The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met March 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM. Present were board members Scott, Hagan, Marks, Kolbet, Webb, and O’Byrne. Also present were Superintendent Sattler, Principal Tines, Assistant Principal/Schools Counselor McCarter, Assistant Principal Erickson, C. Rippen, and Peggy Fyn.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board’s adherence to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law posted on the north wall of the meeting room was given. The meeting was properly advertised in the Hitchcock County News on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Moved by O’Byrne; seconded by Marks to approve the March 2024 regular board meeting as presented. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, and Hagan; nay votes none.

President Scott welcomed all visitors. There was no public comment.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by Hagan to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, and Kolbet; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following: (1) Minutes of the February 2024 board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill roster with general fund bills totaling $462,943.05 and lunch fund bills totaling $22,904.46. (4) Other funds.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by O’Byrne to pay the Nebraska Association of School Boards 2024-2025 membership fee of $3,790.00. Aye votes Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, and Marks; nay votes none.

Assistant Principal Erickson spoke to the board about the search for an updated math curriculum for the high school. The current math books are 20 plus years old. Mrs. Hurtt spent a day at another school which teaches from the curriculum she was interested in and was extremely impressed with it. Moved by O’Byrne; seconded by Webb to approve the McGraw Hill 9-12 Math Curriculum quote of $20,149.56 for textbooks and a 6 year online subscription. Aye votes O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with a contract for Heidi Nelson as the K-12 Vocal and Instrumental music teacher. Moved by Scott; seconded by O’Byrne to hire Heidi Nelson as the K-12 Vocal and Instrumental music teacher with a $6,000 signing bonus for the 2024-2025 school year. Aye votes Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Moved by Kolbet; seconded by Marks to hire Thomas Lewis as the Ag/FFA teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Webb; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to approve an amended contract for Chad Brenning to allow five years’ experience on the salary schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. Aye votes Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, and Hagan; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Kolbet to move into executive session to discuss 2024-2025 classified wages at 7:19 PM. Aye votes Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, and Kolbet; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Kolbet to move out of executive session at 7:47 PM. Aye votes Scott, O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, and Marks; nay votes none.

Moved by Scott; seconded by Kolbet to approve, subject to Superintendent Sattler’s discretion, up to $2.00 per hour increase for secretaries and bookkeeper positions, and up to $1.00 per hour increase for all remaining classified staff. Aye votes O’Byrne, Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, and Scott; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to move into executive session to discuss personnel needs for the 2024-2025 school year at 7:49 PM. Aye votes Webb, Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, and O’Byrne; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by O’Byrne to move out of executive session at 8:09 PM. Aye votes Hagan, Kolbet, Marks, Scott, O’Byrne, and Webb; nay votes none.

There were no committee reports.

Principal Tines’ report as follows: (1) 2/14 – send off for wrestlers attending State Wrestling. (2) 2/15 – Because of You – the McLain twins. (3) 2/21 – Elementary/Junior High spelling bee. (4) 2/26 – Start of Read Across America week. (5) 2/28 – Lions Club vision and hearing screenings. (6) 3/4 – 3/8 – Spring Break. (7) NSCAS State Testing will start in April. (8) The work camp came in over break and cleared out the daycare room.

Assistant Principal/School Counselor McCarter’s report as follows: (1) 2/14 – Interhigh Day at the McCook College; Hitchcock County placed 2nd in division 2. (2) 2/22 – Interhigh Day at Mid Plains Community College. Hitchcock County placed 3rd. (3) Quiz Bowl at Southwest. (4) 2/28 – Lions Club screening. (5) 3/1 – Speech meet at Maxwell. (6) 3/19 – StuCo will host a Red Cross blood drive at the high school. (7) 3/31 – District speech at South Platte.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) State aid for the 2024-2025 school year has been certified. (2) NRCSA conference in Kearney 3/13 – 3/15.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM. The next board meeting will be held Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

Craig Scott – President Casha O’Byrne – Secretary

General Fund bills

20/20 Technologies – contracted services 3,776.48

McCook Ace Hardware – building supplies 57.55

Aflac – payroll deductions 546.95

American Family Ins Co – payroll deductions 2,301.91

Bentley & Kisker – audit services 8,477.00

Blick Art Materials – art supplies 449.98

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 59,374.92

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 4,745.53

C&K Distributors – shop supply 17.21

Community First Bank HSA – payroll deduction 50.00

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 53,407.96

Computer Informations Concepts – Infinite Campus 7,665.00

D&S Hardware – building supply 46.94

Dans R Us – trash 200.75

Diamond Vogel – shop supply 125.80

Eakes Office Solutions – copier usage/custodial supply 7,032.78

Employee Benefit fund – payroll deduction 389.90

ESU #15 – contracted services 26,350.93

ESU #16 – contracted services 238.63

Farmers Coop – bus/building fuels 4,808.41

Follett Content Solutions – library books 782.11

Great Plains Communications – phone bills/internet 783.11

Halo Branded Solutions – guidance supplies 2,816.81

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 1,196.96

HCS – payroll deductions 8.91

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,614.18

Higher Ground – Chromebook cases 1,079.50

Credit Management Services – payroll deduction 294.60

Hometown Leasing – copiers 391.38

Hot Lunch fund – payments 2,584.85

HTMC – radio announcements 156.00

Ideal Linen – custodial supply 623.46

J Distributing – shop supplies 110.00

Johnson Controls – services 6,900.30

K-C Motor & Electric – services 2,795.45

Kohl’s Auto Parts – shop supply 37.84

KSB School Law – legal services 70.00

Legal Shield – payroll deductions 102.08

Medical Transport Solutions – payroll deductions 137.00

Debra McCarter – reimbursement 71.05

MCI – long distance 49.97

Mead Lumber – shop/building supplies 714.46

Matrix Trust Company – annuities 5,073.00

Midland Credit Management – payroll deductions 458.25

Midwest Alarm Services – fire alarm services 408.47

MPCC Student Accounts – college books/fees 827.96

Mystery Science – web based software renewal 1,495.00

NASSP/NASC – NHS membership 385.00

NE Association of School Boards – membership dues 3,790.00

NE State Fire Marshal Agency – boiler inspections 144.00

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 46,960.91

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 7,473.17

New York Life Ins Co – payroll deduction 103.36

O’Brien Electric – services 386.31

Optum – FSA fees 300.00

Principal Life Ins Co – disability 1,117.32

Quality Urgent Care – DOT exam 135.00

Quill Corporation – office supply 41.58

Rippen Oil – fuel/parts/labor 1,835.95

Scoop Media – printing 143.89

Snell Service – backflow testing 175.00

Southwest Public Power District – electric bill 1,633.03

Special Building fund – payroll deduction 220.00

T-C Ceilings – building supply 763.52

TKO Pest Control – pest control 200.00

Trafera – Chromebooks 6,125.00

Trails West – bus fuel 2,829.22

UniFirst Corp – custodial supplies 223.92

U.S. Bank – credit card charges 2,309.53

Village of Culbertson – water/sewage 215.05

Village of Trenton – utilities 2,704.45

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 438.00

David Wimer – reimbursement 91.44

Payroll – net (gross - $255,450.35) 170,551.07

Lunch Fund bills

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/supply 11,137.94

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 1,692.93

Eakes Office Solutions – kitchen supply 21.84

Food Distribution Program – commodities 67.59

Gary’s Super Foods – food 121.52

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursement 57.44

Credit Management Services – payroll deductions 550.24

Ideal Linen – kitchen supply 171.57

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 1,317.81

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 161.65

Northwest Fire Extinguisher – hood system services 635.00

US Foods – food 323.79

Payroll – net (gross - $9,015.88) 6,645.14