



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 28, 2023 Special Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, a special Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School Community Room and live streamed via YouTube.

The purpose of the Board Meeting Minutes is to capture the essence of discussions through the actions voted on. These minutes should not be interpreted to represent a transcription of the meeting. To watch a recording of this meeting, please click [here](#).

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Feldt at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Dale Feldt, Steve Klismet, Molly McDonald, Bob Adams, Betty Manion, and Ron Brooks.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Lori Verhalen, Nicolas Genske, Tom Link, and Daniel Popple

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Ron Brooks and seconded by Steve Klismet to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Review Background Record Checks – Adjournment into Closed Session:

A motion was made by Steve Klismet and seconded by Molly McDonald to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 19.85(1)(f), Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Specifically to review the background record check reports of the Board candidates. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote at 5:32 p.m.

Return to Open Session:

A motion was made by Steve Klismet and seconded by Ron Brooks to return to Open Session. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote at 5:39 p.m.

Interview Candidates for the Board of Education Vacancy:

The Board introduced themselves and thanked each candidate for applying for the vacant seat on the Board of Education and for coming in tonight. The Board conducted individual interviews of the four candidates who applied: Daniel Popple, Lori Verhalen, Nicolas Genske, and Tom Link. Each of the candidates were asked to respond to the following seven questions:

1. Why are you running for the School Board vacancy? And tell us a little bit about yourself.
2. How would you go about working with people who may have different beliefs or opinions from you? Can you give us an example?
3. What do you see as the primary work of the school board?
4. What attributes and behaviors are essential for school board members?
5. Could you support a board decision you did not vote in favor of? Why or why not?
6. What do you see as the major issue(s) facing our school district?
7. Is there anything else you would like to share?

When all of the interviews were completed, the Board had some discussion regarding each of the candidates. There was a question whether one of the candidates had a possible conflict of interest with them being on the board of a private school. Board President Feldt advised that they would resign from that position should they be appointed tonight. The Board liked the fact that two of the candidates had students currently enrolled in the District.

Appointment of Board Candidate:

Following the discussion, the following nominations were made to fill the vacant seat on the Board:

Bob Adams nominated and Steve Klismet seconded the nomination to appoint Lori Verhalen to the School District of Waupaca Board of Education to fill the vacant seat through April 2024. The motion failed on a 2-4 roll call vote, with Bob Adams and Steve Klismet voting yes and Ron Brooks, Molly McDonald, Betty Manion, and Dale Feldt voting no.

Dale Feldt nominated and Molly McDonald seconded the nomination to appoint Nicolas Genske to the School District of Waupaca Board of Education to fill the vacant seat through April 2024. The motion carried on a 5-1 roll call vote, with Betty Manion, Steve Klismet, Bob Adams, Molly McDonald, and Dale Feldt voting yes and Ron Brooks voting no.

The Board advised the candidates that they all did an incredible job and the Board was very impressed with their perspectives of what a school board does. It was a very hard decision because each candidate brings a unique set of strengths and excellent qualifications and will do this Board justice. The candidates were informed of the Board’s decision to appoint Nicolas Genske. Board President Feldt advised that there is a School Board election in April and strongly encouraged the candidates to run. He thanked them for their vested interest in the School District of Waupaca.

Mr. Genske was advised that he will need to take the Oath of Office and meet with the other Directors. He was also advised of the Board and Committee meetings currently scheduled during the month of December, as well as the Committees he will serve on. Board member Ron Brooks suggested that Mr. Genske attend the Policy Committee meeting scheduled for December 7th since he mentioned his interest in policy during his interview.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ron Brooks and seconded by Molly McDonald to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

_____ Date _____
 Dale Feldt, President
 Board of Education

_____ Date _____
 Molly McDonald, Clerk
 Board of Education