

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
DECEMBER 1, 2015
Stark County Elementary
Wyoming, Illinois
6:00 PM**

Reminder: A Quorum is 4 voting members.

In Attendance:

Jerry Klooster	Judy Taylor	Robin Nowlan
Lynne Paxson	Diana Gilles	Angie McGrath
Jenna Bibb	Bruce West	Angie Roark

II. Call to Order

At 6:03 PM, President Jerry Klooster called the meeting to order.

II. Secretary's Report

Secretary J.Taylor had previously emailed the minutes of both the September 1, 2015, regular meeting and the October 29, 2015, special meeting to all Foundation Board members. J.Bibb moved to approve both sets of minutes as presented. A.McGrath seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer J.Hampton was unable to attend, so there was no Treasurer's report. J.Klooster presented a bill from Gorenz and Associates for accounting services performed for the Foundation.

IV. Approval to Pay Upcoming Bills

Because the Foundation meets only four times a year, J.Klooster asked for a motion to authorize the Treasurer to pay any existing Foundation bills and any bills that require payment prior to the date of the next regularly scheduled meeting. R.Nowlan so moved. A.Roark seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The Treasurer will report on any such payments at the next meeting for final approval by the board.

V. President's Report

A. Update on Late Filing Penalty

The Foundation's auditor, S.Ramsey, sent the IRS a letter asking for an abatement of the \$1880 penalty for late 990 filing. To date there is no response to that request. B.West commented that this is not unusual for the IRS. No payment will be authorized until a response is received.

B. Update on Status of TY2014 990 Form

State forms AG990 and CO-1 were submitted on September 15 with proper payments of \$115 and \$215 respectively.

C. Update on Poe Payment

At the special meeting held on October 29, 2015, attorney Bob Potts discussed the Margaret K. Poe funds still being held in Connecticut and the Foundation's options for acquiring them. The Board voted at that meeting to authorize Mr. Potts to speak to a Connecticut attorney and to

decide the next step in collaboration with J.Klooster and J.Taylor. Since then, Mr. Potts has spoken to an attorney who does not believe that the Foundation has any legal recourse against Stuart Ratnor, the attorney for the Poe estate. The Connecticut attorney also believes that the Probate Court may not have jurisdiction to hear professional responsibility liability claims against Mr. Ratnor. On November 11, 2015, Mr. Potts filed an Objection to Accounting of Escrowed Funds with the Stamford Probate Court in hopes of a ruling by the judge to reimburse the Foundation for the unnecessary federal tax and attorney's fees. If this objection is denied, Mr. Potts believes that the case is probably over.

D. Update on Poe Court Filing

The Foundation is required to report to the Connecticut Court every three years on the use of Poe funds. CPA Stephanie Ramsey is working with Bob Potts to prepare the report due in February.

E. Class Action Law Suit

J.Klooster reported he had received a letter in September from a legal firm in Pennsylvania asking if the Foundation wanted to be part of a class action law suit against Super Micro Computer, Inc. This was a company in which Raymond James invested some of the Poe monies. The suit claims that SMC, Inc. made false statements and claims to investors. Keith Yoder from Raymond James recommended that the Foundation not take part in the suit. J.Klooster did not respond to the letter.

F. Getting Back to Our Mission

J.Klooster pointed out that a great deal of Board member time has recently been spent on 501c(3) issues and the Poe situation. He suggested that it is once again time to focus on the real issues of the Foundation--providing grants to teachers and scholarships to students.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Scholarship Committee

J.Taylor gave copies of the Scholarship Timeline to the members of the committee. Members are Bob Rennick, Robin Nowlan, Angie McGrath, and Bill Lamb. J.Taylor will set up a meeting soon with committee members.

B. Fundraising/Special Events Committee

A.Roark volunteered to be on this committee. J.Klooster will ask Bill Lamb if he will also be on the committee. J.Klooster will set up a meeting for this committee.

C. Investment Committee

B.West suggested that Brian Rewerts and Treasurer Jackie Hampton should join him on this committee.

D. Teacher Grants/Student Special Needs Committee

Committee members, J.Bibb, L.Paxson, and D.Gilles met with J.Taylor to review 6 teacher grant applications. All are recommended for approval by the committee.

1. from Angela Olson for English I and English III: She would like to subscribe to "Upfront," the New York Times Magazine. This would provide a class set of 20 magazines with unlimited online access. There are 15 issues per year plus 2 special issues and an online archive. The cost is \$220. The \$150 grant would go toward this cost. (All year.)

2. from Janet Wilkinson for High School Science: She would like to purchase the Teachers' One-step Planner for the Environmental Sciences and some other teacher resources for the class. The cost is \$150. (All year.)
3. from Amy Milroy for High School U.S. History: She would like to defray costs for the annual Veterans' Day program put on by U.S. History students. She is requesting \$150.
4. from Mary McCauley for 2nd grade: She would like to purchase 40 "Lakeshore Draw & Write Journals". ((Forty copies are enough for her class next year, too.) Students would make entries daily and have their own collection to keep at the end of the year. The cost is \$141. (All year for this school year and next year.)
5. from Brenda Macke for K-5 General Music: She wants to purchase six sets of boomwhackers and 2 sets of octavator caps to replace those that are broken and to start a unit to increase rhythmic and note reading literacy. The cost is \$150 minus a possible coupon. (All year.)
6. from David Wallace for 4th grade AR Reading: He would like to purchase \$100 in Scholastic Books. The cost is \$100. (All year.)

VII. Old Business

A. Approval of Officer Responsibilities--- Exhibit A

At the September meeting, Board members considered a list of officer responsibilities for possible attachment to Foundation Bylaws. J.Klooster explained that Bylaw changes require a vote of the School Board. However, an Exhibit is a working document that may be amended by vote of the Foundation Board. He recommended that the members approve the officer responsibilities as Exhibit A. R.Nowlan so moved. L.Paxson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. New Business

A. Approval of Committee Recommended Teacher Grants

B.West moved to approve the six previously recommended \$150 teacher grants. A.McGrath seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. J.Bibb will inform the teachers and district bookkeeper, Mary Streitmatter.

B. Committee Authorization

A.Roark moved to authorize the Scholarship Committee to conduct business necessary for meeting the previously approved scholarship timeline. J.Bibb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B.West moved to give the Scholarship Committee authority to determine the number and amount of Mueller scholarships and to determine the amount of the three Poe scholarships. J.Bibb seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Decisions will be based on the amount of earnings available in the funds.

C. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting date will be Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 6 PM in the Unit Office.

D. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM.