

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 126  
Prairie Junior High Cafeteria  
11900 South Kostner  
Alsip, IL 60803  
Thursday, April 13, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks, President  
Joe LaChica, Vice President  
Lori Ann Pierce, Secretary  
Kim Powers  
Harry Tannehill  
Donna Waldrom  
Therese Zaker  
Muna Conley

Also Present: Craig Gwaltney, Superintendent  
Steve Gress, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Nicole Leggett, Bilingual Director  
Robert Condon, Director of Special Education

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023 Regular Board Meeting". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Powers, LaChica, Tannehill, Sinnott-Snooks, Waldrom, Pierce, Zaker. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0.

Donna Waldrom moved, seconded by Kim Powers, "To adjourn the Board sine die." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Zaker, Waldrom, Pierce, Powers. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0 at 7:05p.m.

**ORGANIZATION MEETING**

All Board Members present took the Oath of Office.

Michelle Higgins was appointed Secretary Pro Tem.

Joe LaChica was appointed President Pro Tem.

Joe LaChica nominated Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks for Board President, seconded by Therese Zaker.

No other nominations were received.

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "That nominations for Board President be closed". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Zaker, Conley, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "That Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks be nominated for Board President for a term of two years". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Zaker, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce, Conley. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks, being the only candidate nominated for President, was declared elected by acclamation.

Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks nominated Joe LaChica for Vice President, seconded by Harry Tannehill.

No other nominations were received.

Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "That nominations for Board Vice President be closed". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Conley, Zaker, Tannehill, Pierce, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "That Joe LaChica be nominated for Vice President for a term of two years". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Tannehill, Pierce, LaChica, Conley Zaker, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Joe LaChica, being the only candidate nominated for Vice President, was declared elected by acclamation.

Harry Tannehill nominated Lori Pierce for Board Secretary, seconded by Joe LaChica.

No other nominations were received.

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "That nominations for Board Secretary be closed".

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "That Lori Pierce be nominated for Board Secretary for a term of two years. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Zaker, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce, Conley. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

No other nominations were received.

Lori Pierce, being the only candidate nominated for Board Secretary, was declared elected by acclamation.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To establish the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (except for the months of July and December) at the Prairie Junior High Cafeteria or District Schools as the date, time and place for the District's regular Board Meetings". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Zaker, Conley, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "To appoint Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks as Alsip Chamber of Commerce Representative". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Conley, Zaker, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "To appoint Harry Tannehill as SCOPE Representative". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Zaker, Tannehill, Pierce, Conley, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To appoint Muna Conley as IASB Representative". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Conley, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Muna Conley, "To approve the Consent Agenda". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Tannehill, Pierce, Conley, Zaker, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

We had one FOIA from Data Research Partners LLC and we responded in the proper amount of time.

**EDUCATIONAL REPORT**

Craig Gwaltney informed the board of the ongoing construction at Prairie Junior High. He stated that the district office was complete and all individuals are moved in. Also, all other construction is going as planned and is on schedule.

**PURCHASING**

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Muna Conley, "To approve the furniture purchase for Prairie Junior High from Frank Cooney in the amount of \$251,299.74." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Pierce, Conley, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Muna Conley, "To approve the transportation increase for the 2023-2024 School Year for Illinois School Bus and Alpha School Bus." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Pierce, Conley, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: Tannehill. The motion carried 5-1.

Lori Pierce moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To approve a one-year food service contract with Quest for the 2023-2024 School Year." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Conley, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve changing the food service model to CEP (Community Eligibility Program) where all students will receive free breakfast and lunch starting with the 2023-2024 School Year." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Conley, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To approve the request for facility/field use for the Southside Smoke Girls Softball Team." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Zaker, Conley, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Muna Conley moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "To award the contract for the 2023 Fence Project to Proline Fence at a cost not to exceed \$174,040.00." Aye: Conley, LaChica, Pierce, Sinnott-Snooks, Zaker, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Lori Pierce moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "To adjourn the meeting". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce, Conley, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0 at 7:50p.m.

  
President

  
Secretary

