

**Tunkhannock Area School District  
Board Minutes – Board Meeting  
January 28, 2016**

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The Tunkhannock Area School District Board of Directors met on the above date at the Central Administration Building. The following members were present:

<b>Board Member:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Philip Farr, President	✓	
Bill Weidner, Vice-President	✓	
John Burke, Treasurer		✓
Holly Arnold	✓	
Lori Bennett	✓	
Randy Greenip	✓	
Rob Parry	✓	
Bill Prebola	✓	
Bill Swilley	✓	

There were interested citizens present.

Mr. Farr called the meeting to order at 7:30PM and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Farr announced that the Board had met in Executive Session just prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**

Mrs. Teeters commented on the Archery Club (see Exhibit A attached).

Mr. Farr turned the floor over to Mr. Ellsworth who introduced Mr. Cechak and Mr. Bevan to make a presentation regarding the donation of gym equipment from Brown's Gym. Mr. Cechak explained that Mr. Jim Brown (TAHS '83) of Brown's Gym in Clarks Summit donated numerous pieces of weight-lifting equipment to the Tunkhannock Area School District. Mr. Cechak added that the equipment filled a tractor-trailer Mr. Parry arranged for the tractor-trailer that filled a tractor-trailer. Mr. Cechak then read a plaque that will be mounted in the new weight room thanking Mr. Brown for his generous donation.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Resolution # 1:** A motion was made by Mr. Weidner and seconded by Mrs. Bennett to approve the minutes listed below. Voting: Motion carried unanimously - see resolution number one in the minute book.

1. Board Minutes of the December 3, 2015 Board Reorganization Meeting as presented.
2. Board Minutes of the December 17, 2015 Public Work Session/Board Meeting as presented.

**Business & Finance**



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**Resolution # 6:** A motion was made by Mr. Parry and seconded by Mr. Weidner to approve the disposal of 25 Lacrosse helmets. Voting: Motion carried unanimously - see resolution number six in the minute book.

Mrs. Arnold raised the potential of modifying the graduation requirements concerning the classes outlined in the administrative regulation and curriculum guide to meet the required 26 credits. Mr. Ellsworth stated that the thought was to possibly removing the requirement for a computer science class in favor of an additional elective to give more flexibility for students.

A brief discussion was had regarding the disposal of old CRT style TVs which now represent a safety hazard and are no longer used.

***Public Comment***

Mr. Keiser commented on the graduation requirements.

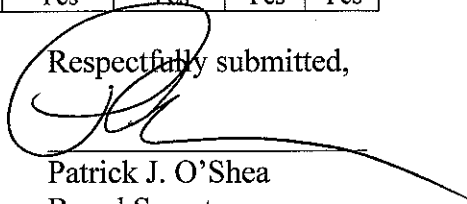
Mr. Baker commented on Mr. Moffitt's status.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:08 pm by Mr. Swilley and seconded by Mr. Parry. Motion carried on all ayes.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>RESOLUTION #:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Holly Arnold	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lori Bennett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abstain	Yes	Yes	Yes
Randy Greenip	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rob Parry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bill Prebola	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bill Swilley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
John Burke	Absent						
Bill Weidner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phil Farr	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patrick J. O'Shea  
Board Secretary

Attachments: Exhibits A & B and Conflict of Interest Memos from Mr. Weidner & Mrs. Bennett

Tunkhannock Archery Club  
200 Franklin Avenue, Tunkhannock, PA 18657

January 28, 2016

Dear Tunkhannock Area School Board Members,

We are the board members of the Tunkhannock Archery Club. We are writing to advise you that you recently received a letter from Rebecca Bliss stating it was written on our behalf. This is NOT true. We have only recently learned of the letter, Ms. Bliss did not have our permission to write the letter. Rebecca Bliss is a volunteer coach with the archery club. While we appreciate her willingness to help the club, she does not serve in any sort of leadership capacity within the club and was not acting on our behalf in writing this letter. The letter requested that you consider recognizing us as an official school activity and making us part of the TASD extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

As the board members of the Tunkhannock Archery Club we respectfully ask that you disregard the letter submitted to you by Ms. Bliss. We have no desire to bring this program before the School Board for consideration as a school sponsored club or sport. We have functioned as a community sport/club for several years now, and wish to continue to serve both the school and the community in that capacity. We are insured, and follow the volunteer policy as laid out in your board policy. We believe the current partnership is working well and see no reason to change the arrangement. The only thing we really truly need, outside of facility use, is for the board to allow the gym teachers to mention the archery program as part of their curriculum in grades 4 through 12. This keeps us in compliance with the National Archery in the Schools Program guidelines. If you could do that, we will continue to instruct, coach and take your students to competitions.

We appreciate the cooperation we have received from the school in allowing us to use the middle school gym and storage closet. We also appreciate Ms. Bliss's willingness to work with the program as our school liaison. However, we cannot foresee allowing her to have any form of leadership within our organization because of an apparent conflict of interest. Rebecca's mother owns an archery business. Since joining our club she has been using her position as coach to funnel business to her mother's shop, which is not the only local business carrying or servicing our equipment needs.

As a community sponsored activity we have been able to expand the amount of equipment available to the students to accommodate the growing program. This year we even replaced the worn out targets with new ones, and added many new bows and arrows. We are currently working with 112 students in this year's program. We run 3 hours of practice on Friday nights to serve these students. We provide instruction, coaching and minor bow upkeep to the students. We allow students who do not own a bow to use our equipment, thus allowing a large number of students to participate with very little cost to their families. It is true we do charge a \$40.00 per student registration fee early in the season. This money is used to provide insurance, team shirts, equipment upkeep, state tournament fees, and a season end party. We do offer scholarships to students who cannot afford the registration fee.

Coach Bliss, in her letter to you states that, "it is extremely taxing on our parents who individually provide the transportation of their students." We believe this to be a gross overstatement. We do have a few families that find providing their own transportation to State College a hardship. We work diligently with these families to get carpooling. It has been and continues to be our goal to serve all our families. We want each of our archers to have the opportunity to compete and do everything we can to see that they do.

Please understand that if you do consider bringing this program under the school extra or co-curricular activities it will dramatically change the program. We believe that doing so would be detrimental to the program. First the district would have to take on the insurance for the program. You would also have to negotiate a salary for the coach/adviser for a program that runs from October into the middle of March, with the potential of post season competition for those qualifying for Nationals in May. The district would then also be expected to provide transportation to the tournament in Montrose, as well as the State tournament in State College, and transportation, housing, and meals for any qualifying for Nationals in Louisville, KY. The district would also be expected to cover the costs for equipment maintenance, repair, and replacement. Currently we

President Jason Tague

<https://sites.google.com/site/tunkarchery/>

EXHIBIT A (p 1 of 2)

Tunkhannock Archery Club  
200 Franklin Avenue, Tunkhannock, PA 18657

have a good number of volunteers working together to provide a good experience to the students and we believe that offering a salary to one simply because she works for the district would create problems.

Please allow us to continue our partnership with the district as it currently stands. We would like to continue as a successful community sport. If you would like any further information or would like to discuss this further, please contact us.

Thank you for your service to our district and community.

Sincerely,

Tunkhannock Archery Club Board

Jason Tague, President

*Jason Tague* 570-199-5583

John Hegedty, Vice-President

*John Hegedty* 570-881-9288

Kim Teeters, Secretary

*Kim Teeters* teeters5@gmail.com 570-861-4132

Jen Hegedty, Treasurer

*Jen Hegedty* khegedty@aol.com

Board Meeting Date: 1-28-2016

PERSONNEL  
2015-16

NAME	ACTIVITY	YEAR	CLEARANCES
<b>VOLUNTEERS</b>			
Carol Hetzel	MS Field Trip to NYC	2015-16	Complete
Rachel Hetzel	MS Field Trip to NYC	2015-16	Complete
Judy Allen	Parent Vol. - Roslund	2015-16	Complete
Estera Salters	Parent Vol. - Roslund	2015-16	Complete
Jason Tague	Robotics - HS	2015-16	Complete
Tim Michaels	Mock Trial - HS	2015-16	Complete
Rebecca Talcott	Parent Vol. - Roslund	2015-16	Complete
Eula McCall	Parent Vol. - Roslund	2015-16	Complete
<b>SUBSTITUTE</b>			
Barbara Searfoss	Custodial Sub	2015-16	Pending TB
<b>COACHES</b>			
John Keefe	JH Head Softball Coach - \$2710	2015-16	Pending Fingerprint
John Walsh	JH Asst. Softball Coach - \$1309	2015-16	Pending Updated Clearances
Justin Muthler	Head Boys Tennis Coach - \$3695	2015-16	Complete
Ashlie Lewis - Rescind	Girls JH Track Coach Position		

M X B I B

**Conflict of Interest  
Abstention Memorandum**

TO: Board Secretary, TUNKHANNOCK AREA School District  
FROM: Bill Weidner board member  
DATE: 1/28/16

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

TYLER HOSPITAL

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My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

EMPLOYER

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William Weidner  
Signature of board member

NOTE: Section 3(J) requires the following procedure:

"Any public official or public employee, who in the discharge of his official duties, would be required to vote on a matter that would result in a conflict of interest shall abstain from voting and, prior to the vote being taken, publicly announce and disclose the nature of his interest as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes for the meeting at which the vote is taken . . . ." (emphasis added)

This memorandum does not have to be utilized when a conflict is defined "by any law, rule, regulation, order or ordinance," for example the School Code (Section 1111) prohibits voting to hire certain relatives.

**Conflict of Interest  
Abstention Memorandum**

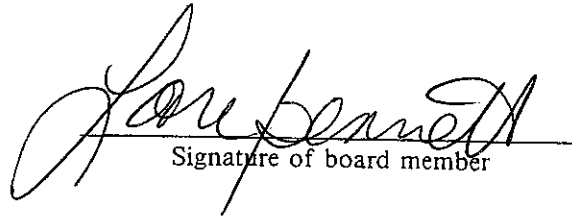
TO: Board Secretary, TUNKHANNOCK AREA School District  
FROM: Lori Bennett board member  
DATE: 1/28/16

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

BUS / VAN CONTRACTS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

FAMILY member is a Bus/Van  
Contractor.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
Signature of board member

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