

“School”

(Cont. from front)

to everyone in that organization.”

The new KSBA policy states “All fundraising activities, including the proposal of funds, must be approved by the board.” However, Pensol suggested that the board change it to “District wide” instead of “all.”

Pensol said this change would cause “very few” fundraising proposals to be presented to the board for approval as there are very few district wide fundraisers. He said individual school wide fundraisers would have to be approved by the school’s site-based council and school’s principal.

“This way the board wouldn’t be having a conversation every month about cheerleaders selling candy bars or something like that,” Pensol said. “We’re wanting to cut down on the amount of fundraisers you all look at because we don’t need to spend time on stuff like that. That is why I purpose to pass it on to the school site-based councils and principals for approval instead of having everything board approved.”

Pensol went on to purpose that the board omit the part under the attendance requirements that stated “beginning in 2015-2016 school year, students between ages 6 and 18 shall enroll and be in regular attendance in schools. He said that they should keep the current clause of “students between 6 and 16 shall enroll and be in regular attendance.”

Pensol said this attendance requirements section refers to the state-wide pressure to raise the drop-out age from 16 to 18. The new mandate was voluntary until adopted by fifty-five percent of the districts in the state. Ninety-six school districts adopted the law in July making it mandatory for every school district by the 2017-2018 school year.

Pensol said they have been contacted by the governor’s office and the department of education office about the issue but he still says he doesn’t agree with the proposal.

“I think it is important that we don’t do it or I wouldn’t be making a big deal about it,” Pensol said. “I think we need the ability to work with families and students like we have been doing.”

Pensol said that by being against the proposal doesn’t mean that he wants anyone to drop out of school but that it means that Rockcastle County Schools is professional enough to look for the best decision for the family, student and school system.

“We have some examples of some kids who dropped out that did really well. Some dropped out and went to work, some got a GED and some even went to college later on,” Pensol said. “We have some examples of situations where the student dropping out was a real positive thing.”

Pensol went on to say that they put “on paper” what the school district’s position is on Kentucky Senate bill 97 which raises the dropout age from 16 to 18. In the position paper, Pensol said that he “wants the district to work with students, families and school staff to meet the needs of all students so they will choose to stay in school rather than attend because they are mandated.”

Pensol said that he went around to all the schools in the county and talked to the faculty about the issue. He said that he received overwhelming support but that he did receive “a little bit” of feedback about what would happen if families from other counties move their children to Rockcastle County so they could drop out of school.

Pensol said he was doubtful that would happen

but he assured the board that they could change any of the policies after two school board meetings with a first and second reading.

The board unanimously approved the policy and procedure updates.

Lyons also presented the tax rate summary for the 2013-2014 school year. She suggested the board approve the compensating tax rate, meaning that school taxes on real estate and property would not be raised.

She said the school district is in the position to take the compensating tax rate instead of the 4% increase because they have made conservative efforts to make cuts and managing finances.

“By taking this rate it makes the community happy,” Lyons said. “We want to do an excellent job in managing what we have and only consider raising taxes after we have done everything we can possibly do.”

The board unanimously adopted the 2013-2014 school year tax rate summary.

In the last item of business, Pensol asked the board to give him authority to work out the details, with high school administration and seniors, before the senior trip is presented to the board for approval.

Pensol said that way the trip isn’t presented in a board meeting with the board disagreeing about the trip. He also said that this way there will be nothing in the *Signal* stating that “we all disagree” which alludes to the fact that “the superintendent and the board doesn’t support kids because we don’t support the trip.”

The request came after Pensol said he believed he didn’t properly handle last year’s high school senior trip. He said there was a lot of miscommunication and the planning didn’t go as smoothly as it should have.

“I got stacks of letters from students and parents after the trip who thought I was against it or who wanted to convince me it was a good trip,” Pensol said. “I was always for the trip, I just wanted everyone to go. I hated to set something up that I knew all of the kids wouldn’t get to participate in.”

Pensol said he would like to approve the trip before it is presented to the board. He said that way everyone involved with the trip would have to work with him and “not go around him to the board.”

“Don’t get me wrong, there is not a problem. I am just trying to head off a problem before it happens again,” Pensol said. “I don’t want to come back to a meeting again and two of you be for it, three against it and me somewhere in the middle saying I don’t know if I recommend it or not.”

Pensol said they need to know something soon so they can start organizing fundraising for the trip. He said that he needed to get the board to approve his proposal so details could be worked out by December and seniors and high school administration can meet with the Site-Based council to approve their fundraisers.

Pensol once again reminded the board that all he was proposing was for the board to allow him to set some parameters for the high school senior trip and if they meet those parameters then the board will vote on it for approval. The board agreed unanimously to Pensol’s proposal.

“Court”

(Cont. from front)

over equipment available and make a recommendation to the court.

The court also discussed a pay raise for the 47 hourly wage county employees.

Clontz told the court that the additional cost for 50c an hour to \$1.50 an hour would range from \$61,750 to \$185,250 a year.

No action on that item

was taken either, with the court opting to first find out the rate of increase for health insurance for employees, expected shortly.

In other action, the court discussed awarding a contract for the concrete work for the new Climax Fire Dept. The court has received two quotes, one for \$16,800 labor and the other for \$18,500. The first, from Darren Chasteen of Berea, was for a total of \$37,475 with Chasteen supplying the concrete. Chasteen told Clontz that he could buy the concrete cheaper than the court could, even with the court not having to pay sales tax. However, Chasteen’s quote was not clear if installing the drains in the floor of the fire station was included.

The second quote was from New Idea Const. of Richmond and was for a total of \$39,750, including providing the concrete and installation of the floor drains.

According to records, a Contractor Agreement for \$18,500 to do the concrete work was signed with the company by Carloftis following the fiscal court meeting.

“Chase”

(Cont. from front)

the time of his arrest. He later told officers that he had “consumed” a pill three hours before the traffic stop.

Both Griffith and Mullins were charged with possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. Griffith was also separately charged with DUI and Mullins was separately charged with public intoxication.

Griffith and Mullins were lodged in the Rockcastle County Detention Center where they were both later released on separate \$2,000 unsecured bonds.

“Run”

(Cont. from front)

Vernon, Climax Water, Community Trust Bank, Exit 62 Mobile RV Service, IGA, Rockcastle Adult Education, and the UK HealthCare Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine. Also a big thank you to the Mt. Vernon Police Department, the Rockcastle County Road Department, Rockcastle EMS, the local VFW post, Disaster and Emergency Services, Lake Linville Boat Dock, the Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department, and the Rockcastle County Rocket football team.

Duathlon registration has closed, but those interested in participating in the Run, Bike, or Hike can do so on race day.

“Arrest”

(Cont. from front)

After searching Burdette’s vehicle, officers found an open Busch beer can and a cigarette wrapper containing 5 hydrocodone tablets and 22 Alprazolam (Xanax) tablets.

Burdette is charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, DUI and possession of an open alcoholic beverage in motor vehicle. He was lodged in the Rockcastle County Detention Center where he was later released on a \$2,000 unsecured bond.

“Brodhead”

(Cont. from front)

been any vandalism because it has been lit up well so I am definitely in favor of the street light proposal.”

The council voted unanimously to have Kentucky Utilities install two street lights on Lynn Circle Drive and three street lights in the Depot Park along the walking trails.

Brodhead resident and RCHS JROTC Instructor Keith Graves was also in attendance at the meeting

after recently being sworn in as a councilman.

Graves was appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to former councilman Boone Saylor’s seat which had been vacant since January when Saylor didn’t show up to be sworn in after being elected in the 2012 fall general election. KRS 33 A. 040 states that if a legislative body doesn’t fill a vacant seat within thirty days that the governor has to fill the vacancy.

Graves said he is honored to be a councilmember for Brodhead and that he looks forward to working with the council in the future.

“I love Brodhead! It’s the place where I raised my family and it will always be home to me,” Graves said. “I look forward to the future and I want to work with the rest of the council and Mayor Cash to see that great things happen for this town and the people of this town.”

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Recognize & Respond to Stroke

Stroke is an emergency. By knowing common stroke warning signs, you might save a life by acting FAST at the first sign of a stroke.

Memorize this easy-to-remember tool so you can act FAST and help determine if someone might be having a stroke.

FACE

Ask the person to smile.
Does one side of the face droop?



ARMS

Ask the person to raise both arms.
Does one arm drift downward?



SPEECH

Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase.
Is their speech slurred or strange?



TIME

If you observe any of these signs,
call 9-1-1 immediately.



Learn more about stroke and other sudden warning signs at

www.stroke.org/symp



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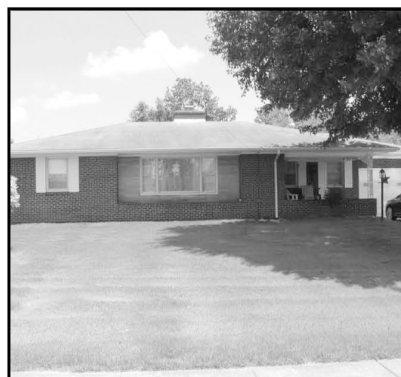
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