



**Board Meeting of the Palmyra Area School District**  
**Palmyra Area School District Office Boardroom**  
***(meeting held virtually via Zoom)***  
**1125 Park Drive, Palmyra, PA 17078**  
**June 25, 2020**  
**Minutes For: Regular School Board Meeting**

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*Roll Call*

**Board Members Present:** Krista Barley, Christopher Connell, Christine Fisher, Larry Geib, Suzan Gilligan, James Kreiser, Karen Ludwig, Michael Ludwig, Jeffrey Putt

**Absent:** None

**Administrators Present:** Bernie Kepler, Annette Spagnolo, Darcy Brenner-Smith, Bret Applequist, Noelle Brossman, John Brougher, Ashley Harrison, Anne Hoover, Rebecca Hoover, Kim-Kathie Knudsen, Abbie Mahaffey, Wally Popejoy, Nathan Rackley, Daryl Reisinger, Carolyn Richards, Scott Richardson, Kathy Setlock, Brian Weidler, Tawnjah White

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**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**Minutes**

Christopher Connell called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

Barley  
Connell  
Fisher  
Geib  
Gilligan  
Kreiser  
Ludwig, K.  
Ludwig, M.  
Putt

**Minutes:** 9 present, 0 absent

**4. BOARD MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of June 11, 2020.

**Minutes**

Following a motion by Jeffrey Putt a second by James Kreiser, the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the June 11, 2020 meeting.

## **5. PALMYRA PRIDE**

Recognition of the Palmyra Area School District Administrative Team for their leadership, support, and guidance during the current global health crisis, working with staff to coordinate virtual learning in a very short amount of time to the district's students, ensuring the continuation of an excellent education for all students.

### **Minutes**

The Board and Administration recognized the Palmyra Area School District Administrative Team as noted above.

## **6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **Minutes**

Christopher Connell thanked and praised those participating and assisting in high school graduation.

## **7. VISITOR COMMENTS**

- Ryan Patrick, 62 Sycamore Lane, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Support of Board & Administration
- Jodi McGough, 121 East Oak Street, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Budget
- Gina Riess, 18 Arbor Lane, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Budget
- Mike Valle, 8 Cottonwood Court, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Support for the Budget Compromise
- Candace Hurley, 281 Parliament Drive, Annville, PA 17003 / Topic: School District Budget Cuts, Diversity Programming, Ethics
- Brian Craig, 215 West Oak Street, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Taxes
- Dawn Blauch, 2099 South Forge Road, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Taxes/Budget
- Frank Potter, 685 Coachman Lane, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Outdoor Education and Science
- Jason Kwiatkowski, 26 Limestone Lane, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Budget
- Emma Paule Nzambi, 28 Oxford Road, Annville, PA 17003 / Topic: Racism Experienced as a Student
- Tracy Nzambi, 28 Oxford Road, Annville, PA 17003 / Topic: Diversity and Inclusion Training and Curriculum
- Casey Long, 20 Folkstone Lane, Annville, PA 17003 / Topic: Supporting Students and Teachers
- Dave Laudermilch, 141 Wheatstone Drive, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Support for Tax Increase
- James Kreiser, 280 Crestview Circle, Palmyra, PA 17078 / Topic: Thank you and Minutes
- Chrissy Gemund, 258 Parliament Drive, Annville, PA 17003 / Topic: Budget and Cyber School in PA

### **Minutes**

The listed individuals addressed the Board during Visitor Comments.

## **8. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

### **a. Minutes - Buildings & Grounds Committee**

Buildings & Grounds Committee Minutes from June 11, 2020.

### **Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 11, 2020 Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting.

## 9. FINANCE

### a. Minutes - Finance Committee

Finance Committee Minutes from June 11, 2020.

#### Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 11, 2020 Finance Committee meeting.

### b. 2020-21 General Fund Budget

Motion to approve the 2020-21 Palmyra Area School District General Fund Budget in the amount of \$55,139,569 with a Real Estate Tax of 15.643 mills. (Roll Call Vote) This represents a 1.84% increase in the millage rate.

#### Minutes

Following a motion by Jeffrey Putt and a second by James Kreiser, the Board, by a vote of 5-4, approved the 2020-21 Palmyra Area School District General Fund Budget in the amount of \$55,139,569 with a Real Estate Tax of 15.643 mills.

#### Vote Results

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**Yea:** 5 Mr. Connell, Ms. Fisher, Mr. Geib, Mr. Kreiser, Mr. Putt

**Nay:** 4 Mrs. Barley, Mrs. Gilligan, Mrs. Ludwig, Mr. Ludwig

**Abstain:** 0

**Not Cast:** 0

*Michael Ludwig made a motion to accept fundraising proceeds from Casey Long, seconded by Karen Ludwig.*

*Michael Ludwig amended the motion to accept fundraising proceeds from Casey Long and made a motion to waive Crowdfunding Board policy for the Casey Long Go Fund Me initiative, seconded by Karen Ludwig. (Roll Call Vote) The vote was 4-4-1, and the motion did not pass.*

#### Vote Results

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**Yea:** 4 Mrs. Barley, Mrs. Gilligan, Mrs. Ludwig, Mr. Ludwig

**Nay:** 4 Mr. Connell, Ms. Fisher, Mr. Geib, Mr. Putt

**Abstain:** 1 Mr. Kreiser

**Not  
Cast:** 0

### c. Approval of Consent Agenda - Finance Committee Action Items

Motion to approve Finance Committee items as noted on the Finance Consent Agenda.

#### Minutes

Following a motion by Jeffrey Putt and a second by Christine Fisher, the Board unanimously approved the Finance Consent Agenda items as listed.

## 10. STAFFING & ADMINISTRATION

### a. Minutes - Staffing & Administration Committee

Staffing & Administration Committee Minutes from June 11, 2020.

#### Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 11, 2020 Staffing and Administration Committee meeting.

### b. Approval of Consent Agenda - Staffing & Administration Committee Action Items



Motion to approve Staffing & Administration Committee items as noted on the Staffing & Administration Consent Agenda.

**Minutes**

Following a motion by Larry Geib and a second by Jeffrey Putt, the Board unanimously approved the Staffing and Administration Consent Agenda items as listed.

**c. PIAA Return to Play Guidelines**

\*Motion to approve the Palmyra Area School District's Athletics, Health and Safety Plan.

**Minutes**

Following a motion by Larry Geib and a second by Jeffrey Putt, the Board unanimously approved the Palmyra Area School District's Athletics Health and Safety Plan for reopening offseason workouts/practices.

\*Staffing & Administration item added after the Staffing & Administration Committee meeting on June 11, 2020.

**11. REPORTS**

**a. Superintendent's Report**

**Minutes**

Dr. Kepler provided the Board with the May 2020 Superintendent's Report.

**b. Student Representative's Report**

**Minutes**

No report.

**c. Lebanon County Career & Technology Center Report**

**Minutes**

Jeffrey Putt provided an update on behalf of the Lebanon County Career and Technology Center Board.

**d. Palmyra Area Parks & Recreation Commission Report**

**Minutes**

James Kreiser provided a report on behalf of the Palmyra Area Parks & Recreation Commission.

**e. Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 Report**

**Minutes**

Christine Fisher reported on behalf of the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13.

**f. Cougar Foundation Report**

**Minutes**

James Kreiser reported a meeting of the Cougar Foundation was not held.

**g. Palmyra Public Library Report**

**Minutes**

Larry Geib provided an update on behalf of the Palmyra Public Library.

**h. Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee Report**

**Minutes**

Karen Ludwig reported a meeting of the Lebanon County Tax Collection Committee was not held.

**i. Lebanon County Legislative Region Report**

**Minutes**

Suzan Gilligan provided an update on behalf of the Lebanon County Legislative Region.

**j. Harrisburg Area Community College Lebanon Campus Advisory Committee Report**

**Minutes**

Krista Barley reported a meeting of the Harrisburg Area Community College Lebanon Campus Advisory Committee was not held.

**k. Other Reports**

**Minutes**

No other reports.

**12. COMMUNICATIONS**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Minutes**

Following a motion by Jeffrey Putt and a second by James Kreiser, the Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darcy Brenner-Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Darcy Brenner-Smith, Board Secretary