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

K. TECHNOLOGY REPORT

L. CORRESPONDENCE - None

M. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education:

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the Book and Media List for the 2020-2021 school year (attachment #8), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

Facilities:

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Anita Smith, to approve the installation of a Caterpillar Emergency Generator at Port Colden School through the NJ State Approved Co-op #65MCESCCPS ESCNJ 18.19-09 in the amount of \$147,457.00, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the installation of a Caterpillar Emergency Generator at Brass Castle School through the NJ State Approved Co-op #65MCESCCPS ESCNJ 18.19-09 in the amount of \$274,815.00, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Kemp, Knittel, Morris and Smith all voting yes, motion carried.

Finance: None

Personnel: None

N. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION - old and/or new business - None

(The public may speak for three (3) minutes on non-agenda items unless they have requested to be on the agenda.)

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION - if required as indicated in items _____. - None

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, the Board of Education of the Washington Township School District in the County of Warren will adjourn into a closed meeting to discuss the item (s) which falls within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 b. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule.

- a. Individual privacy
- b. Collective bargaining agreements
- c. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- d. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- f. Pending or anticipated litigation
- g. Attorney-client privilege
- h. Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

MV: Time: _____

Motion by _____, seconded by _____ to return to open session.

MV: Time: _____

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Anita Smith, to appoint Patrick Rock, as a Board Member (upon completion of criminal background check). MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Edward Kemp, to adjourn.

MV: unanimous, motion carried Time: 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Flynn, Business Administrator/Board Secretary