

MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MARION, INDIANA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

JULY 24, 2018

The Board of School Trustees of Marion Community Schools met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, Cafeteria, Marion High School, 750 W. 26th St., Marion, Indiana, at 7 p.m.

Board members present:

Todd Nicholson	President
Aaron Vermilion	1st Vice President
Chuck Griffin	Secretary
Katie Morgan	Member
Scott Murphy	Member

Also present:

Brad Lindsay	Superintendent
Bob Schultz	Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs
Shelley Preston	Human Resources Director
Michele Smith	Education Director
Patricia Gibson	Director of Communications
Keith Burke	Principal, Marion High School
Lynn Gosser	Principal, McCulloch Junior High
Robin Peterman	Principal, Justice Intermediate School
Cathy Griffin	MCS Business Office / Public Notary
Stephanie Holcomb	Justice Intermediate teacher / MTA
Sue Nicholson	MCS Head Nurse

Media/Distinguished Guests:

Scott Simpson	Marion Teachers Association
Sarah Barker	Chronicle-Tribune
Sean Douglas	News Herald
Richarh Tyson	WMTV

Spectators/Patrons: 20

I. CALL TO ORDER

Todd Nicholson, President, called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given. There was a moment of silence.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- 18-112 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 26, 2018
- 18-112.1 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD JULY 23, 2018
- 18-112.2 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD JULY 23, 2018
- 18-113 PERSONNEL REPORT
- 18-113.1 ADDENDA PERSONNEL REPORT
- 18-114 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST
- 18-115 FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 18-116 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATIONS - MHS
- 18-117 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT
- 18-118 OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

18-112 MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 26, 2018

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at 7 p.m.

18-112.1 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD JULY 23, 2018

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the special meeting held Monday, July 23, 2018, at 7 p.m.

18-112.2 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD JULY 23, 2018

The Superintendent recommended approval of the minutes of the executive session held Monday, July 23, 2018, after the special meeting (which started at 7 p.m.)

18-113 PERSONNEL REPORT

18-113.1 ADDENDA PERSONNEL REPORT

The Personnel Reports consisted of:

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
PERSONNEL REPORTS**

7/24/18

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

BARGAINING UNIT REPORT

Addenda Recommendation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Alyssa Foss	Kendall, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Lyndzee Stickles	Kendall, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Ethan Evans	Kendall, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Cathy Hamilton	Kendall, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Jennifer Jindrich	Kendall, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Kim Prater	Riverview, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Shelli Pence	Riverview, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Kristy Sisson	Riverview, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Michelle Faulkner	Riverview, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Vicki Brown	Riverview, Team Lead Teacher	8/7/18
Jacob Boggs	MHS, Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	7/23/18

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Victoria Bishop	McCulloch, Teacher	8/7/18
Aimee Jones	MHS, Teacher	8/7/18
Karen Hansel	Frances Slocum, Teacher	8/7/18
Aaron Messer	MHS, Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)

Katie Penzenik	Kendall, Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)
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Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Yichuan Yan	MHS, Teacher	7/3/18
Samantha Berglan	McCulloch, Teacher	6/30/18
Riley Reese	MHS, Teacher	6/29/18
Esther Anderson	Kendall, Teacher	8/1/18
Twana Johnson	Allen/Riverview, Teacher	7/2/18
Stephanie Curcuru	McCulloch, Teacher	7/31/18

Addenda Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Dustin Keller	MHS, Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	7/9/18

CLASSIFIED REPORT

Change in Assignment

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Jennifer Smith	From Allen, EA to Justice, College and Career Readiness	8/9/18

Retirement

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Arthur Shipp	MHS, Custodian	7/20/18

Resignation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Arnalia Miller	MRCC, ABE Instructor	7/20/18
Wendy Morrell	Little Giants, Educational Assistant	7/10/18
Danielle Millikan	Justice, Educational Assistant	7/14/18

**MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
ADDENDA
PERSONNEL REPORTS**

7/24/18

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

BARGAINING UNIT REPORT

Expiration of Emergency Permit

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Javon Washington	Frances Slocum, New Beginnings Teacher	6/30/18
Patti Losure	Little Giants, Teacher	6/30/18

Addenda Recommendation

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Elizabeth Rittenhouse	Allen, Technology Lead Teacher	8/1/18
Julia Moore	Riverview, EL Lead Teacher	7/25/18

Change in Assignment

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Susan Young	From Justice Special Ed Teacher to McCulloch Special Ed Teacher	8/7/18
Michael Reeves	From McCulloch Counselor to MHS Counselor	8/7/18
Tabbatha Helm	From Digital Citizenship Teacher to Social Studies McCulloch Teacher	8/7/18
Courtney Etherington	From Kindergarten Teacher to Special Ed Teacher Frances Slocum	8/7/18
Sam Burke	From McCulloch Science Teacher to MHS Science Teacher	8/7/18
Paul Funches	From McCulloch College & Career Readiness Teacher to McCulloch ELA Teacher	8/7/18

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Sara Simon	Frances Slocum, Little Giants Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)
Carlos Lanza	McCulloch, Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)
Debra Ritzenthaler	McCulloch, Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)
Morgan Yoder (Miller)	Allen, Teacher	8/7/18 (pending successful completion of the hiring process)
Jessica Craig	MHS, Discipline Secretary	8/7/18

CLASSIFIED REPORT

New Employee

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
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Karen Haag	Allen, Educational Assistant	8/9/18
Ashley Pond	MHS, Registrar	7/2/18
Victoria Walter	Justice, Educational Assistant	8/9/18
Thomas Planalp	Academic Specialist-New Beginnings	8/9/18

Change in Assignment

Name	Building and Assignment	Effective Date
Jorge Berry	From MHS Student Support Specialist to Justice Behavior Support in New Beginnings	8/9/18
Shana Life	From Educational Assistant to McCulloch Special Ed Teacher	8/7/18

The Superintendent recommended approval of the Personnel Reports, as presented.

18-114 MARION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST

The Expenditure Approval Lists for 6/1/18-6/30/18, 7/1/18-7/10/18, 7/11/18-7/12/18, and 7/13/18-7/24/18 were presented. The report included accounts payable claims #18047 through #18291 for a total of 245 accounts payable claims. The total dollar amount of claims was \$3,695,503.57; of that amount \$835,940.54 was expended from the General Fund. The Superintendent recommended approval of the expenditure approval list. (**Exhibit "A"**)

18-115 FINANCIAL REPORT

An analysis of the 2018 Local Tax Revenue as well as the Fund Summary Report and a 2018 Expenditure report was presented to the board for review.

18-116 REQUEST TO ACCEPT DONATIONS - MHS

Donations to various groups at Marion High School were presented for approval.

18-117 RESOLUTION TO OFFER EMPLOYMENT

This resolution authorizes the superintendent to offer employment July 25, 2018, through August 13, 2018, and August 15, 2018, through August 27, 2018, between board meetings. The Board approved and signed the resolution. (**Exhibit "B"**).

18-118 REQUEST TO APPROVE OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS – McCulloch Credits Count and MHS cross country teams

Requests to approve overnight field trips were presented.

Aaron Vermilion entered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Scott Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION

Mr. Todd Nicholson noted that the discussion had been moved up to be prior to the action items, a change from the printed agenda.

18-126 DISTRICT TARGET #2: PRODUCING LEARNING RESULTS UPDATE

Mrs. Michele Smith presented an update regarding summer activities.

At the Giant Summer Academy, 376 K-7 students attended regularly. Literacy, numeracy, and problem solving was the focus. Lessons were geared directly to students' needs, with hands-on activities and enrichment for every student. It was a "summer camp" type experience, including great field trips and culminating projects, that incorporated tech, science, art, literacy.

Also during the summer, we have had professional development for staff, including tech integration and new Discovery Education science curriculum, which includes how to use digital resources to enhance learning. Staff have also been working on curriculum development and mapping, including MHS departments, McCulloch teams, Justice English/Language Arts team, and other grade-level and team leaders.

All of our Principals and Assistant Principals attended the two-day Principal Academy, which focused on the MCS vision for teaching and learning, specifically literacy and numeracy focus, as we continue and refine what we started last year, and build on our successes.

Michele also noted the utilization of the Indiana Department of Education's resources and NWEA resources specifically targeted to help the transition to the new ILEARN test (which replaces ISTEP for grades three through eight this school year). Resources were robust and included ILEARN blueprints and item specifications. Our teachers will know exactly what skills students will need to display and how they will need to display them in this new state assessment, which is computer adaptive (easy-medium-difficult, within grade level - doesn't continue up like NWEA does). We have very clear direction for each academic standard, Michele said, noting appreciation for what the state has provided for this. There will be no reset or baseline year, as there has been in previous testing changes. IDOE says they have correlated this test to the previous test. Michele said MCS is optimistic that the information we are getting now will make a big difference in what our teachers can accomplish and our students can achieve.

Katie Morgan asked whether this ILEARN information is available publicly. Michele said yes, parent resources are available from IDOE now.

Todd asked if ILEARN would be all computer-based. Michele said there are still allowed to be rare exceptions for IEPs, but in general yes, all will be on computer.

Superintendent Brad Lindsay noted our goal is always to have every student improve.

Michele noted that NWEA helps us continually diagnose and challenge students to grow. We've correlated standards and curriculum to NWEA to help us do that.

Katie requested an ILEARN presentation in the next few months, since this will be new for everyone, and Michele said we will do so.

Returning to Principal Academy overview, Michele noted that principals are creating student success plans, and we will have ongoing accountability: training-coaching-feedback-evaluation, repeat. Superintendent Lindsay noted we'll be taking student success plans and building specific action plans connected to school calendar. Strategic and intentional focus to mission. Michele noted lead teachers and teaching teams are support built into the success plans.

Teacher Academy will be coming up Aug. 7 - made possible by moving a second work day up to the start of the year. Start with First Day Celebration, then PD led by building administrators based on their teachers' needs.

The schedule of back to school open houses for all MCS schools was reviewed, and a reminder given that the first student day is Aug. 9.

Brad noted teacher leaders and administrators are already rolling, will help us hit the ground running and be a resource and support for their fellow teachers.

Todd Nicholson asked about new teachers brought on during Summer Academy, how that went. Michele said she had positive comments from the new teachers who were able to do that. Great intro to our kids, our system.

IV. ACTION

18-119 RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH NEW FUNDS

Dr. Bob Schultz recommended approval of the resolution, required for the budgeting process now required for public schools by state law. He noted this is the start of the budget process for 2019. This is a change from 60 or more years of same structure to something completely new, as mandated by state law. This resolution creates the new funds for 2019 - Education Fund and Operations Fund. **(Exhibit "C")**

Aaron Vermilion entered a motion to approve. Scott Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-120 RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH INITIAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION FUND

Dr. Bob Schultz recommended approval of the resolution, required for the budgeting process now required for public schools by state law.

This resolution transfers remaining money from the previous fund (General Fund) into the new fund (Education Fund) in 2019. **(Exhibit "D")**

Scott Murphy entered a motion to approve. Chuck Griffin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-121 RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH INITIAL FUNDING FOR OPERATIONS FUND

Dr. Bob Schultz recommended approval of the resolution, required for the budgeting process now required for public schools by state law.

This resolution transfers remaining money from the previous funds (CPF, Transportation, and Bus Replacement) into the new fund (Operations Fund) in 2019.

Aaron Vermilion asked to clarify: After these changes take place in 2019, there will be only two funds? Bob noted that in addition to the new Education Fund and Operation Fund, debt service remains separate, and rainy day is untouched. Bob also reminded the board that transfers will be much easier than under old system. Any time we transfer, it will be in a public meeting, and then will be reported to state periodically (how much transferred and why). Very transparent.

Scott Murphy asked about grant funding. Bob said most of those will remain independent, particularly federal funds, which are required to remain separate (Title I, food service, etc.) So this doesn't consolidate completely. Katie Morgan clarified: It consolidates state and local dollars? Bob confirmed. **(Exhibit "E")**

Aaron Vermilion entered a motion to approve. Scott Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-122 RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FUND TRANSFERS

Dr. Bob Schultz recommended approval of the resolution, required for the budgeting process now required for public schools by state law.

This resolution allows transfers between the two newly established funds. Bob noted that the Operations Fund receives its revenue only twice per year, when property tax funds are disbursed. In addition, some of the expenses paid for from the Operations Fund (including salaries for superintendent, human resources, business office, and various bills including utilities, insurance) are actually funded by state per-student funding, which is disbursed into the Education Fund and must then be transferred to the Operations Fund. This request asks for about 18 percent of the funding to be transferred into the Operations Fund monthly. That is our best guess at this time, and we will revise that monthly transfer as needed, by updating this resolution and bringing it to the board. We'll monitor and adjust as need. Monthly transfer of \$420,000 is the baseline transfer established by this resolution. **(Exhibit "F")**

Chuck Griffin entered a motion to approve. Aaron Vermilion seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-123 RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THRESHOLD FOR FIXED ASSETS

Dr. Bob Schultz recommended approval of the resolution, recommended by our field examiner from the State Board of Accounts. This resolution transfers remaining money from the previous fund (General Fund) into the new fund (Education Fund) in 2019.

Fixed assets include equipment, buildings, improvements to buildings, land, etc. One time a year we have to file a report that shows all our fixed assets. This is a check put in place by the State Board of Accounts. We have to pay someone every year to complete this report, certify it is accurate, and file it for us. Because the current threshold is \$1,000, the report is cumbersome and expensive. By moving the threshold to \$10,000 as recommended by the SBOA examiner we will be in line with their expectations.

Bob noted this change will save us money on outside accounting that is required to be certified. We pay based on how much time it takes them to review these reports, which is just a compliance.

Katie Morgan said it's puzzling that this report be mandated with this cost attached if it's just a check-the-box report.

Bob said State Board of Accounts would rather not have it at all, but the Legislature would need to make that change and is not inclined to do so.

Todd Nicholson asked what happens when we sell land. Bob said typically that was bought through debt, so the board will have the option to make a resolution as to where they want that money to go. With other items, you'd trace back to what fund it was purchased from, money would go back to corresponding fund. But then it can be transferred as needed.

Superintendent Lindsay thanked Bob and the Business Office. Bob said he too wanted to thank Business Office employees, said the school system couldn't do what we do without them. Also thanked Grant County school business officials for their collaboration and help through this process and in general. **(Exhibit "G")**

Scott Murphy entered a motion to approve. Chuck Griffin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-124 REVISED 2018-19 TEXTBOOK FEES

Mrs. Michele Smith recommended approval of the revised textbook fees for the 2018-19 school year.

She noted additional math adoption is not usual practice, but we saw a need over summer in junior high math, and we believed we were missing pieces we needed to have in place. That part of this revision is reflective of that, bringing Saxon materials in. We've used Saxon at Justice Intermediate School, now we're continuing that into the junior high grades, at recommendation of teachers.

Due to timing of this request, we're asking that we discuss AND act tonight, though that is not usual practice, to get this in place for start of school. Superintendent Lindsay also recommended this, so we can have resources in place for start of school.

Michele noted the Saxon materials include hardback and electronic pieces and is cost-efficient in terms of textbook adoptions. Electronic resources is a big plus. Other adjustments to the fees also noted.

Aaron Vermilion asked how long a textbook adoption cycle typically is. Michele said up to 7. Aaron asked how long ago books were purchased that the Saxon materials would replace. Michele said 9 years ago, because 2 years ago teachers opted not to adopt for junior high math, and instead wait.

Aaron also asked about delivery cost, asked whether courier would be cheaper. Michele said she can ask vendor about this cost. Todd noted this could be because of urgency of timeline. Katie said it's worth asking if there's flexibility, but it may be that this is reasonable. Aaron asked to review, but otherwise he's for moving forward. Michele said she would ask about bringing cost down. **(Exhibit "H")**

Katie Morgan entered a motion to approve. Scott Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

18-125 APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANT SCHOOL BOARD SEATS & OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Todd Nicholson, Board President, asked for nominees from the board, from the 9 candidates still under consideration:

1. Recca Black
2. Dana Gault
3. Nick McKinley
4. Nikki Noffsinger
5. Serafina Salamo
6. Lindsay Martinez Schrader
7. Nathan Sweeny
8. Javon Washington
9. Bruce Weatherspoon

Scott Murphy nominated Dana Gault for the District 1 seat, vacated by Cathy Moritz. Chuck Griffin seconded. Todd asked if there were any other nominees, and as there were none, called for a vote. The appointment was approved unanimously.

Dana Gault will fill the remainder of the term for the District 1 seat, which expires in December 2018. This seat is up for election on the November ballot.

Todd asked for a nomination for the District 4 (at-large) seat vacated by Greg Kitts.

Katie Morgan nominated Serafina Salamo for the District 4 seat. Scott Murphy seconded. Todd asked if there were any other nominees, and as there were none, called for a vote. The appointment was approved unanimously.

Serafina Salamo will fill the remainder of the term for the District 4 seat, which expires in December 2018. This seat is up for election on the November ballot.

Cathy Griffin, public notary and MCS Business Office staffer, administered the oath office for both new members, and she and the appointees signed the oath immediately after it was administered.

The new members were welcomed to the board and took their place at the tables at the front of the room for the remainder of the meeting.

V. MARION TEACHER ASSOCIATION COMMENTS

Scott Simpson noted he was impressed with the board applicants, and thanked them all. He said he looked forward to working with Dana Gault and Serafina Salamo as board members.

Scott also noted that two weeks from today is the first student day of the 2018-19 school year. This will be the culmination of hard work that has been done over summer to prepare.

He also noted in his role as aviation instructor at Marion Regional Career Center, he traveled to an aviation education association seminar and learned a lot about the drone aspect of aviation, and he looked forward to integrating with our IRCC IT Academy. This is preparing students for jobs of the future. Another exciting offering at MRCC.

Scott emphasized that elections are in November, noting that elections have a real impact on our schools. The state legislature mandates much of what we do here. "I cannot urge you enough to get involved with the elections in November, to know the candidates and especially where they stand on education and education funding." He noted teachers' real

wages are down 15% over the last several years. He urged all to get involved in our schools by getting involved in politics. Go to candidate forums and debates. Ask the tough questions about school funding. Then vote for the candidates who will stand up for public education, adequate funding.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Brad Lindsay said he appreciates Scott and our teaching staff's work. He thanked the board applicants put fuel into our tank for the mission ahead, and we accomplished a lot today with these appointments. The first semester of the school year is a critical time, which these appointees will oversee. Then full terms for four seats begin in January. He said he is thankful for all who showed interest, and for the two new members

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

Aaron Vermilion thanked the new board members and noted their 5-month term will go fast. He thanked all applicants and said we plainly have many good candidates for this fall's election, if they choose to file. He also noted that his eldest son graduated from MHS last year, and thanks to advanced college credits he earned at MHS is starting as a sophomore at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University with scholarship dollars. He said that parents can encourage, but the teachers and the administrators and staff make the difference. "My kids are ready for anything, and I am thankful to this school system and our community for that."

Chuck Griffin thanked all board applicants, and said he hoped they stay engaged and that they run for election if they choose. He congratulated two new members. He also recognized the donations approved tonight, and thanked the donors.

Scott Murphy said he was pleased to have so many quality applicants for the board, and congratulated the two new members. He noted his term ends this December, and he would not be running for re-election, as he has stated previously. It has been gratifying and rewarding to be able to serve kids and families in our community, he said. He noted he's happy to answer any questions the new members have, and he's excited to welcome them to the board. He also asked those not appointed to consider running for election. He noted that his 2015 MHS grad is now also a 2018 IU grad and is entering a doctorate program at U of K this fall. Our teachers do an outstanding job. We need to work harder to reach all students, but our opportunities here are second to none.

Katie Morgan thanked all applicants for participating in interview process, said it was essential to making wise decisions. She said she has already made suggestions on ways to plug other applicants in. When she started as a board member, she was "just a PTO mom who wanted a good schools system for her kids". We can be proud that we are now thriving. She said that her term runs out in December and that she is not running for re-election, as she has stated previously, but she is thankful to have candidates with a fire propelling them to do good. She congratulated the new board members and noted that we do have challenges ahead; these new members will bring good skills and perspective and wisdom to the work, she said.

Serafina Salamo said she was grateful for opportunity, thanked community members who have pushed her beyond her comfort zone. "I feel very passionately about this community, and I do want to be an advocate." She said she wants people to come to her and ask questions. She said she has found current board members open to that. She pledged to listen and take into consideration input from the community.

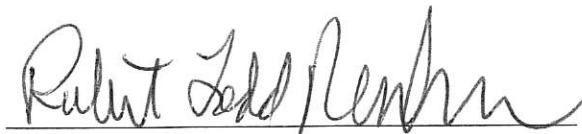
Dana Gault thanked the board and community for their support. She said she is committed to the school and community and kids. She is excited and ready to see us thrive as a community.

Todd Nicholson thanked new board members again, and reiterated to other applicants to run for election, as they have a lot to offer.



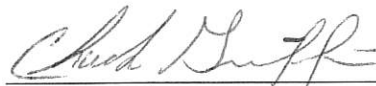
IX. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be a regular meeting on August 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm, in the District Board Room, Room 2-29 of Marion High School. There being no further comments, Todd Nicholson adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.



Todd Nicholson, President

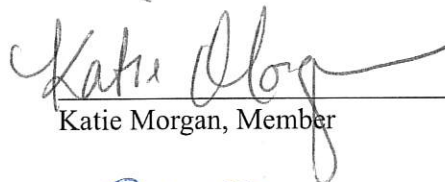
Aaron Vermilion, 1st Vice President



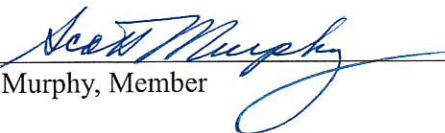
Chuck Griffin, Secretary



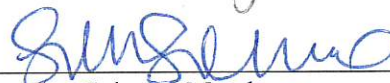
Dana Gault, Member



Katie Morgan, Member



Scott Murphy, Member



Serafina Salamo, Member