Morton School District #214
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 10, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Pat Saldaña called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. Board members present are Mr. Chase Buffington, Ms. Pat Saldaña, and Mr. Warren Dunlap. Mrs. Betty Hutchison and Mr. Don Powell are excused. Mr. Josh Austin was also present at the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mr. Warren Dunlap made a motion to accept today's agenda, Mr. Chase Buffington seconded and the vote carried with all in favor. The vote with 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-16/03-REPLACEMENT OF EXPIRING MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS LEVY:

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-16/03 for replacement of the expiring maintenance levy. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded. Mr. John Hannah gave an overview of the resolution and the reason for the last minute resolution. The numbers still are not in from the county assessor's office, so the numbers per thousand are estimates on the resolution. However after discussing this with the elections office, it is fine to have the estimate as long as the main number of $805,000.00. This is the first increase in our levy in 6 years. Ms. Pat Saldaña asked how much the school will be getting from this levy. Mr. Hannah stated $805,000.00 per year. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked if we have a ready explanation to why there was an increase in the levy this year. Mr. Hannah stated this mainly is to account for the increase in salaries. The 3% increase to wages is taken into account with this levy. Ms. Pat Saldaña asked if the bus garage was being taken care of with this levy. Mr. Hannah stated no, the levy is for maintenance and operations. Ms. Saldaña asked what this money can be used for. Mr. Hannah stated wages, technology, pretty much anything. Mr. Hannah stated we have a fact sheet about what levy dollars can be used for. Mr. Chase Buffington stated he didn't feel the increase was very much, and is reasonable. Ms. Saldaña asked what would happen if the levy failed, Mr. Hannah stated we would lose a quarter of our budget which would mean cutting positions, pay to play with sports, etc. Mr. Hannah, stated the levy committee is working on getting the word out to the community about the levy. Mr. Warren Dunlap wanted to know how the 2.45 or 2.55 compares to the last levy. Mr. Hannah stated the last levy was at the highest 2.48 and the lowest in the 2.30 area, due to timber dollars. Mr. Warren Dunlap stated so we could be raising the cost, but not raising the cost per thousand for the

tax payers, that is a good selling point. Ms. Saldaña asked if there was something about using levy dollars to pay for salaries. Mr. Hannah stated there hasn't been a decision made about this yet, if this were determined to be illegal, every district in the state would be in contempt. Mr. Hannah went into McCleary and that the funding from the state is below 70%, which is below the issue that was brought up in the 1970's. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked about the mileage tax instead of the gas tax and how that will affect the transportation. Ms. Pat Saldaña stated the best way to go about this is to move forward. The board discussed the differences in wages. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked who pays the salaries at Cispus. Mr. Chase Buffington stated it is a 501C3, non-profit, they make enough money throughout their year to pay for everything, and they break even every year. Ms. Pat Saldaña asked if there were any other questions. There were none. The vote carried with all in favor. The vote of 3-0.

Mr. John Hannah wanted to tell the board that on Tuesday at 1:30 pm there will be an all community celebration assembly to celebrate the award for being in the top 5 percent. Carlie will send reminders to the board.

Mr. Warren Dunlap brought up excusing our missing board members, Mrs. Betty Hutchison and Mr. Don Powell.

ADJORNMENT:

Mr. Warren Dunlap made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 am, and Mr. Chase Buffington seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried with all in favor. A vote of 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Chairman

Attest: Board Secretary

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member