ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

President Charles H. Ballard called the regular meeting of the East Penn Board of School Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room located at 800 Pine Street, Emmaus, PA, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: K. Bacher, C. Ballard, L. Donches, A. Earnshaw, F. Fuller, R. Heid, M. Policano, S. Rhodes (via Skype), J. Stolz

Solicitor: Marc S. Fisher, Esq., Worth, Magee & Fisher
Treasurer: Lynn Glancy
Board Secretary: Cecilia R. Birdsell
Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger

Press Present: Jennifer Maragos, Editor, Emmaus.Patch.com
Peter McConnell, East Penn Press Reporter
Precious Petty, Express Times, Reporter
Margie Peterson, Morning Call Reporter

2. Requests to Address the Board

Richard L. Musselman, 945 Franklin Street, Emmaus said it was remarkable to see a no tax no program cut budget. He noticed a reduction in payments in some areas and hoped that it did not adversely affect any program and the lowering of taxes would not be in the best interest of the school district.

Paul Champagne, 2406 Cross Creek Road, Macungie and representing the EHS Swim Team Parents, expressed concern about the possibility of cutting $2,000 from the budget for the Emmaus High School Swim Program. The items being proposed for cuts are part of the preventative maintenance program. He expressed his support for Swim Team Coach Tim O’Connor, Activities Director Dennis Ramella, and the parents who volunteer and take a lot of pressure off the budget.

Janice Bowman, 629 E. Hamilton Street, Allentown spoke against Common Core and stated that she was a member of a very active group and they would be getting rid of Common Core. She reported that there are several House Bills (1551, 1552, 1553, 1554, and 1555) that will eliminate Common Core Standards in favor of standardized testing. The last bill would require a study and 2 public meetings before November 1, 2014. She concluded that she hoped the administration would look at this and quit wasting money on budgeting all these computers and get back to teaching and “not brainwashing the kids”.

Carla Hess, 1889 Redwood Drive, Whitehall expressed her concern about the data collection being done on private information for students. She felt it would be expanded under Common Core and talked about coming under central government control and the greater access to data. She urged the Board to educate themselves on the issue.

Matthew Mull, 6676 Rutherford Drive, Macungie said that there are a number of swim parents who would have liked to attend the meeting; however, there is a swim meet at EMAC. He spoke about the parents volunteering for the swim team and commended Coach Tim O’Connor for teaching students discipline, endurance, and pacing yourself. He is a good steward of the money he is given. He urged the Board to support the budget to keep the equipment up and running.

Marie Miller, 6017 Fairway Lane, Wescosville complained about the grass not being cut in a “no mow zone.” She noted that for 40 years the grass had been cut by the district. She had also made several calls to Maintenance with no results.

Lamont Musselman 229 Lehight Avenue, Palmerton has a grandson at Eyer MS and he expressed concern about the heart monitors that are used in gym class. He complained about the cost and where they were in the budget, the collection of individual data, and who has access to the data. He requested a written reply.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bacher Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the June 10, 2013 Board Meeting.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

4. Report of the Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger

1. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent (New Position)

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Stolz
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors, upon the recommendation of Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger, Superintendent of Schools, approve the appointment of Mrs. Kristen Campbell, Assistant to the Superintendent, to the Commissioned Office of Assistant Superintendent for a five year term beginning July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018; and, Be it further,

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Contract for Employment of Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Earnshaw thanked Mrs. Campbell for her service to the district, noting that she has been an exemplary teacher, and now Assistant to the Superintendent, and has received her credentials for Assistant Superintendent from the state. He said that he had every confidence that she will continue to provide the energy, dedication, and expertise that we have come to expect and that he was looking forward to her expanded contribution.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz

Dr. Seidenberger congratulated Mrs. Campbell, noting that in his superintendency he has been blessed with working with some outstanding individuals, Greg Nolan who became Superintendent of Raritan (NJ) School District and Dr. Denise Torma. It was his recommendation to the Board to bring Kristen Campbell to the administrative team. Dr. Seidenberger said she does an amazing job and, most importantly, people respect her and nothing will change her work ethic with getting this title – it is all about doing wonderful things for the staff and the students. He concluded that he has a full team of excellent administrators. Mrs. Campbell received a round of applause and was recognized by the Board.

2. District Update

Dr. Seidenberger reported on the visit to Harrisburg with Dr. Torma and Mrs. Campbell for an update on the new school level objectives requirement which will be part of a teacher’s annual evaluation. They all agree that they will have to spend a good deal of staff development time to make certain that the staff is ready for the implementation of this portion of a teacher’s overall annual evaluation. Dr. Seidenberger said they will provide the Board with an overview of this requirement and the School Performance Profile at one of the August meetings. Unless there is a major change in the philosophy at the state level, as a Commissioned Officer, Dr. Seidenberger will be doing what must be done. Every teacher will have to write at least one measurable objective starting in September 2014 and principals will have to work with their faculties. These objectives will be tied to the Common Core Standards. He said the real challenge is not letting this work get in the way of what the district wants to accomplish with instructional practices.

Dr. Seidenberger said, that with the Board’s approval, he wanted to forward a letter to the Lehigh County Commissioners regarding the TIF. Lower Macungie Township took action last Thursday night. The Commissioners could be voting on Wednesday night. The letter outlines what the district will be doing with the revenues. He cited special education costs and residential developments as places where additional revenue would be used for staffing. The developer has 3 million dollars in escrow for developing fields in Lower Macungie Township thus ending the debate for the school district. Ms. Donches and Mr. Stolz indicated that they could not support sending the letter. The following motion was introduced:

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Fuller
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors support sending the letter to the Lehigh County Commissioners.

Mr. Policano felt strongly about holding off until new information is reviewed. Dr. Bacher indicated that one of the developers made a lot of commitments, citing the fact that they did not believe the Township could not support three retail properties in the area as well as the possibility of luring existing tenants away from the established retailers by promising lower rents at Hamilton Crossings. Dr. Bacher pointed out that this is premium retail space, and, if anything, tenants would pay more at Hamilton Crossings not less. The other developer claimed that he could do the project without the TIF. He concluded that there is a lot of contradictory information but he was strongly in favor of continuing with the TIF and Dr. Seidenberger sending the letter to the Commissioners. Mr. Earnshaw discussed the concerns about the by-pass traffic and various articles that indicated the speed limit was always meant to promote business and to interact with the commercial businesses already along Hamilton Boulevard. He said there will never be 100% of people in favor or against the project; however he continues to get questions about when Costco will be coming. Mr. Earnshaw said he supports the project and the benefits for all the taxing bodies. The wages at Costco are typically higher than other retail places and he has received positive comments from most of the people. Mr. Earnshaw pointed out that Lehigh County Commissioners approved the Weisenberg Township TIF two years ago and no one had anything to say about it. He concluded that he would support sending the letter and he did not support re-visiting the Board’s decision. Mr. Stolz said he would be attending the Commissioners meeting on Wednesday and proposed a motion to defer sending the letter until July 8.

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That the letter be deferred to the July 8 meeting.
Ms. Fuller said the Commissioners will defer again. She did not see the point in prolonging this discussion. She voted to support the TIF that a majority of the Board did support it and she supported Dr. Seidenberger sending the letter.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:
Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes
Aye: Donches, Policano, Stolz

Mr. Ballard said he did not find that the comments are credible about another developer with new information.

The Board returned to the original motion.

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Fuller
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors support sending the letter to the Lehigh County Commissioners.

Mr. Policano recognized that this was a chance to get more tax money and again referred to new information from a developer. Ms. Donches felt that this new information should be reviewed and agreed with Mr. Policano. She contended that this new developer said that he could build something using his own money without using public money for a private person to build. The district could realize the full tax benefit rather than giving 50% away for 20 years. She wanted to know what was the rush and wanted to “wait it out.”

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes
Nay: Donches, Policano, Stolz

3. Personnel

Motion by Donches, Seconded by Stolz
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following personnel items:

Resignation
- Jennifer Halucha, Instructional Assistant at Macungie School, effective June 11, 2013 (Exhibit 1)
- Jeanette George, LMMS Custodian, retirement effective June 27, 2013 (Exhibit 2)
- Brian Legutko, Mathematics Teacher at LMMS, effective August 16, 2013 (Exhibit 3)

Professional Employee Appointment
Name/Address: Marc Dobbs
3241 Jordan Road, Orefield 18069
Education Level: B. S. Degree (1991)
M. Ed. Degree (1999)
Undergraduate School: Penn State University
Graduate School: Lehigh University
Certification: Education Specialist, Elementary School Counselor
Instructional II, Elementary Administrative I, Principal
Assignment: Guidance Counselor, Alburtis & Jefferson Schools
Experience: 1991-2011: East Penn SD (Teacher & Guidance Counselor)
2011-Present: Northwestern Lehigh SD (Elementary Principal)
Salary: $84,887 (Year 16+, Col. M +36

Temporary Professional Employee Appointment
Name/Address: Kimberly Exaros
2007 Sunrise Drive, Allentown 18104
Education Level: B. S. Degree (2008)
Undergraduate School: Penn State University
Certification: Instructional I, Elementary
Assignment: Grade 4 Teacher, Alburtis School
Vacancy created by J. Tanner resignation
Experience: 2011-Present: East Penn SD (FTS)
Salary: $47,944 (Year 3, Col. B)
Name/Address: JoAnn Welsko
Education Level: B. A. Degree (1991)
M. A. Degree (1996)
Undergraduate School: Wilkes University
Graduate School: Kutztown University
Certification: Instructional I, English 7-12
Assignment: Language Arts Teacher, LMMS
Vacancy created by P. Bhowmick resignation
Experience: 8/2011-Present: East Penn SD (FTS)
12/2010-6/2011: Northampton Area SD
Salary: $56,494 (Year 3, Col. M)

Name/Address: Jennifer Cudzil
5128 Foxcroft Drive, Schnecksville 18078
Education Level: B. S. Degree (2008)
M. S. Degree (2012)
Undergraduate School: Bloomsburg University
Graduate School: Wilkes University
Certification: Instructional I, Elementary; Special Education
Assignment: Autistic Support, Wescosville School
New Position and subsequent transfers
Experience: 11/2012-6/2013: East Penn SD
8/2009-6/2012: Easton Area SD
Salary: $57,296, Year 5, Col. M

Name/Address: Jennifer Hanssen
4283 Elm Drive, Allentown 18103
Education Level: B. S. Degree (2010)
Undergraduate School: Kutztown University
Certification: Instructional I, Elementary
Assignment: Grade 4 Teacher, Wescosville
Transfer of M. James to Elementary Curriculum Coordinator
Experience: 11/2011-6/2013: East Penn SD (FTS)
Salary: $47,944 (Year 3, Col. B)

Full Time Substitute Teacher Appointment

Name/Address: Nicole Haller
1060B Cold Stream Circle, Emmaus
Education Level: B. S. Degree (2012)
Undergraduate School: Kutztown University
Certification: Instructional I, Elementary
Assignment: Grade 6, LMMS
Opening created by S. Shankweiler leave
Experience: 8/2012-Present: East Penn, Allentown, Parkland, per diem sub.
Salary: $47,344 (Year 1, Col. B)

Leave as Per Collective Bargaining Agreement
Employee: Maureen Webb
Wellness/Fitness Teacher, LMMS
Effective: 8/20/13-6/30/14

Administrative Assistant Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Address</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Groh 6378 Carmel Drive, Macungie</td>
<td>Emmaus HS</td>
<td>$25,100, 35 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara Tolson 6959 Lincoln Drive, Macungie</td>
<td>Food Service Department</td>
<td>$25,100, 35 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial Appointment</td>
<td>EHS, 2nd Shift</td>
<td>$18.94/hr., 40 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employee: Maureen Webb
Wellness/Fitness Teacher, LMMS
Effective: 8/20/13-6/30/14

Administrative Assistant Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Address</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Groh 6378 Carmel Drive, Macungie</td>
<td>Emmaus HS</td>
<td>$25,100, 35 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara Tolson 6959 Lincoln Drive, Macungie</td>
<td>Food Service Department</td>
<td>$25,100, 35 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial Appointment</td>
<td>EHS, 2nd Shift</td>
<td>$18.94/hr., 40 hrs./wk.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chief School Physician – Exhibit 4

That Dr. Robert Barnes, D. O., 723 Chestnut Street, Emmaus be retained as Chief School Physician effective July 1, 2013-June 30, 2013 for a retainer of $6,000 in accordance with the attached Agreement.

Annual Academic Positions – Exhibit 5

2013 Summer School Teachers – Exhibit 6

Maintenance Transfers – Exhibit 7

Extended School Year Appointment

Tracy Buttillo

Educational Conferences – Exhibit 8

That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the estimated expenses for the individuals attending the educational conferences listed on Exhibit 8.

-Laura Witman, Assistant Principal at Emmaus HS, effective not later than August 15, 2013 (Exhibit 3A)

Appointment of Professional Employee

Name/Address: Randall Cuthbert
6186 Valley Forge Drive
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Education Level:
B. S. Degree (1992)
M. E. Degree (2000)

Undergraduate School: Duke University
Graduate School: Beaver College

Certification:
Instructional II, Mathematics
B. Legutko retirement and subsequent transfers

Assignment:
Mathematics Teacher, Emmaus HS

Effective: August 20, 2013

Experience:
9/2005-Present: Pennridge SD
9/99-6/2004: Central Bucks SD
1997-99: Pennridge SD (Part-Time)

Salary:
$80,275 (16+ Year, Col. M)

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-----------------------------------9

4. Educational Conference Approval

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Bacher
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the estimated expenses for the individual attending the following educational conference:

Conference Title: Common Core Now, Boston, MA
Date(s): August 12-13, 2013
Attending: Dennine Leschinsky, IST Teacher, Alburtis School
Estimated Cost: $1601.21 (School Improvement Funds)

Dr. Seidenberger said this is a national conference being attended by one of the outstanding IST teachers. He reported that the conference topics include assessment and analysis of student work, examining Math practices, and teachers learning how to call on students to apply complex reasoning to issues and challenges, etc. Common Core does require critical thinking skills which happens to be part of the district’s Mission Statement. He reiterated that until the district receives information that we are no longer involved in Common Core the school districts will be moving in that direction. This conference is being paid for through federal School Improvement Funds. Mr. Stolz commented on whether this was a “Rah, Rah Conference” for Common Core which Dr. Seidenberger immediately dismissed. Ms. Leschinsky will be learning more practical levels of measurement and what makes a sound and effective assessment piece. Common Core is a major shift in the organization. Dr. Seidenberger said he was attending an AASA Conference later in the week where Dr. Charlotte Danielson will be a guest speaker. He will bring back some ideas from her. Mr. Stolz wanted to know what Title I funds are used for and Dr. Seidenberger responded that it was for teacher training. After further discussion, the following motion was presented:
Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That the teacher attending the Common Core Now seminar be required to make a presentation in public to the Board after attending the conference.

In response to this motion, Dr. Seidenberger said it was more appropriate for the administration to make a presentation than having a teacher being singled out. He felt a written report would be sufficient. Ms. Heid felt a written report and material is sufficient and, if there are questions, then we could give them to the Board Secretary. She did not feel it was fair to put someone in this position. Ms. Fuller said it would be fair to expect that as the new curricula is being implemented the Board will be hearing about it thoroughly. She felt the questions being asked would in time be answered. She felt it was a bit much to ask an Alburtis teacher coming back from a conference to make a presentation for the Board. She will be sharing the information with her fellow teachers and hearing more about it from administration. Mr. Ballard did not think it was good policy to embroil the teaching staff in controversy. He felt the administration should interface with the public on issues of public concern. Mr. Stolz and Ms. Donches did not see any reason why the teacher should not be doing the presentation for the Board. Dr. Seidenberger pointed out that Common Core Standards are not a curriculum but Standards and Guidelines. Mr. Earnshaw noted that this conference is about educational strategies and not about the Common Core itself. He said it does not require data collection but is a framework of learning objectives that can and are adopted by states and passed on to districts to form a curriculum around them. He further talked about Chapter 4 regulations, Race to the Top, and No Child Left Behind. He said a written report would be sufficient and a presentation to the Board should be done by the administration.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:
Nay:  Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes-----------------------------------------------6
Aye:  Donches, Policano, Stolz-----------------------------------------------3

The Board returned to the original motion:

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Bacher
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the estimated expenses for the individual attending the following educational conference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference Title</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date(s):</td>
<td>August 12-13, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending:</td>
<td>Dennine Leschinsky, IST Teacher, Alburtis School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Cost:</td>
<td>$1601.21 (School Improvement Funds)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye:  Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes-----------------------------------------------6
Nay:  Donches, Policano, Stolz-----------------------------------------------3

5. 2013-14 Ticket Pricing for Sports – Exhibit 9

Motion by Fuller, Seconded by Earnshaw
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the ticket pricing and admission fees for the sports listed on Exhibit 9.

Ms. Donches moved to amend the motion:

Motion by Donches, Seconded by Stolz
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the ticket pricing and admission fees for the sports listed on Exhibit 9 and that all board members and East Penn employees pay the full admission price.

Ms. Donches wanted to know if there was any information about the number of employees who use their badges and the revenues lost. She noted on the budget the revenues for boys basketball and football. Dr. Seidenberger said the amounts are estimates. Mr. Earnshaw said he had no problem with paying his own admission fee and explained that he attends the games because his daughter is in the band and he chaperones. He talked about the positive influence of having teachers and administrators present and the response of the students to seeing their teachers and assistant principals supporting their events. He felt it was “pennywise and pound very foolish.” He would not support the amendment. Dr. Seidenberger also pointed out the positive influence of celebrating students’ achievements, noting that admissions cover expenses. He said there are other things that can be done other than charging the staff. Dr. Bacher agreed that they would want to encourage faculty. Mr. Ballard commented that it is important to get as many administrators and school board members to support the school. This practice has been in effect for over 18 years and there has never been any suggestion of any significant loss of revenue. He said the facilities are provided for the public and there should be enough security personnel and staff on hand to be sure we have control over our property. Ms. Donches said she was not aware that staff was available for control. Dr. Seidenberger said he was not aware of any staff member at the high school who would not intervene if there was an issue. Ms. Donches went on that she was curious as to whether there was any data on the number of employees using their badge for admission or an estimate of revenue lost. Dr. Bacher interjected that he could not seriously see why the Board was spending time on this issue and wanted to Call the Question.
This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:
Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes
Aye: Donches, Policano, Stolz

Mr. Stolz proposed the following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That all school board members and district employees be required to pay the student ticket price.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:
Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes
Aye: Donches, Policano, Stolz

The Board returned to the original motion:

Motion by Fuller, Seconded by Earnshaw
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the ticket pricing and admission fees for the sports listed on Exhibit 9.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz

5. 2013-14 East Penn School District Budget

1. 2013 Homestead and Farmstead Resolution

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Bacher
RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of East Penn School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2013, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction. The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2013:

   a. Gambling tax funds. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of $1,756,238.80.

   b. Philadelphia tax credit reimbursement funds. PDE has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.324(3), as reimbursement for Philadelphia tax credits claimed against the School District earned income tax by School District resident taxpayers, the amount of $37,163.68.

   c. Aggregate amount available. Adding these amounts, the aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction is $1,793,402.48.

2. Homestead/farmstead numbers. Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

   a. Homestead property number. The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 15,889.

   b. Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 26.

   c. Homestead/farmstead combined number. Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 15,915.

3. Real estate tax reduction calculation. The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of $1,793,402.48 by the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 15,915, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is $112.69.
4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of $112.69 by the School District real estate tax rate of 16.1259 mills (.0161259), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is $6,988.00, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is $6,988.00.

5. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of $6,988.00. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of $6,988.00. For purposes of this Resolution, “approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. §6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

6. Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – interim real estate tax bills. No homestead or farmstead exclusion will apply to any interim tax bill except an interim tax bill applicable to a property that includes an approved homestead or approved farmstead listed in the report received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1, but not included in the tax assessment reflected in the July 1 tax bill for the property. In most cases, the assessment of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads will be reflected in July 1 tax bills. However, in any case when there is an approved homestead or an approved farmstead that is not included in the assessment reflected in the July 1 tax bill, and when an interim real estate tax notice is issued later based on an interim assessment including the approved homestead or approved farmstead, the interim tax notice shall reflect a homestead or farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction calculated under paragraph 5, except that the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will be prorated in the same manner as the real estate tax is pro rated. Assuming the interim tax notice reflects taxation as of July 1, as will occur in most such cases, the full amount of the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will apply. In the extraordinary case where the new interim tax assessment is effective after July 1, the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction will be pro rated in the same manner as the real estate tax reflected in the interim tax bill is pro rated.

2013-14 Budget - Final Adoption

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors adopt the 2013-14 budget that was tentatively adopted on May 13, 2013, and revised; and,

Be it further

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors, Lehigh County, Commonwealth of PA, hereby authorize expenditures totaling $129,974,853 as set forth therein; and,

Be it further

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors levy a tax of 16.1259 mills per dollar of assessed valuation on real estate, and the following taxes be levied under Act 511:

A one-half percent (.5%) earned income tax, and, a one percent (1%) real estate transfer tax (District only receives .5%)

Be it further

RESOLVED, That the Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Rebate Program be continued for the 2013-14 year with the same eligibility income guidelines as the previous year’s program.

Dr. Seidenberger explained that putting together a budget is a collaborative team process. Each person who is charged with developing a budget does so by looking to the future and not the past. He thanked Debbie Suroval, Business Manager; Jim Frank, Assistant Business Manager; and Lynn Glancy, Director of Operations, for putting together the budget book. He thanked the Business Office Staff for their work. Referring to the Taxable Assessment Classification Comparisons with Other Districts Chart, he noted that 81% of the property in East Penn is residential and only 9% is commercial. East Penn does not have a large commercial tax base. Anything that can be done to foster growth should be done without increasing growth in enrollment. He then referred to the Cost Per Student Comparisons with Other Districts in 2010-11 where East Penn is ranked at 275 out 500 districts, and he noted
that we did receive a letter from the Secretary of Education commending the district. Dr. Seidenberger highlighted the goals he had established for the budget. (The goals can be found on the district web site.) He noted that there was input from Central Office Staff, Supervisors, Principals, Assistant Principals, Curriculum Coordinator, Custodial/Maintenance Staff, teachers, instructional aides, admiral data. She said that LCST staff, IU staff, and LCCC staff. He reminded the Board that as of today (June 24), there is no state budget and no information on charter school reform or the pension issue. The district has no control over the pension rate that is established by the state. There is no new state aid for special education. The TIF has not yet been approved. Sequestration will impact the district due to decreased federal funding in the Title programs. Every budget is a new budget. He noted that 66% of major accounts have an increase of 1% or less. Common Core has caused the district to spend funds. He pointed out that East Penn has avoided consternation and acrimony. He recognized the administrators who have had a part in preparing this budget. He emphasized that they take their responsibility very seriously and noted that the actual process starts in September. These people are working with situations and data that is current.

In the 2013-14 budget, there is no tax increase. The district will be hiring six new professional staff members – 4 of the 6 are for special education are not optional. One biology teacher is needed for the high school to fit the enrollments. All programs remain intact. The district will stay with the course with STEAM and Instructional Rounds. This budget invests in staff development and in technology. He cited the experience of being a visitation site for the NSBA Technology Visit. There is still focus on energy savings. This budget will also give flexibility for future planning. Dr. Seidenberger noted that of the non-salary and benefits accounts, 11 out of 20 show a decrease from the previous year. The total decrease in those accounts amounts to $1,774,103.

Referring to the concepts/guiding internal principles, Dr. Seidenberger stated that the administration manages a budget and spending is not automatic even if the item is included in the budget. Decisions are based on situations and needs and circumstances may change. The administration values flexibility and having resources to address unexpected problems. He said the district is fiscally conservative and prudent in its spending and aspires to be excellent stewards of public funds. The mission is to be educationally sound. The challenges that face the district involve no real fiscal path from the state government, sequestration, new residential development, and the increase in special education students. As an example, Dr. Seidenberger shared that 3 special education students registered last week and the combined non-budgeted tuition fees will exceed $160,000. He said refinancing in 2013-14 is not a sure thing and the debt service will increase by approximately $500,000 in the 2014-15 budget. There is no firm information on the Jaindl development and the Gehman Road project. We have contractual, benefits, pension and transportation obligations that are challenges in the 2014-15 budget. Since the June 10 Board Meeting, 7 students have registered at Macungie School, 6 at Shoemaker School, and 3 at Willow Lane. One of the new students at Macungie School is a grade 5 student and, if more students register, we may have to add another grade 5 teacher.

Commenting on the 2014-15 budget, Dr. Seidenberger said the index will still be low and cap the district’s ability to raise revenue to the $1,750,000-$2,000,000 range if needed. Any cuts to the proposed final budget will only dig a fiscal hole that must be filled first in an unsettled environment. The possibility of needing more staff in the 2013-14 budget is a possibility but a stronger possibility in the 2014-15 budget.

Dr. Seidenberger said it is always nice to have third party sources saying the district is doing a good job. The Standard & Poor’s rating came out on June 14 and it indicated that East Penn’s financial performance is strong; management has been conservative; they consider the district’s fiscal practices standard; fund balance and reserves are strong; and debt is moderate. Standard & Poor’s affirmed the credit rating as AA with a stable outlook.

Ms. Donches presented the attached list of her Suggested Budget Reductions. She said her cuts maintain all programs and staff, maintain budgetary reserve, are conservative and do not cut the fund balance. The information is based on five years of historical data. She said she analyzed the budget functions and objects to better understand where the spending could possibly be curtailed. Mr. Ballard asked how she determined “excess money in the budget.” She said it was the difference between the budget and actual expenses minus the budgetary reserve. She clarified that it would be fund balance. The accounts that she analyzed consisted of the accounts for Regular Education, Support Service Pupil Personnel, Support Services Administration, Pupil Health, Maintenance, Research/IT/IS/HR, and Student Activities and major object accounts under each function. The slides consisted of an individual breakdown of each of the accounts listed on her original chart. Her total budget reductions amounted to $841,906.

Following Ms. Donches presentation, Dr. Seidenberger pointed out that she had seen all the people on staff who developed his budget and what he was disappointed in was that at no time during this process did she sit down to even ask what was in these accounts. He asked Ms. Donches if she knew what was in the Student Activities Account under Equipment for $2,000 that she eliminated. He explained that there was $250,000 of electronic equipment in the EHS pool and the district has been maintaining a maintenance program for a long time. It was for diving boards and touch pads for the pool. When a cut is made unilaterally, he said it is a mark of disrespect for the people who put the budget together. He pointed out that Ms. Donches made a cut of $258,000 in the 1100 Regular Education (500-Other Purchased Services) but she did not know what was in the account. Dr. Seidenberger informed her that the account contains all the charter school students, special education students who are mainstreamed, and students who are in residential placements. The district does not have a choice in these situations. What the $258,000 represents is dropping 28 charter school students. He questioned how we would explain to 28 parents that they would not be funded. He strongly pointed out that Ms. Donches was making cuts to accounts that she did not know what items were covered because she did not talk to anyone in administration. He felt he was in an awkward position of responding to a board member’s presentation when you were not sure of what those recommendations entail. Continuing with his explanations, Dr. Seidenberger cited 2100-500, where there has been increases in postage and mileage for employees who travel between buildings, people who plan out social services, and guidance services. He noted 2300-300, the district now has EIT tax collection
commissions. The draft did include EIT commissions since Berkheimer is collecting this tax. He talked about special education legal cases. In account 2400-400, he asked Ms. Donches if she knew how old audiometers were in the district. Currently, they are 15 years or older. We are required to give hearing examinations. He said the administration goes over these accounts with the people involved and does not assume because someone did not spend an amount it is not needed. He said he questioned sending the message to spend the budget down during a year of no tax increase. Another account where Ms. Donches made a substantial reduction was 2600-600. Dr. Seidenberger said this account includes maintenance supplies and all utilities for heating and air conditioning. For the past two years, the area has experienced mild winters and the budget was lowered from what was there in 2008-09 through 2011-12. He explained that the energy savings have been great but a change in the weather can affect that budget. This also includes basic cleaning supplies. He would not recommend a $160,000 cut. He could not endorse any of her reductions because an $841,000 cut creates a hole that must be filled next year with a possible increase of 1 million in revenues next year. In 2011-12, the district spent $184,000 which was budgeted for the district cyber program and the objective is get more students to return to the VLN program. There was already an $11,000 cut in that budget. Referring to the 1100-400 account that includes all instructional equipment repair, those allocations are on individual school budgets and the administration would have to go back and negotiate with the principals because these stretch over multiple accounts. There is already a reduction in this budget, noting that the budget is not static and even once in a while something cannot be repaired and has to be replaced. He told Ms. Donches that under her proposal there is the assumption that everything is static when it is not. Mr. Mohn explained the technology accounts and that he would be looking at replacing computers from 2004 and next year 2005. The 2400-300 account includes contracted services for health, medical and dental services for students. These are all required services. Dr. Seidenberger noted that the poverty/homeless numbers in the district are increasing. Mr. Glancy explained that the Maintenance, Purchased Services account, is used for additional maintenance and repairs on the buildings that were done last year and, actually money was moved into that account. Dr. Seidenberger reiterated that funds had been budgeted in accounts based on circumstances that they evaluated. Mr. Glancy said it is more prudent to budget for a hard winter than a mild one. The 2600-700 Maintenance Account is for equipment such as snowblowers, mowers, vacuum cleaners, etc. This area has a large decrease budget to budget and is budgeted at less than what was spent in four of the last five years.

In conclusion, Dr. Seidenberger said he recognized the work that Ms. Donches had done but it was not based on anything real because she did not know what was requested but the fact to make a unilateral decision on what the district needs and does not need is a concern to him and his staff. Mr. Stolz proposed the following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That the Board suspend the rules and vote on each individual budget item proposed.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:

Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes-----------------------------------------------6
Aye: Donches, Pollicano, Stolz---------------------------------------------------------------------3

Ms. Fuller indicated her support for the budget as presented. She pointed out that the approved Homestead/Farmsteads indicate there are 15,915 taxpayers. In Ms. Donches previous budget reduction sheet that showed a savings of $911,000, the tax savings per household was $37.24, maybe less for the current amount. Based on the conversations heard today, Dr. Seidenberger and his staff have been good stewards. As Dr. Seidenberger said, just because there is money in the budget it is not necessarily spent. She suggested that the average taxpayer would gladly pay the $37.00 to make sure that the next time there is an influx students or special needs students are enrolled that there be flexibility. Mr. Earnshaw pointed out the $258,000 cut for charter schools. The state deducts the cost from the district’s subsidy. He noted the private residential placements and special needs students, pointing out that these are programs that must be offered. He said right there $258,000 simply cannot be cut. He criticized the cutting method by Ms. Donches. He did not support these arbitrary cuts. He was surprised that the district is just replacing computers from 2004 and 2005, noting that his firm has gone from a three year replacement schedule to a four year replacement for computers. He said these are conservative budgets and he has confidence in the budget. He was concerned about spending down the fund balance and he hopes revenues will increase. Dr. Bacher said he supported the administration’s budget, adding that what he has seen in the district, the administration does run a tight fiscal ship. Mr. Stolz said he was pleased to see a no increase budget. He asked Dr. Seidenberger how did he manage to have a 5 million dollar increase in the budget. In response, Dr. Seidenberger said that 1.7 million dollars was cut and the revenues have increased to some degree. They did put $300,000 for the state in the budget but we are still behind 1.8 million dollars. Dr. Seidenberger agreed with Mr. Earnshaw’s point that this budget does make use of the fund balance but it is one of the reasons that the district does control spending. Dr. Seidenberger pointed out the Standard & Poor’s report. Dr. Seidenberger reflected on what has been done over the years such as wage freezes and stopping spending which resulted in 2 million dollars. Mr. Stolz brought up the costs for Common Core. Dr. Seidenberger said the costs are in training time. Dr. Seidenberger further noted that the $153,000 for textbook replacement would be taking place anyway and are not being driven by Common Core. Mr. Stolz asked if administrative pay raises are in the budget. Dr. Seidenberger responded that there were reasonable funds budgeted. Mr. Stolz asked if the proposed TIF funds were in the budget. Dr. Seidenberger said there are zero dollars in the budget for the TIF. In response to further questions, Dr. Seidenberger explained that he does not always control all the pieces of the puzzle. The TIF would make a difference but it would not make a difference in this budget. He would suggest that perhaps it should be in a separate account. Dr. Seidenberger noted the revenue from one of the warehouses. Dr. Seidenberger mentioned the development being built in Alburtis and how this would impact the district. He said he may have to come back to the Board in the fall for a demographic study. Mr. Stolz brought up the subject of the Wednesday afternoon dismissal.
Mr. Ballard talked about a course he took in propaganda, reminding the audience that it was at the time of the Cold War when the country was combating Communism. People needed to understand how the Communist takeover was going to be fueled by propaganda. He studied a whole section on propaganda and the techniques. It helped when he was on the Debate Team and he had to persuade arguments. Mr. Ballard started out with the usual small stuff. You want to demonize your opponent. Mr. Stolz’ blog talks about the Educrats or you label Fund Balance as excess funds. Putting out the false idea that there is excess money out there that is floating around as excess for anything. Two of the strong techniques were how do you approach an opponent and get them off of their game and the strategy used in the propaganda sense was the ambush. You try to present to your opponent some new set of facts or some new thought or some new process when they have not had a chance to look at the material ahead of time and they have no idea what you are talking about and you are attempting to make them look foolish by producing this stuff at the last minute when they have no chance to analyze it, rebut it, or anything else. In this particular situation, I feel we have been ambushed. This is the last possible meeting without advertising a special meeting that we can have to approve the budget and we find out about proposed cuts to the budget factually only in this meeting despite the requests to provide rationalizations and justifications two weeks ago. We did not get them. There was only a smattering of data indicating that there would be some presentation on this data. No rationale and nothing that can be reviewed ahead of time – just bare account numbers and then the final numbers thrown out at the last possible minute. There were figures coming out on a Blog at the last possible minute – not sent to the Board, not discussed with the Board, not discussed with the administration. This was a classic propaganda ambush. In response to a protesting Mr. Stolz, Mr. Ballard asked him to keep his comments to himself. There was nothing going on about attacking a board member. We are talking about a presentation to the Board and whether he liked the comments or not Mr. Stolz was going to hear them. Mr. Ballard said there is another propaganda technique that keeps getting thrown up in front of him and he described this version of the Big Lie. This was defined in 1925 by a person that you might have heard about who wrote a book called Mein Kampf and his name was Adolph Hitler and he defined it as a lie so colossal that no one would believe that someone would have the impudence to distort the truth so famously. Mr. Ballard said what we have is the start of the presentation of the Big Lie that there are $900,000 or a million dollar’s worth of cuts in this budget and that we are depriving the taxpayers of their funds by having this excess that we could have returned to the taxpayers – This is the Big Lie. You have heard that many of the so-called supposed cuts are illegal. You cannot do them. People can be fined and go to jail for making those kinds of cuts. When you have a zero-based budget it does not matter what the previous year’s was you budget for what you are spending this year and you have to justify it this year and provide facts this year. It does not matter a bit what happened last year. In fact, most of the categories we talked about do not go from year to year in some kind of orderly progression. They just go to wherever they happen to be. If we have to replace certain equipment this year, it is what we have to do this year and what is justified. You do not go on the basis of what happened in the past because as you recall from any of you who do investing there is big statement made at the bottom of the Prospectus that the historical results are no guarantee of future success. There is a reason for that. So what do we have – statements that we have historically over budgeted; no basis in fact for that other than funds were not expended. As anyone will tell you, correlation does not imply causation. You cannot say the reason why these expenditures were not up to the budget was because we historically over budgeted. There is no proof of that. Calling a reduction savings is another misuse of the terms that are used. What is the ambush? Why do I believe there is an ambush? Why do I believe there is a Big Lie? Well, with all this historical data we saw a spreadsheet come out that was handed out at the last meeting. I requested the spreadsheet and the backup information and got nothing. Those numbers are historical and they have been going on for weeks and months. Why could we not have them so everyone had the same data to look at it and maybe there was something in there reasonable we could agree to it? No, this was an ambush attempt. I do not like to see public policy being decided by ambush. I am tired of those kinds of tactics. If the principles are so noble, then you do not need to do that kind of activity. You should be able to put your ideas out in the public forum and make the case and convince others. This is not a game; you do not score points - political or otherwise. You are dabling in the lives of people, both the staff and the public, affecting them in their wallets, quality of education, affecting them in many ways. This is a serious business and we do not conduct ambushes. The fact is that we could not get this information ahead of time for the Board to consider and in particular for the administration to consider. Where is the consideration that we have a hard working staff that has put in hundreds of hours to get this budget straightened out. We can’t have the courtesy to give them an advanced copy of our thoughts so they can come back with their thoughts and ideas – that is not discourse; that is an ambush. Putting people in an untenable position with no facts behind them so your pseudo facts look better – that is an ambush. He noted that 1.7 million dollars is the amount from taxes next year subtract the $500,000 that might be used up for debt service and then subtract $840,000 for cuts/excess funds (The Big Lie) there is only $160,000 left. It is putting us in a budget situation that is more untenable than before. He talked about the alternative budget strategy being exactly the kind of thing that was presented and is sponsored by the PA School Boards Coalition/Leadership for Liberty. This particular situation of coming up with last minute pseudo cuts labeled excess funds saying this information is out there because it was not spent last year is a tactic being pushed by this group. I am sorry but if it looks like a snake, hisses like a snake, and bites like a snake then it is a snake in the grass as far as I am concerned. Mr. Ballard said he was literally incensed that the Board had to go through this kind of “crap” in a school district of the quality of East Penn. If you have an idea, then you bring it forth but to hide it under a rock and then spring it on people is an ambush. You come to the administration and say “I think we could save money by doing this,” and you can argue with them and if they do not agree then you can say I argued with them and they knew about it and I am bringing it up and put it out in the public to see if it gets any more traction. That is reasonable. Springing surprises, and putting things on the last day, the last hour, and the last minute for budget approval is an ambush. Putting out a statement that there was this hidden money in the East Penn budget that the Educrats failed to give back to taxpayers is the Big Lie. This should be a collegiate group supporting and preserving public education and trying to do the best for all our constituencies, not just taxpayers. Mr. Ballard concluded that they would not want to see him in full debate mode. He requested that if the Board wants to continue in a reasonable fashion to fashion the policies and the future of this district that they do it on the basis of being open and honest and transparent. Mr. Stolz took exception to Mr. Ballard’s remarks. He said Ms. Donches presented her first draft cuts two weeks ago. Mr. Stolz did not want to be associated with Leadership for Liberty.
Mr. Ballard talked about a course he took in propaganda, noting that you demonize the opponent. He talked about the techniques involving the Big Lie and how you approach the opponent and get them off their game. He referred to this as the ambush. He translated this into the situation that happened this evening with the budget and proposed cuts to the budget. He said this was a classic propaganda ambush. He described his version of the Big Lie as being the budget reduction cuts that had been proposed and the portrayal of historical over budgeting. He said that public policy should not be decided by ambush. If the principles are so noble, then you do not need to do that kind of activity. He said this is not a game but there are real lives involved. He asked where is the consideration for the staff who have worked endless hours on the budget. He talked about the alternative budget strategy being exactly the kind of thing that was presented and is sponsored by the PA School Boards Coalition/Leadership for Liberty. He did not think that this was the way business should be conducted in a school district the caliber of East Penn. This should be a collegiate group supporting and preserving public education and trying to do the best for all our constituencies, not just taxpayers. He requested that if the Board wants to continue in a reasonable fashion to fashion the policies and the future of this district that they do it on the basis of being open and honest and transparent.

Ms. Donches made the following motion:

Motion by Donches,

RESOLVED, That her budget reductions as outlined be part of the budget.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Donches said she had a lot of respect for the staff and the work they do. The reason she did not talk to the staff is because she believes public business should be conducted in the public. She commented that there is no Budget and Finance Committee to talk about these things. This is the public forum that this Board has. She also claimed that she does not get the information she requires and returned to the issue of the check registers and 16 digit account codes. She did not care if no one else wanted the information – she wanted it and claimed it would be very helpful to her. She maintained that she did not get a straight answer about the fund balance and how it affects the district’s ratings for bonds. She said she spent hours and days on her spreadsheets to understand this information. She said she put together her presentation and then the administration changed it on Thursday. She said she was relieved to hear Dr. Seidenberger express concern about the budget because the district is a government agency and it should be concerned about every dollar.

Dr. Seidenberger responded that Ms. Donches answered her own question about why we maintain a healthy fund balance because we maintain viability and flexibility and we live up to the expectations of the citizens and parents in this community. He talked about the stress on him with the budget. He said that it almost sounded as though he interfered with her budget process. He said he wanted to make this clear. Ms. Donches went out and created something on your own and made changes that are done normally. He pointed out that it is his responsibility to create the budget, while her role is to ask questions about the budget. He was not going to apologize for doing his job. He said she was always welcome to contact him. He said there is a matter of respect and she could have asked questions. He did not enjoy being put in a spot where he had to remind her that a $2,000 item is a big deal to a lot of folks. He had to call to find out about the cut and that is not the position he should have been put in. Mr. Earnshaw said he would encourage board members to ask questions. He said the Board represents the entire citizenry in East Penn, not just taxpayers. Mr. Policano thanked Dr. Seidenberger and Ms. Donches for their efforts. He felt she had opened up what goes on in the budget for the public. He thanked Dr. Seidenberger for a zero increase budget. Mr. Stolz also appreciated Ms. Donches’ hard work. He said that he could not support some of the cuts that involved equipment, supplies, and pupil health. He thought it had been an informative discussion. Dr. Bacher said that the account numbers she mentioned have nothing to do with the budget. Ms. Donches thanked Mr. Policano for his comments about bringing out the public. She wanted to know the percent of fund balance. It was noted that it is 8% of undesignated fund balance.

The Board returned to the original motion.

The resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call motion:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz ------------------------------------------ 8
Nay: Donches ------------------------------------------------- 1

Mr. Ballard talked about a course he took in propaganda, noting that you demonize the opponent. He talked about the techniques involving the Big Lie and how you approach the opponent and get them off their game. He referred to this as the ambush. He translated this into the situation that happened this evening with the budget and proposed cuts to the budget. He said this was a classic propaganda ambush. He described his version of the Big Lie as being the budget reduction cuts that had been proposed and the portrayal of historical over budgeting. He said that public policy should not be decided by ambush. If the principles are so noble, then you do not need to do that kind of activity. He said this is not a game but there are real lives involved. He asked where is the consideration for the staff who have worked endless hours on the budget. He talked about the alternative budget strategy being exactly the kind of thing that was presented and is sponsored by the PA School Boards Coalition/Leadership for Liberty. He did not think that this was the way business should be conducted in a school district the caliber of East Penn. This should be a collegiate group supporting and preserving public education and trying to do the best for all our constituencies, not just taxpayers. He requested that if the Board wants to continue in a reasonable fashion to fashion the policies and the future of this district that they do it on the basis of being open and honest and transparent.

Ms. Donches made the following motion:

Motion by Donches,

RESOLVED, That her budget reductions as outlined be part of the budget.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Donches said she had a lot of respect for the staff and the work they do. The reason she did not talk to the staff is because she believes public business should be conducted in the public. She commented that there is no Budget and Finance Committee to talk about these things. This is the public forum that this Board has. She also claimed that she does not get the information she requires and returned to the issue of the check registers and 16 digit account codes. She did not care if no one else wanted the information – she wanted it and claimed it would be very helpful to her. She maintained that she did not get a straight answer about the fund balance and how it affects the district’s ratings for bonds. She said she spent hours and days on her spreadsheets to understand this information. She said she put together her presentation and then the administration changed it on Thursday. She said she was relieved to hear Dr. Seidenberger express concern about the budget because the district is a government agency and it should be concerned about every dollar.

Dr. Seidenberger responded that Ms. Donches answered her own question about why we maintain a healthy fund balance because we maintain viability and flexibility and we live up to the expectations of the citizens and parents in this community. He talked about the stress on him with the budget. He said that it almost sounded as though he interfered with her budget process. He said he wanted to make this clear. Ms. Donches went out and created something on your own and made changes that are done normally. He pointed out that it is his responsibility to create the budget, while her role is to ask questions about the budget. He was not going to apologize for doing his job. He said she was always welcome to contact him. He said there is a matter of respect and she could have asked questions. He did not enjoy being put in a spot where he had to remind her that a $2,000 item is a big deal to a lot of folks. He had to call to find out about the cut and that is not the position he should have been put in. Mr. Earnshaw said he would encourage board members to ask questions. He said the Board represents the entire citizenry in East Penn, not just taxpayers. Mr. Policano thanked Dr. Seidenberger and Ms. Donches for their efforts. He felt she had opened up what goes on in the budget for the public. He thanked Dr. Seidenberger for a zero increase budget. Mr. Stolz also appreciated Ms. Donches’ hard work. He said that he could not support some of the cuts that involved equipment, supplies, and pupil health. He thought it had been an informative discussion. Dr. Bacher said that the account numbers she mentioned have nothing to do with the budget. Ms. Donches thanked Mr. Policano for his comments about bringing out the public. She wanted to know the percent of fund balance. It was noted that it is 8% of undesignated fund balance.

The Board returned to the original motion.

The resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call motion:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz ------------------------------------------ 8
Nay: Donches ------------------------------------------------- 1

Ms. Donches was abstaining because she does not get the information she requires.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes ------------------------------------------ 7
Abstention: Donches, Stolz ------------------------------------------ 2
2. Treasurer’s Report

Motion by, Seconded by
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors accept the Treasurer’s Report.

SECAP Finance Lease Agreement & State & Local Fair Market Value Lease – Exhibit 10

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the SECAP Finance Lease Agreement & State & Local Fair Market Value Lease for a Connect 3000+ with WOW Power Stacker 70 lb. scale with in-view accounting for 63 months at $695/month.

Note: This is for the District mail machine with postage meter.

Record of Investments

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following investments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Vehicle:</th>
<th>ESSA Bank CD-Mem. Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Date:</td>
<td>June 1, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maturity Date:</td>
<td>June 30, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term:</td>
<td>30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate:</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount:</td>
<td>$105,138.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disbursement of Funds – Exhibit 11

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors authorize the payment of funds from Capital Reserve Fund and 33-2010 Series A GOB as described in Exhibit 11.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-----------------------------9

6. Ratification of Food Crafters Contract – Exhibit 12

Mr. Stolz proposed the following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That action on the Food Crafters Contract be deferred to July 8.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:
Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-----------------------------9

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Policano
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors ratify the tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Food Crafters Association/ESP/PSEA/NEA of the East Penn School District for the 2013-2016 school years as presented.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes-----------------------------8
Abstention: Stolz-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------1

7. Announcements

Monday, June 24 6:45 p.m.-Executive Session (Personnel, Negotiations, Legal Matters)
7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting

Summer Board Meetings (Business Casual)

Monday, July 8 7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting
Monday, August 12 7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting
Monday, August 26 7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting

8. Adjourn
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned, upon motion, at 11:05 p.m.

Cecilia R. Birdsell, Board Secretary