

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

MARCH 17, 2025

Members Present: Christina Brown (via phone), Chad Diviney, Jeremiah Dobo, James Emigh, Norman Parks, Jason Porter, Donald Yontosh

Members Absent: Jessica Maines and Melvin Smeal

Media Present:

Administration Present: Mark Mitchell, Kevin Hubler, Jesse Husted, Ashley Nunley, Angela Lucas, Branden Evans, Leslie Stott, David Williamson, David Catherman, Tiffany English

Others Present: Greg Hoover, Sherri Laurusevage, Dennis Ames, Katelyn Ward, Stacey Guenot

**OPENING EXERCISES**

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from February 17, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS PROVIDED FROM:**

- Mr. Kevin Hubler, Middle/High School Principal
- Mr. Jesse Husted, Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Ashley Nunley, Elementary Principal
- Ms. Angela Lucas, Special Education Supervisor
- Mr. Branden Evans, Technology Coordinator
- Mrs. Leslie Stott, Business Manager
- Mr. David Williamson, Athletic Director
- Mr. David Catherman, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
- Mrs. Tiffany English, Food Service Director

CIU (Mr. Norman Parks):

- No Report

CCCTC (Mr. Jason Porter):

- No Report

PSBA (Mr. Chad Diviney):

- No Report

**PERSONNEL**

T.  
Beveridge  
Retirement

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the retirement of Tim Beveridge, Maintenance Custodian, effective August 4, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0. Both Mr. Diviney and Mr. Catherman noted the excellent job Mr. Beveridge has done over the years. They added that the quality of his work is top-notch, and he will be missed.

T. Connell Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the resignation of Timothy Connell, Permanent Part-Time Custodian, effective February 26, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
Perm. P/T Custodian	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Darren Dixon as Permanent Part-Time Custodian at the contracted rate. The start date is pending receipt of clearance paperwork. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
PCA Life Skills	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Maya Havens as Personal Care Paraprofessional (Assignment – Elementary Life Skills), at the contracted rate, retroactive to March 17, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
Title I Para	Mr. James Emigh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Sydney Yontosh as Part-Time Title I Paraprofessional, at the contracted rate. The start date is pending receipt of clearance paperwork. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-1. Mr. Yontosh abstained from the vote.
Sub Nurse	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Crissy Clark as substitute nurse, at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
Summer Hours	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve District Summer Hours of Operation using a four (4) day work week, effective June 9, 2025, through August 8, 2025. Staff will increase hours to accommodate a shortened work week. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
ESY Nurse	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Pam Warsing and Julia Whipple as Extended School Year Nurses at their current contracted rates, for the 2025 summer program. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
ESY Speech Teachers	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Amanda Harris as Extended School Year Speech Therapist at the contracted rate of \$25/hour (June) and \$30/hour (July), for the 2025 summer program. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.  Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Danielle Gregory as Extended School Year Substitute Speech Therapist at the contracted rate of \$25/hour (June) and \$30/hour (July), for the 2025 summer program. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
ESY Teachers	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Sherri McGarvey, Cheri Cantolina, Sarah Ewing, Michelle Guerra, Melissa Yontosh, Kristi Gibson, and Allison Koleno as Extended School Year Teachers, at the contracted rate of \$25/hr. (June) and \$30/hr. (July) for the 2025 summer program. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
ESY Paras	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Jamie McCracken, Jennifer Evans, Sharon Michaels, Deana Clinger, Rhonda Bailor, Robin Anderson, Bethany Trude, Taylor Maney, Rose Shaner, and Kiley Clark as Extended School Year Classroom Paraprofessionals at their respective current contracted rates, for the 2025 summer program. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

FMLA  
Leave

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve FMLA leave for employee number 002020 from March 2025 until July 2025. This will require a day off after treatments when condition flares (approximately 1-3 days every 6 weeks). Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Summer  
Staff

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Summer Staff:

- Nurse: 5 days maximum (Briskar - \$383.22/day = \$1,916.10)
- Elem. Guidance: 20 days maximum (Albert- \$389.70/day = \$7,794.00)
- MS Guidance: 20 days maximum (McCusker - \$333.78/day = \$6,675.60)
- HS Guidance: 20 days maximum (Porter - \$416.73/day = \$8,334.60)
- School Psychologist: 20 days maximum (Koot - \$382.68/day = \$7,653.60)
- Literacy / Parent Engagement: 5 days maximum (A. White - \$392.95/day = \$1,964.75: funding stream – TITLE I)
- Librarian / Clerk: 5 days maximum (J. White - \$431.59/day = \$2,157.95; Myers - 6.5 hrs./day @ \$21.49/hr. = \$698.45)
- Technology Para: 7 days maximum (Petriskey - 6.5 hrs./day @ \$22.02/hr. = \$1,001.91)
- Summer Band: 20 days maximum (Jones - \$398.89/day = \$7,977.80)
- Central Registration/Guidance Secretary: 10 days maximum (Folmar – 6.5 hrs./day @ \$19.75/hr. = \$1,283.75)

Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-1. Mr. Porter abstained from the vote.

Volunteers

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Jeremy Lake, Richard Howsare, Peggy Ryder, and Elijah Williams as volunteers to the District. All paperwork has been received. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

## **EDUCATION**

Course  
Selection Book

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the High School Course Selection Book for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Field Trips

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve High School Life Skills Class to go to People's Natural Gas Field in Altoona on May 1, 2025. Cost to the District: transportation (Funding – Special Education Budget); Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 7 students will be attending. Chaperones are Erin Liegey, Rhonda Bailor, Kim Chelton, Janelle Hubler, Sue Maguire, Amanda Harris, Danielle Gregory, Ashlee Porter, and a School Nurse.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve High School and Elementary Life Skills to go to Falls Creek, PA on May 2, 2025. Cost to the District: Transportation (Funding – Special Education Budget); Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 7 students will be attending. Chaperones are Erin Liegey, Rhonda Bailor, Kim Chelton, Janelle Hubler, Sue Maguire, Ashlee Porter, and a School Nurse.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve National Honor Society to go to Washington, DC, National Mall, Smithsonian, and White House on April 9, 2025. Cost to the District: None. Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 46 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Jennifer Porter, Stacey Guenot, Kim Hubler, Jesse Husted and Kevin Hubler.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade to go to the Punxsutawney Weather Center on May 20, 2025. Cost to the District: Substitute Nurse; Cost to the Student: \$9.00. (Information Only: 71 students will be attending. Chaperones are Michele Koleno, Stephanie MacTavish, Chrissy Clark, Alexis McKenna, Kendra McLaughlin, Catherine Millinder, and Brianna Williams.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Senior Class to go to Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, on May 23, 2025. Cost to the District: none; Cost to the Student: \$0-\$170 (depending on individual fundraising). (Information Only: 40 students will be attending. The chaperones are Jennifer Porter, Stacey Guenot, Nurse, Mark Mitchell, and Preston Mitchell.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve eSports trip to St. Francis University on April 15, 2025. Cost to the District: \$85.00 plus van transportation; Cost to the Student: none. (Funding – MS/HS Budgets). (Information Only: 8 students will be attending; Chaperones are Allie Emigh and Travis Gummo.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Student Government to go to Harrisburg (State Capitol) on April 7, 2025. Cost to the District: Substitute, Substitute Nurse, and one van; Cost to the Student: Lunch. (Information Only: 6 students will be attending. Chaperones are Elaina McClelland and Joseph Bacher.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Honors Chemistry II Classes to go to the Breazeale Nuclear Reactor at the Pennsylvania State University on April 30, 2025. Cost to the District: Transportation and substitute.; Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 28 students will be attending. Chaperones are Crystal Gay and Michael Gay or Carrie Kephart.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Life Skills Class to go to the Life Skills Prom at Moshannon Valley High School on April 28, 2025. Cost to the District: school vans (Funding – Special Education Budget); Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 7 students will be attending. Chaperones are Erin Liegey, Angela Lucas, Kim Eboch, Rhonda Bailor, Kim Chelton, Janelle Hubler, Sue Maguire, Amanda Harris, Danielle Gregory, Ashlee Porter, and a School Nurse.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Penn Highlands Dual Enrollment Introduction to Sociology Class to go to the Centre County Correctional Facility, Central Counties Youth Center, and Centre County Courthouse on April 23, 2025. Cost to the District: Substitute and van transportation; Cost to the Student: None. (Information Only: 15 students will be attending. The Chaperone is Carrie Peterson and one other that holds clearances TBD.) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve a Summer School (Credit Recovery) program for the 2025 Summer at no cost to the District. (Funding: Student Tuition). Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

## **TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS**

Drivers – Sones Transport, Inc.	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Randy Hubler and Janelle Hubler as van drivers for Sones Transport, Inc., retroactive to March 3, 2025. All paperwork has been received. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
D. Clark Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Daniel Clark, Head Boys Basketball Coach, effective February 28, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0. Mr. Emigh commended Coach Clark for the great job he did representing West Branch. Mr. Williamson noted Coach Clark brought so much good to the program; he will be missed.
M. Moslak Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Mary Beth Moslak, Junior High Volleyball Coach, effective March 14, 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0. Mr. Williamson added that Coach Moslak did an excellent job and is a great role model to our students and athletes alike.
Asst. JH Softball Coach	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Haley McCracken as Assistant Junior High Softball Coach at the contracted rate. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

## **FINANCE & PURCHASE**

Disburse- ments	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following Disbursements:		
	\$ 43,023.40	Cafeteria Fund Bills Dated 3/18/2025	Checks 4763 through 4764
	\$ 9,084.10	Visa 2/28/2025 Invoice	
	\$ 3,215,251.07	General Account Dated – 3/18/2025	Checks 61390 through 61494
	\$ 3,267,358.57	<b>Grand Total</b>	
	Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.		
Treasurer's Report	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurer's Report for February 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.		
Activity Acct.	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for February 2025. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.		
Prof. Dev. Consulting Proposal	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Professional Development Consulting Proposal between the West Branch Area School District and Dr. Jeri Thompson of Thompson Educational Consulting, LLC. (Grades 2-5 Mathematics Consulting) Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0. Mr. Mitchell conveyed that this program would assist with how we teach mathematics and help us to implement our programs to the fullest.		
Engineering Costs	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment of \$36,066.94 for engineering costs to EI Associates for the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.		

Reno Payment	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #2 – February 2025 in the amount of \$500,000.00 to Quandel Construction Group, LLC as it relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds as detailed in the GESA Agreement). Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 4-3-0. Voice Roll Call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – no; Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Emigh – no; Mr. Parks – no. 4 – yes; 3 – no. There was discussion around the need for more detailed payment applications associated with the renovation project. Administration along and the Owner’s Representative will address this moving forward.
Abatement Bids	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to solicit bids for the purpose of abatement costs associated with the Elementary Renovation Project, cost not to exceed \$25,000. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
OCIP Insurance	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment of OCIP Insurance to CM Regent in the amount of \$788,758.00 and Builders Risk Insurance through Burns & Burns Insurance, in the amount of \$23,157.00. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
P/T Contract	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the contract with Radius Physical Therapy. L.L.C. for a term of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
Water Heater Payment	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve final payment application #3 to Overdorf Snyder Mechanical, Inc. for HVAC work on the Water Heater Replacement Project in the amount of \$16,048.13 (to be paid out of the bond funds). Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
Meadows Agreement	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the letter of agreement between the West Branch Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.
CIU 10 Budget	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Central Intermediate Unit #10 General Operating Budget for 2025-2026. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-1. Voice Roll Call: Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Park – yes. 6 – yes; 0 – no; 1 – abstention (Mr. Emigh).

### **OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Katelyn Ward, a community member who attended the meeting, provided some insight into the breakdown of building contracts and stressed the importance of looking closely at the details of each contract.

Mr. Mitchell provided an update on the elementary building project. There will be more information to come centering around a fire suppression system, fire alarm suppression, and kitchen equipment.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Mr. James Emigh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,



Stacey Guenot  
Secretary to the Board of Education