

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
OF
CLAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

A Special Session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees began at the Wallace property located at 2067 West US Highway 40, Brazil, IN 47834, and continued at North Clay Middle School, 3 West Knight Drive, Brazil, IN 47834, on Tuesday, March 31, 2009. Dottie King, Jennifer Kaelber, Brian Atkinson, and Terry Barr were present. Forrest Buell, Tina Heffner, and Ted Jackson were absent.

I. Call to Order

A Special Session of the Clay Community Schools was called to order by President Brian Atkinson at 6:00 p.m. at the Wallace property located at 2067 West US Highway 40, Brazil, IN for the purpose of touring the facility to review a potential bus garage site and property. The tour was open to the public and was attended by 12 patrons, 3 school board members including Mr. Atkinson, Terry Barr, and Jennifer Kaelber, and 4 school corporation administrators.

The meeting was continued at 6:42 p.m. at North Clay Middle School, 3 West Knight Drive, Brazil, IN 47834. Dottie King joined the other three board members. Forrest Buell, Tina Heffner, and Ted Jackson were absent but had toured the Wallace property on March 30, 2009.

II. Discuss Bus Garage Alternatives

Frank Misner, Director of Transportation, commented that he and Mr. Reberger had watched the building going up since its inception and they have on several occasions remarked about how nice it was, not knowing at all that it would be available to serve as a bus garage. The first impression was that it would be too big with 2,200 square feet of office area and nine bays. However, after talking about the building, they realized that with space being needed for liquid storage, parts, a body shop, and a wash bay, there would actually end up being only a couple of bays that would be extra. Mr. Misner shared his opinion that, although the building is not perfect, there are a lot of good things about it. It is the best and least expensive of the seven options presented to the board.

Under discussion, Mrs. Barr asked if the \$240,000 estimate to install fueling bays was a comprehensive cost and if fencing was something the school corporation would have to do. Mr. Fowler replied that \$240,000 for fuel bays was changed to \$132,500 after getting an actual quote. This includes about a \$30,000 cushion. Regarding fencing, it may or may not have fencing. Mr. Fowler does not believe that Mr. Wallace will do fencing at this point. As for Mrs. Barr's query regarding the cost of drains, Mr. Reberger surmised that it would cost approximately \$10,000. Both Mr. Misner and Mr. Reberger believe that the \$50,000 estimate for site preparation is still valid.

Mrs. Kaelber asked about materials going into the drains from the wash bay. Mr. Misner's response was that the drains would be hooked up to the 8 inch drain and would go wherever that goes. Mr. Reberger added that a silt separator would be

installed. This is a holding tank that allows liquids to come off and solids to stay. The storage tank, which essentially would hold sand and mud, would be cleaned once or twice a year.

Mr. Dale Royer expressed his concerns about the intersection with US Highway 40 that would be used by the buses. Mr. Misner addressed this concern by explaining that having all buses come in and leave from the south side had been discussed. He added that the state has talked about putting in a stoplight, but he does not know how far along the state may be in that process or if they are even still thinking about that. Mr. Misner suggested contacting the state, if the Wallace property is purchased, to let them know that a bus garage would be located at that intersection and there would be increased traffic. Mrs. Barr suggested getting more information on the cost of a stoplight. Dr. Schroeder advised that the state would need to conduct a traffic study to see if a traffic light would be warranted. Mr. Misner added that most of the buses are to peoples' homes and there are only 12-14 route buses on the lot. The buses would have no students when they leave the lot. All of the buses would turn right. Mr. Reberger commented that any buses that might need to go west could use County Road 850 N and come out on US Highway 40 at a different intersection.

Mr. Royer also asked about the need for other building upgrades, such as a sprinkler system. Mr. Reberger stated that if isolation areas had a four-hour fire rating, a sprinkler system would not be required.

Mr. Leo Southworth pointed out that the bus garage is for work not only on buses; it is also used for work on pick-up trucks and anything that has a motor. Mr. Misner added that after five years when a bus is no longer under warranty, the transportation mechanics fix everything.

In response to a question about how quickly the bus garage could be moved into this facility, Dr. Schroeder explained that he and Mr. Fowler would need to look at the June 30 cash balance to see what monies would be available. He noted that \$550,000 could be used from the Rainy Day Fund. There are also funds earmarked for retirement liability that could be used with the intent to replace the funds in a subsequent year. A General Obligation Bond could be looked at, but Dr. Schroeder would like to stay away from that if possible.

At the April 9 board meeting, Dr. Schroeder would like to ask permission to pursue purchase of this property, if this is the property that the board wants to pursue. Two certified appraisers will need to appraise the property. The two appraisals will be averaged together and that is the most that the corporation can pay.

Mr. Fowler stated that if this is the project that the board wants to pursue and the board gives approval in April, he would want to start the process of getting more appropriations in the Rainy Day Fund at the May board meeting. It will take a couple of months to get that process through because the budget would have to be re-advertised and approved by the DLGF. On June 30, the impact of the Circuit Breaker should be known as well as what, if any, monies would be available from Bus Replacement or

Capital Projects. It may be necessary to borrow from the \$2.6 million in the Rainy Day Fund to be paid back in 2010. He hopes to have financial answers in July.

All four board members in attendance agreed that it would be okay to put the issue of voting to proceed with appraisals of the property on the April 9, 2009, school board meeting agenda.

III. Adjournment

Mrs. Barr moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. King seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded and copies may be requested by contacting the Central Administration Office.