

**USD 340 BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2008
7:00pm
601 E Wyandotte, Meriden, KS 66512**

Members Present Van Petten, Jolly, Harden, McMahon, McClurg, Mumaw

Members Absent Moore

Others Present Superintendent Scott Myers, Clerk Amy Adams-Mitchell, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Mary Getto, Athletic Director John Riley, and Clarke Davis.

Patrons: Leslie Anderson, Karen Kiefat, Anita Grahem, Grace Ann Dunn, Allison Clayton, Jim Zwycart, Max Scott, Bob Overstreet, Dave Murdie, Kirk Fast, Carolyn Trimble, Billie Esser, Bill Bradford, and Lyle Shenk.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Van Petten, who opened the meeting by reading a statement that addressed the chronological timeline of the land purchase with final recommendation of both he and the superintendent to rescind the contract on the purchase of the land.

The following were comments/questions shared by community members:

Leslie Anderson: Did the Board, as a group, look or walk the land? Did the recent committee poll the community?

Anita Grahem: Have railroad rights been deeded back to landowners? Could 4th & 5th grades be integrated back to Meriden?

Dave Murdie: With the cost of a bulldozer to level the land, it would be like purchasing the land a second time; there will be building restrictions regarding the power lines; and land is available to the east of current facilities that is practical for development, why not purchase that land? Would like for the Board to keep taxes down.

Lyle Shenk: Would the retaining of a different attorney assist in the return of the \$10,000 earnest money?

Allison Clayton: Why would we accept land that had toxic dumping on it and then pay to put a fence up to contain the contaminated soil?

Approve Agenda Motion made by McMahon, seconded by Jolly to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Land Acquirement Motion was made by McClurg, seconded by Harden to direct the superintendent and the BOE attorney to take whatever actions necessary to rescind the contract on the purchase of the land based on misrepresentation and the change in suitability of the land and to put a real estate attorney on retainer. Motion carried 6-0.

Technology Director There was a lengthy discussion regarding the position of Technology Director. A contract from Dynamic Computer Solutions was reviewed. John Riley and Scott Myers fielded questions from the board members.

Executive Session Motion made by McClurg, seconded by McMahon to adjourn to executive session per KSA 75-4319 for a period of ten minutes to discuss matters of negotiations, including Mr. Myers. Motion carried 6-0.

Return to Open Session The Board returned to open session at 8:15pm.

Ratification of NA Motion made by McMahon, seconded by McClurg to tentatively approve the proposed ratification of the Negotiated Agreement, reflecting a 5.03% increase, pending legal review. Motion carried 4-2, Harden against, Van Petten abstaining.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectively Submitted: _____
Amy Adams-Mitchell, Board Clerk, USD 340

Jeff Van Petten, Board President, USD 340