Chairman Bryan Whitmarsh called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Teri Dorchuck, Phil Gossi, Brian Moore, and Monte Osborne. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown, Secondary Principal Jaren Wadsworth, Karen and Ray Hoffmann, Jolinda Solosabal, Kim Coit, Annalise Coit, Carey DeVries, Brooklyn DeVries, and Natasha Munoz.

Chairman Whitmarsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Special Presentations/Reports

Dr. Brown presented the classified employee of the month award to Karen Hoffmann. Principal Wadsworth announced the certified employee of the month was Tammy Scott, who was not able to attend.

Jolinda Solosabal and students reported on the science fair. There were 39 projects involving 62 students in the areas of Power Systems and Structures, Food Products and Processing Systems, and Plant Systems/Environmental Services/Natural Resources. Mrs. Solosabal, the students, and their parents left the meeting following the presentation.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Trustee Osborne to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021, regular meeting; the bills; and the financial reports; as presented; questions were asked about Venture Upward on number of payments, Rinard Media concerning website completion, and when technology funding will arrive; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Public Input

Jessica Knapp asked the board to consider removing the mask requirement from the COVID-19 plan for the district.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown showed photos of some of the students who challenged him to ping pong as a reward for good behavior and schoolwork. Dr. Brown suggested that the CIP team add planning for buildings to their group discussion. Teachers will be doing PD on grading and assessment. Last Friday the staff did PD with the Idaho Middle Level Association. Dr. Brown has hired Charles Rice as the new maintenance person pending board approval. A fence along the canal has been repaired and other projects will be completed as time permits. Mr. Wadsworth and Dr. Brown have revamped the teacher evaluation form to include more

details. Attachments to the evaluation will be a Google Classroom hour log, a parent survey and a student survey. A parent/staff survey was provided and results were mostly positive. Dr. Brown also gave an update on the iStation test results.

Principal Wadsworth had Matt Cottam report on the recent BPA conference. Payden Jackson received awards for C# programming and C++programming. Spring sports are underway with track and golf in the high school and junior high doing a combined track/soccer program. The school will be hosting three home soccer games and Mr. Wadsworth is looking for soccer officials for these games. Alex Gonzalez was invited to the all-star basketball game last week. The cheer squad took third at district. Mr. Wadsworth is planning for summer camps for students. Teachers helping with the science fair were Daniel Knapp, Kirt Martin, Jolinda Solosabal, and Dr. Easterday. Sixteen different dual credit courses are being taught this semester with quite a few students enrolled. Most students are doing very well. ISAT testing scores and reading level scores have been sent out to parents. He will present results at the next meeting. Only three parents completed the high school parent engagement survey and Mr. Wadsworth is trying to encourage more parents to participate. Mr. Wadsworth attended a student engagement workshop this month. Plans are underway for graduation attendance by the public in conformity with COVID-19 guidelines. Mr. Wadsworth thanked all the people who supported the levy for giving our students the best educational opportunities possible.

Information Items

Website Rebuild Input. Trustee Dorchuck and Cathy Bridwell walked the board through the new website and showed some of the new content and forms available for staff and community members.

Funding for IT Position. Dr. Brown explained the code that allows the district to be funded for an IT person through the state instructional certificated funding matrix.

Hagerman Booster Club--Affiliation with District as per Policy #4200. Chairman Whitmarsh reached out to the ISBA regarding the rationale behind the policy. The ISBA reiterated that if the proposed booster club is affiliated with the district, the district needs to have oversight and the policy provides for this.

Update on Safety Inspection Items. Dr. Brown updated the board on the progress the district is making towards addressing deficiencies in building safety. Maintenance staff and administration are meeting weekly to work on priorities. With the addition of federal and plant facility funds, the district should be able to take care of most of these items.

Action Items

COVID-19 Plan Update Including Extra-Curricular Event Attendance Guidelines for Spring Sports. Dr. Brown announced that Gooding County is in minimal, or green, status. Hagerman School District has been in yellow the entire school year, and Dr. Brown recommended retaining status quo until after spring break. At that time, he would look into moving to green and lifting some of the restrictions. Chairman Whitmarsh recommended going to green and not requiring face masks or shields the rest of the year. Maintenance staff could remove the desk shields over spring break. Teachers could still wear masks/shields as preferred. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck that during spring break, shields be removed from the classrooms and after spring break the language recommending face coverings be removed, although students and teachers may wear them, and that after spring break, the district moves forward in green; seconded by Trustee Moore. Discussion ensued regarding whether or not to change the wording in the plan or just continue in green; or if the district could do away with the plan altogether; as well as the impact on staff and students if the plan was suspended and no social distancing was required. Trustee Dorchuck withdrew the motion. Moved by Trustee Moore to move out of COVID-19 protocol; seconded by Trustee Gossi; discussion ensued regarding timing, which would be after spring break, and leaving it up to administration whether or not to change breakfast and lunch times; motion carried.

Supplemental Levy--Certification of Results. The counties won’t canvas votes until tomorrow, so the certification will have to take place at the April meeting. The board discussed the narrow margin of success and reasons for it. Chairman Whitmarsh suggested putting out a post-election survey to see why people voted against the levy. Principal Wadsworth volunteered to create the survey and put it on the website.

2021-2022 School Calendar Adoption. Dr. Brown presented the 2021-2022 calendar. Two parent-teacher conference days should be added as place-holders, one each semester. There was some confusion over New Year’s Day, which is on a Saturday. This means the holiday must be taken the preceding Friday, December 31, 2021. Moved by Trustee Gossi to adopt as revised; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Driver Education Program. Dr. Brown was unable to secure an instructor, so the district will not be able to offer the program this year. The board requested that students be notified of other options for pursuing the course.

Safety Busing Annual Renewal. A committee met recently to evaluate the safety busing plan for those students who live within 1.5 miles of the school. Moved by Trustee Moore to approve the safety busing plan; seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; motion carried.

State Funding Formula Change re. Staff Compensation. Business Manager Cathy Bridwell explained the revised state funding for salaries, which provides for certificated staff to move to the next rung on the career ladder despite movement being frozen last fall, and gives funding for

a two percent raise for classified staff for this current fiscal year. She requested approval to move qualifying certified staff on the career ladder as allowed by the state and pay them the correct amount as a lump sum in April. She also requested a two percent raise for classified staff retroactive to the beginning of the school year, also paid as a lump sum in April. Trustee Dorchuck was concerned about tax implications and requested that the payments to teachers be processed over several months instead of paying all of it in April. Mrs. Bridwell was agreeable to that. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to approve the staff compensation proposal as presented; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Coaching Salary Revisions. Mr. Wadsworth recommended changing track coaches from separate junior high and high school positions, one for boys and one for girls at each level, to one coach for girls, grades 7-12 and one for boys, grades 7-12. The salary for these combined positions would be $1,500 each. He also recommended hiring Dana Strong as the boys track coach and changing Jolinda Solosabal’s existing contract for girls track to reflect the new wording of grades 7-12 and new salary amount. In addition, he recommended paying coaching salaries for golf and junior high soccer. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to pay golf and soccer coaches with presented salary amounts and to approve adjustments to the track positions for the 2020-21 school year; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Board Policy Revisions 1st and 2nd Reading. Policies #2200; #3060; #4120; #4200; #5400C; #7218; #7455; #8110; and #8605 were presented for a first reading by the policy committee. Policy #4200 needs an amount of required liability insurance to be decided by administration. Policy #3380, Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Participation, was presented for a second reading. Moved by Trustee Moore to approve all policies as presented; seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; motion carried.

Staffing Needs for 2021-2022. Trustee Moore asked the board to consider hiring a grant writer and paying them either from the grants they obtain, or paying them a classified salary and a smaller percentage of grants obtained. Trustee Dorchuck explained that many grants don’t have an administrative allocation, so the district would have to come up with the money to pay the grant writer. No motion was forthcoming. Since the levy passed, the district will hire a PE teacher using levy funds. Dr. Brown recommended advertising for a PE teacher and a music teacher for 2021-2022. The board was concerned with the number of electives and discussed the need for an overall plan. Moved by Trustee Moore to advertise for a K-12 PE teacher for 2021-2022; seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; motion carried.

Executive Session. Moved by Trustee Moore to go into executive session for the purpose of personnel, superintendent evaluation, and administrative contract renewal, per Idaho Code 74-206(a) and (b); seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; carried at 10:10 p.m. by roll call vote as follows: Trustee Gossi--yes; Trustee Moore--yes; Trustee Dorchuck--yes; Trustee Whitmarsh--yes; and

Trustee Osborne--yes. Present in executive session were all board members, Dr. Brown, Mr. Wadsworth, Mrs. Bridwell and Matt Cottam. Mr. Cottam left at 10:34 p.m. The board discussed personnel, superintendent evaluation, and administrative contract renewal, and returned to regular session at 11:43 p.m.

Chairman Whitmarsh stated the board has completed its evaluation of Dr. Brown and is very pleased with his performance during his first year. His area of improvement was to take what he is doing at the elementary level to the high school level. His area of strength was integrity on which he scored a perfect four. His rating was 3.33, which is between proficient and distinguished. Moved by Trustee Moore to add two years to Dr. Brown’s contract; seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; motion passed.

Moved by Trustee Moore to accept the resignation of Amy Gossi as secondary math teacher; Joe Kendall as junior high boys’ basketball coach; and Jessica Knapp as junior high girls’ basketball coach; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried. Trustee Gossi abstained.

Moved by Trustee Moore to hire Charles Rice for the head maintenance position; make Chris Baker a full-time custodian, and to advertise for a part-time dishwasher position; to hire ELL paras Kristy Prins, Kyla Ramirez, and Lora Silver-Lewis; to hire Dana Strong and Jolinda Solosabal as track coaches grades 7-12, Daniel Knapp as junior high soccer coach, and Josh Douville as golf coach; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

The next board meeting will be April 12, 2021.

Chairman Whitmarsh adjourned the meeting at 11:49 p.m.

Catherine Bridwell

District Clerk