

**SCHOHARIE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2011  
TIME & PLACE: 7:00 P.M. – JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY CLASSROOM  
KIND OF MEETING: EMERGENCY  
ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT: BURTON, ISLES, JAQUEWAY, MONSEES, SCHULTZ, WILBER  
ELECTED MEMBER(S) ABSENT: BLEAU  
APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT: BRIAN SHERMAN, SUPERINTENDENT  
ROBERT BONAKER, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR  
ROSEMARY WILBER, DISTRICT CLERK  
ALSO PRESENT: STACEY DELANEY, JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
LINDA NEVULIS, DIRECTOR OF PUPIL SERVICES  
SHAWN GATHEN, SUPERVISOR OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS  
0 MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES; 1 DISTRICT RESIDENT;  
1 STAFF MEMBER; 0 STUDENTS

President Isles called the Emergency Board of Education Meeting of September 8, 2011 to order at 7:08 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

President Isles stated the purpose of the emergency meeting was to share information regarding the devastating flood caused by Tropical Storm Irene during August 27-28. She said Superintendent Sherman will give an update and other relevant information regarding the opening of school.

Superintendent Sherman said that several resolutions had been distributed to Board Members for consideration and approval later in the evening.

Superintendent Sherman explained that the Elementary School was designated a shelter for evacuees during the first two nights during the flooding. Unfortunately the school lost electrical power and the evacuees had to leave. He explained that one of the resolutions distributed was to purchase 3 generators – one in the Elementary School, one in the High School and one in the bus garage.

Motion was made by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mrs. Jaqueway that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to declare an emergency which would allow the district to proceed forward to purchase three emergency generators to be placed in the Elementary School, High School and Bus Garage. (original attached to Official Minutes) APPROVE RESOLUTION  
PURCHASE THREE  
EMERGENCY  
GENERATORS

Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bleau) Motion Carried

Superintendent Sherman asked the Board Members to approve a Resolution to extend the final date for school tax payments. This would give district residents a 21 day grace period and an opportunity to start to recover. Mr. Bonaker explained that the tax bills, which were in the county building, were lost in the flood and new ones will be printed soon. President Isles asked how residents would be notified. Mr. Bonaker said it would be advertised through the press, the district's website, and newspapers.

Motion was made by Mr. Burton, seconded by Ms. Monsees that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Requesting the Governor to Extend Final Date for School Tax Payments. (original attached to Official Minutes) APPROVE RESOLUTION  
TO EXTEND FINAL  
DATE FOR SCHOOL  
TAX PAYMENTS

Yes – 6  
No – 0  
Absent – 1 (Bleau) Motion Carried

Motion was made by Mr. Burton, seconded by Miss Wilber that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to Award Bids: Diesel Fuel for Buses and Heating Oil for School Buildings and to award the bids to: APPROVE RESOLUTION  
AWARD BIDS – DIESEL  
FUEL FOR BUSES AND  
HEATING OIL FOR  
SCHOOL BUILDINGS

2011-12 05 Diesel Fuel for School Buses Bid H  
to: Livingston Fuels, 3599 U.S. Hgwy. 20, Sloansville, NY 12160  
\$.10 per gallon over posted price.

2011-12 06 Heating Oil for School Buildings Bid H  
to: Livingston Fuels, 3599 U.S. Hgwy. 20, Sloansville, NY 12160  
\$.10 per gallon over posted price

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

### **Information on the Impact of the Storm**

### STORM IMPACT AND RECOVERY

Superintendent Sherman gave the following account of the impact of Tropical Storm Irene on the school.

On August 28, 2011, Tropical Storm Irene deluged areas of New York State, including the County of Schoharie. The Villages of Middleburgh and Schoharie were flooded and Schoharie Elementary School was immediately set up as a shelter. During the afternoon, the school lost electrical power and was told to evacuate. Evacuees (approximately 100 people) were transported by bus to Schalmont Central School where a shelter had been set up.

The flood waters rose about 30 feet high on the Main Street side below the High School. A bulldozer loaned by BOCES which was parked on the front lawn was completely submerged in the flood waters. There was minimal damage to the physical plant:

- Leaks in the roof in the athletic lobby area
- Some flooding in the lower area of the high school lawn
- '76 wing in the Elementary School is at ground level and there were leaks around the windows

When the waters receded, the school was again set up as a shelter as well as the Incident Command Center for county fire services which was set up in the Bus Garage. The District school buses were moved to above the track area and the District became the Communication Center for fire departments, Department of Transportation, contractors, debris removal personnel, Department of Environmental Conservation and Army engineers. The Elementary School Kitchen and Cafeteria was opened and Mrs. Ennist, along with her staff and numerous volunteers, cooked and fed approximately 250 people breakfast, lunch and dinner each day.

At this time, the school is still serving approximately 250 people breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Fire Departments are using Elementary School Classrooms for sleeping quarters.

Roads – Route 443 is expected to be repaired by October 15<sup>th</sup>; Route 146 is expected to be repaired by October 1<sup>st</sup> and Route 145 is expected to be repaired by September 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Sherman said he has daily communications with the Department of Transportation supervisors. He said the District's drivers will manually check the roads.

Superintendent Sherman said he received a phone call on September 7<sup>th</sup> that there was a voluntary Evacuation due to Tropical Storm Lee. Special Needs students and CTE students were picked up and brought back to the District. He said the last student was delivered home at approximately 5:00 pm.

The Elementary School is a distribution center for food and cleaning supplies. Clothing will be taken to the Carrot Barn for flood victims to pick up.

Custodial crews are in place 24 hours per day as well as food service workers for all meals.

Many volunteers have come to the area to help families out. Trustee Inmates from three different correctional facilities have been working with the custodial staff to keep the building clean.

Superintendent Sherman said he has received numerous letters and e-mails complimenting the friendly staff and wonderful, hot meals.

Boil water order remains in effect. The water has been chlorinated for several days and has been tested. On Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, the school was cleared. Superintendent Sherman said that the school was still using bottled water for cooking and would be giving bottled water to students when they arrive on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Hand sanitizer units were donated to the school and have been placed in several locations throughout both the Elementary School and High School.

The Schoharie Village Offices were destroyed in the flood. The offices are temporarily located in Room #45 in the Elementary School. The NYS Office of General Services has provided desks, chairs, tables, file cabinets, and partitions for the Village Office.

There are currently only five working phone lines into the school. The District is working with Mid-Tel to get all lines fully restored as well as a line put in the temporary Village Office.

Superintendent Sherman said donations were coming in from all over the State and there have been promises for truck loads of supplies for children.

Mrs. Schultz asked about transportation routes and what would be done if roads were closed. Superintendent Sherman said everyone who is affected has been notified. There will be pick-up points in several different areas where parents can bring their children to a waiting bus.

The air quality has not been tested yet. Filtration of the buildings is being checked on a weekly basis instead of monthly.

There will be an impact on the school calendar. A new calendar will need to be approved by the Board of Education. It is required that there be 180 days in the calendar. Education Law states that the school year cannot extend into July and the school day cannot be extended. It will probably be necessary to use some of the vacation days and possibly not have parent conferences during the school day.

Emmy Patchen, a district resident, asked if it would be necessary for windows to remain closed while students were there. Mr. Sherman said probably not.

Superintendent Sherman said District Residents should check the county website to find out where county offices are located, where distribution centers are located, etc.

The High School Library will be open for residents to use computers to file FEMA applications.

Ms. Patchen asked if there is an emergency evacuation plan in place for students. Superintendent Sherman responded that there is and there are many drills throughout the school year.

President Isles thanked everyone for their efforts.

Mr. Bonaker said it is necessary to schedule a meeting for September 14<sup>th</sup> to consider the agenda from the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting that had to be postponed.

Motion was made by Miss Wilber, seconded by Mrs. Schultz that the Board of Education schedule the following meeting dates:

Wednesday, September 14, 2011 – 7:00 pm in the High School Cafeteria

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 – 7:00 pm in the High School Cafeteria

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

NEXT MEETINGS

Motion was made by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mr. Burton to enter into Executive Session to discuss specific personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

President Isles declared the meeting to be in recess at 8:35 p.m.

RECESS

The Executive Session came to order at 8:39 p.m. with Mr. Burton, Mrs. Isles, Mrs. Jaqueway, Ms. Monsees, Mrs. Schultz, Miss Wilber, Superintendent Sherman and Mrs. Wilber present.

Motion was made by Ms. Monsees, seconded by Mrs. Jaqueway to end the Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting.

END EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

President Isles declared the Regular Meeting to be reconvened at 9:28 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING

Motion was made by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mrs. Jaqueway that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent to initiate a 913 Proceeding to an Instructional Staff Member.

913 PROCEEDING

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

Motion was made by Miss Wilber, seconded by Mr. Burton to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting.

ADJOURN

Yes – 6

No – 0

Absent – 1 (Bleau)

Motion Carried

President Isles declared the Emergency Board of Education Meeting of September 8, 2011 to be adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Wilber  
District Clerk