Chairman Bryan Whitmarsh called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in Room 7 of Hagerman Jr.-Sr. High School. District Clerk Cathy Bridwell took roll and a quorum was present with other board members in attendance being Phil Gossi and Monte Osborne. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown, Secondary Principal Jaren Wadsworth, Associate Principal Dr. Troy Easterday, Lori Osborne, Josh Richards, Terri Fisher, Ryan Cantrell, Dr. Wiley Dobbs, Ryan Cantrell, Ray Hoffmann, Daniel Knapp, and Cynthia and John Kinder.

Chairman Whitmarsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Trustee Osborne to approve the current agenda as presented; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Special Reports/Activities

Staff Activities Report. Terri Fisher, the new English Language Learner teacher, explained how students are identified for services and what services they receive. Services may include differentiated instruction, interventions, or enrollment in the ELL program. Thirty-two students have been identified and Mrs. Fisher is working with the 22 with the highest needs.

Employees of the Month. Dr. Brown recognized classified employee of the month, William Maki, who is a special education para at the elementary school. Principal Wadsworth presented the certified employee of the month to school counselor Dr. Ray Hoffmann.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021, regular meeting; the bills; and the financial reports as presented; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried.

Public Input

Cynthia Kinder voiced her support for the FFA students who have qualified for the national conference.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown reported enrollment at the elementary school is 174, a growth of 63 students, 39 of which are enrolled in the virtual school. After-school tutoring and enrichment started today and the first staff PD day is scheduled for this Friday. Dr. Brown has heard from the paving company originally scheduled to do the paving job on the parking lot at the old gym and they cannot do it until June. Trustee Gossi let the board know that he is aware of another company who might be interested and Chairman Whitmarsh asked that this be added to the October agenda. Dr. Brown gave an update on several ongoing projects, including phone service to the classrooms in the old gym and the modular classrooms. The district is still in the process of finalizing the instructional

Coach’s salary and days. Dr. Brown mentioned that Idaho public schools are not required to follow President Biden’s vaccination mandate. He reported that Suzie Heller headed a project to commemorate 9/11 in which students put together snack baskets for first responders, and announced that Tess Jones, elementary librarian, applied for and received a grant for about $27,000 for the libraries. There is a class action suit being filed on behalf of all school districts regarding student vaping. The safety inspection was yesterday and the district did much better this year and Dr. Brown thanked Mr. Rice and the staff for their efforts in complying with safety regulations.

Secondary Principal Jaren Wadsworth reported homecoming was a busy success and he thanked all the businesses and parents who were involved and helped the students. The barbecue was fantastic and he thanked Kirt Martin and Daniel Knapp, who did the food. During homecoming week attendance was 93% and Monday and Tuesday this week was 87%. Hardly any teachers have been absent. Pre-assessments have been done for math and language arts so teachers can direct instruction appropriately. Approximately 25 dual credit courses are being taken this fall. Hagerman High School is due to host the career fair this year, but he doesn’t know how this will work due to COVID-19. The high school may have to bump up to 2A in a couple of years if enrollment stays steady. Currently, several schools in the league have moved up, leaving very few schools to play in football. Mr. Wadsworth mentioned the need to use ESSER funds to fix up the old gym. Community members are wondering what the intent is for the gym--will the district abandon it or fix it up? Building goals include improvement in writing for students. The new grading system is being implemented and student recognition is in full swing. At the recent IASA meeting he attended, the discussion was that the state would change from ADA to enrollment as early as October and leave it that way for at least two years. Presenters also talked about classified staff and state funding. Mr. Wadsworth mentioned that the scarcity of substitutes makes it hard to cover classes when teachers are absent and perhaps an increase in state funding is needed to entice more substitute teachers. The legislature will be looking for student growth this year and hopefully will be out in the districts to get first-hand knowledge. The state is also looking at a state-level technology plan. Other topics of interest at the conference were school safety, all-day kindergarten, and mental well-being.

Information Items

Strategic Plan Training. Dr. Wiley Dobbs conducted training for the board on how to create and use a strategic plan.

Building Maintenance Report. Dr. Brown gave an update on ongoing maintenance projects including sink installation at the elementary school, painting doors and railings, floor repairs and replacement, and PA/phone systems in some of the rooms. AC units at the elementary school may need to be replaced and the district will go out for bids on that.

IT Ticket System Purchase and Technology Project Updates. Matt Cottam reported on some of the ticket systems he has researched. His first criteria is ease of use for staff and his second is allowing access by phone for him. He hopes to make a decision and get it up and running in the next few weeks.

Trustee Vacancy--Review of Process for Appointment. The board discussed the process they would like to use to appoint a trustee for Zone 2. The consensus was that the board would review the applications and at the October meeting, each candidate will have a set time to speak to the board. After that, the board will vote to select the new board member.

Website Update. Trustee Gossi asked about some items on the website that are not current. Mr. Wadsworth said he would put the class schedule on tomorrow. Mrs. Bridwell said staff contracts are not on the website because many of them are not final yet. She will put them on as soon as possible. Mrs. Bridwell encouraged the board to call the district office whenever they see an issue with the website.

Action Items

Out-of-State Travel Request. Daniel Knapp reported there are six students who have qualified for the National Conference. At this time, the conference will be in-person, so he requested permission to take the students to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve out-of-state travel for the FFA members; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried.

2021-2022 School Calendar Revision. Dr. Brown requested that spring break be moved from March 28-31, 2022, to March 21-24, 2022, to align it with CSI and other area schools. Chairman Whitmarsh recommended that the board get community input prior to making the change. Mr. Wadsworth will put out an alert to parents asking for input.

Student, Parent & Faculty Surveys for Website. Chairman Whitmarsh mentioned that the surveys on the website are not working and he wants them to be up and running at all times. Mr. Wadsworth said that surveys can be made using Cognia and put on the website. Both administrators felt that the surveys should only be open once a year to comply with the requirement for inclusion in administrator and teacher evaluations. The board directed administration to update the surveys and the links and put a message on the website indicating when the survey windows will be open.

2020-2021 Audit Report. Kurt Folke of Quest CPAs presented the 2020-2021 audit report and answered questions from the board. The general fund has approximately a 4.5 month operating balance which is very good.

Purchase of Activity Bus and Sale or Trade-In of Old Activity Bus. Trustee Gossi gave an update on the search for an activity bus. He has located one, but the cost is $45,000. The dealer will take the old bus in trade for $9,250, which is what the district paid for it, so the total would be $35,750. The board previously approved purchase of a 15-passenger van with a maximum cost of $35,000. Mr. Wadsworth mentioned the need for a log for use of the vehicle and preventive maintenance. Trustee Osborne moved to purchase the activity bus and trade in the old bus at the price presented; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Easement for Idaho Power to Move Light Pole to School Property. Idaho Power has requested an easement to move a light pole from the sidewalk onto school property near the old gym. Moved by Trustee Osborne to give Idaho Power an easement for the pole; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Board Policy Revision 1st Reading. Board policy #5210, Work Day, was presented for a first reading. The policy still has language in it from when the district was on a five-day week and the work day was 8 hours. The revision would change it to nine hour days and there is also a recommended change to say that a full time employee would be a forty-hour per week employee. Discussion ensued regarding the how many hours per week would constitute full-time employment. Consensus of the board was 30 hours. Board policy #5402 was presented for a first reading. The policy currently requires new staff to contribute two days to the sick leave bank their first year of employment and thereafter one day every year. Since the sick leave bank has 959 days in it, the request is to revise the policy to require one day contributed the first year of employment to become a member of the bank and none in subsequent years . Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve the first reading of board policy #5402 and #5210 with the noted adjustment to Policy #5210 of 30 hours per week for full-time employment; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Osborne to adjourn; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried at 8:34 p.m.

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Catherine Bridwell, District Clerk