

**ROCK ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 41
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING**

August 4, 2009

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Rock Island School District was held Tuesday, August 4, 2009 in the Library at Rock Island High School. President Bill Cleaver called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members Present: Dr. Jim Bishop (*arrived at 5:05 p.m.*), Mr. Bill Cleaver, Ms. Linda Dothard, Mr. Dave Rockwell, Mr. Earl Strupp, Mr. Jerry Tutskey and Mr. Jim Veasey

Staff Present: Mr. Jim Andrews, Ms. Kay Ingham, Mr. Ken Jaeke, Mr. Rick Loy, Dr. Mike Oberhaus and Mr. Bill Osborne

Approval of Board of Education Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 28, 2009 as presented. A voice vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.

Operations - Executive Session Minutes and Verbatim Recording

A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Ms. Linda Dothard to approve the Executive Session Minutes and Verbatim Recording of July 28, 2009 to be open to the public.

Mr. Rockwell stated that we're asked to release this information due to the appropriateness of the closed session. When we hire a consultant from retired staff, is their income reported to them from a W-2 or a 1099 form? Dr. Oberhaus replied that they are processed through payroll and complete a W-2.

Mr. Rockwell stated that the executive session is an extremely important part of this school board. This is paramount to us doing our jobs. This was an appropriate action to take. He is very nervous that it is not confidential in response to the press. He has listened to the recording. Intelligent questions were asked of our staff in which heartfelt responses were given to those questions. Opening this to the public sets a precedence that could damage our credibility. This was not inappropriate and if you really believe that, you can vote us out during the next election. You have to have confidence in your elected officials. We are taking on very important issues without insulting ourselves, each other or the people we are discussing. With the recording being open, the public will see how we do things and how thoughtful we are. He will not vote to open them up.

Ms. Dothard stated that prior to going into executive session, we did contact our attorney to make certain we were not out of line in what we were doing. She asked that this be noted in the press that we did not arbitrarily do something just because we wanted to do it.

Mr. Tutskey was also absent from the meeting and compared the recording to the written notes. He stated there is nothing different from the tape to the written minutes. Professional questions were asked regarding a specific employee. He will not vote to release the tape.

Ms. Dothard does not have a problem with releasing the tape. She does concur with Mr. Rockwell as it will set a precedence in the future. On this particular issue, there is nothing in the session that was said that could not be repeated in public.

Ms. Dothard stated that we need to look at what is in the best interest of the school district. Ms. Loy has proven herself as an educator in this district. Over the weekend we have had a lot of negative press and dissatisfaction with the Board. If she had voted against Ms. Loy, she would have had to vote against all the educators.

Mr. Strupp stated that it looks like we could be setting a precedence but he has a sneaky suspicion that once it is open to the public and it sees what is in it, there will be a very foolish feeling because there is nothing in it. They were asking intelligent, articulate questions. That is what they were elected to do. Every one of us is here for the children, we want the best of everything and this they can provide. He will vote yes to open the recording.

A roll call vote was called showing the following members voting "Aye:" Mr. Earl Strupp, Mr. Jim Veasey, Ms. Linda Dothard and Mr. Bill Cleaver. Dr. Jim Bishop, Mr. Jerry Tutskey and Mr. Dave Rockwell voted "Nay." The President declared the motion carried.

Business/Finance - Contract for Services

A motion was made by Mr. Jim Veasey and seconded by Mr. Earl Strupp to award a contract to Score Tables by Design, L.L.C., Urbandale, IA, to establish an advertising program for the purpose of generating revenue for Rock Island High School with the terms as presented in the contract. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jerry Tutskey to adjourn the meeting. All members voting "Aye," the President declared the meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Mr. William L. Cleaver, President

Dr. Michael Oberhaus, Clerk