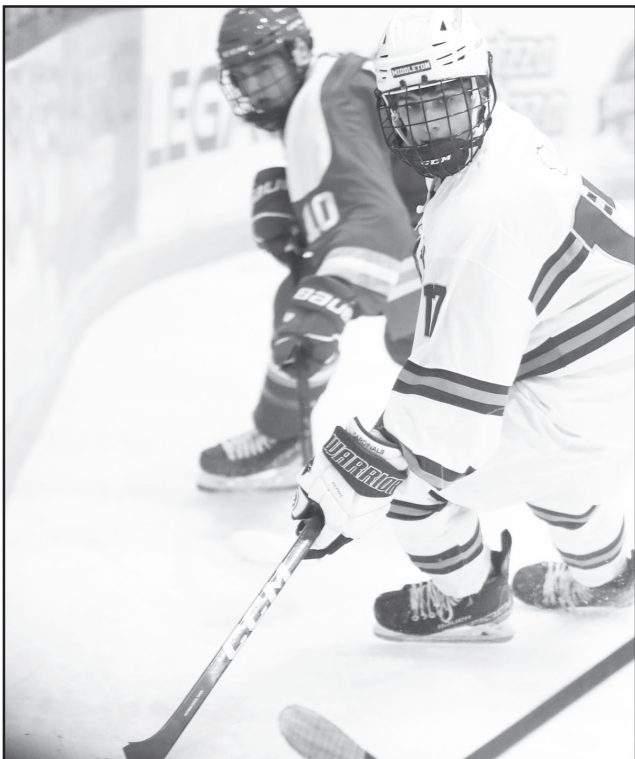




Clockwise from above Cade Semrad (4), Cam Semrad (17) and Gabe Passini (8) were each named honorable-mention all-conference.



Times-Tribune photos by Mary Langenfeld

HOCKEY

save percentage, allowed just 2.11 goals per game and posted three shutouts. In the postseason, Eberle was even better compiling a 3-1 record with a .946 save percentage, two shutouts and a 1.15 goals against average.

“Ebs was our backbone all year,” Truehl said of Eberle. “We didn’t score as many goals as we did last year, so we naturally needed to win games with defense and goaltending. I thought he was the best goalie in the conference and he kept us in countless games where we didn’t score early. Ian was fantastic this year.”

Cam Semrad tied for second on the team with 10 goals, was fifth in assists (10) and fourth in points (20). His 0.83 points per game also ranked fourth.

“Cam played on our first line all year and was integral in setting up scoring opportunities,” Truehl said. “More than that, Cam played all 200 feet of the ice. He was excellent in our defensive zone, which allowed for us to get out and play offense.”

Cade Semrad was another defenseman with the ability to score. He finished the regular season second on team in assists (17) and third in points (21).

“Cade has been a kid that I coached for all four years at MHS,” Truehl said. “He’s not only a gifted defenseman, but an excellent leader.

“Cade anchored our defensive core and allowed for some younger players

to get up to speed throughout the season. I’m not sure we would’ve made it as far as we did this year without Cade.”

After a stellar football season, Passini wasn’t sure about playing hockey. But he opted to play and the Cardinals were thrilled he did.

Passini was fourth on the team in assists (11), fifth in points (16) and added five

goals.

“Gabe decided late to play hockey this year, and man am I glad that he did,” Truehl said. “Gabe’s size and competitive drive was needed on this team and his leadership was so well received by our underclassmen. Gabe is an excellent athlete, and he filled a glaring hole in our roster to make the whole team better.”

continued from page 12

MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES of the WEEK



KJ PETERSON & DOM FROST, FOOTBALL



DOM FROST



KJ PETERSON

Middleton senior football standouts Dom Frost and KJ Peterson were both named to the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Star Game on July 20 at Titan Stadium at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Both Middleton players will compete for the South Large team All-Stars. Frost was the Big Eight Conference’s Defensive Lineman of the Year and Defensive Interior Lineman of the Year in 2023. Peterson was named the Big Eight’s Offensive Lineman of the Year last season.

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All-Big Eight Conference Boys Hockey

First Team

Name	School	Yr.	Pos.
Riley Boyle	Madsion Memorial	12	D
Eli Covey	Middleton	11	D
Blake Craven	Verona	12	G
Wyatt Ehrhardt	Middleton	11	F
Caden Feinstein	Madison Memorial	12	D
Tre Grignon	Verona	12	F
Will McDonald	Madison West	12	F
Quinn Smith	Madison West	11	F
Player of the Year — Caden Feinstein, Madison Memorial			
Coach of the Year — James Hoey, Beloit Memorial			

Second Team

Name	School	Yr.	Pos.
Max Allen	Beloit Memorial	12	F
Milo Boyle	Madison Memorial	10	D
Garrison Codde	Verona	12	F
David Dina	Verona	12	D
Ian Eberle	Middleton	12	G
Henry Gadau	Madison West	12	F
Rudy Richards	Madison Memorial	12	F
Cole Rowald	Beloit Memorial	11	D

Honorable Mention

Name	School	Yr.	Pos.
Gavin Brady	Beloit Memorial	10	F
Boden Brotzman	Verona	10	F
Easton Lemke	Sun Prairie	11	G
Hayden Meskin	Madison West	9	D
Gabe Passini	Middleton	12	F
Brady Pruitt	Sun Prairie	12	F
Ben Schaffner	Janesville	11	F
Cade Semrad	Middleton	12	D
Cam Semrad	Middleton	12	F
Bryce Sullivan	Janesville	12	F
Spencer Vanden Heuvel	Madison Memorial	11	F
Caden Wedderspoon	Verona	12	F
Payton Whalen	Beloit Memorial	12	D

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGENCY: USDA-Rural Development/Rural Utilities Service

Notice of Availability of a Finding of No Significant Impact for the Cardinal-Hickory Creek 345-kV Transmission Line Project Route Modification B-IA3 and Land Exchange, an Agreement for the Land Exchange, and a Land Exchange Net Benefit Analysis

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Route Modification B-IA3 and a Land Exchange, an Agreement for the Land Exchange, and a Land Exchange Net Benefit Analysis with respect to a supplemental environmental analysis for the Cardinal-Hickory Creek 345-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (C-HC Project). Rural Utilities Service (RUS) issued a related Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and related FONSI for the C-HC Project on October 6, 2023.

A copy of these documents may be viewed on the RUS project website: Cardinal – Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project – Iowa & Wisconsin | Rural Development (usda.gov). This page is accessible by visiting the USDA Rural Development homepage, Rural Development (usda.gov) clicking on the “Resources” dropdown banner along the top of the page, clicking “Environmental Studies,” then “Impact Statements.” On the Impact Statements page, the C-HC Project webpage link is provided under “Dairyland Power Cooperative.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In September 2023, RUS published the Draft Supplemental EA (SEA) in connection with possible impacts related to nine proposed route modifications for the Cardinal- Hickory Creek 345-kV Transmission Line Project, including one proposed land exchange action involving U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-managed land within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. The Draft SEA described the project, assesses the project’s environmental impacts, and summarizes mitigation measures used to minimize the environmental effects. The SEA tiers to the Final Environmental Impact Statement that was published for the approved C-HC Project in October 2019. On January 16, 2020, the RUS, USFWS, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) approved various components of the C-HC Project and the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed by the three agencies.

RUS released the SEA to obtain feedback from the public, as part of the federal environmental review process required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 7 CFR 1970 related to providing financial assistance to Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) for its share in the construction of a proposed 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure connecting the Hickory Creek Substation in Dubuque County, Iowa, with the Cardinal Substation in the Town of

Middleton, Wisconsin (near Madison, Wisconsin).

The availability of the Draft SEA for public review was announced in local newspapers on September 8, 2023. A 14-day comment period was provided for review of the SEA. Copies of the Final SEA and FONSI are available from RUS or Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3521 East Avenue, South, La Crosse, WI 54602 and in the six libraries where hard copies of all previous documents for public comment for the C-HC Project have been available.

- Dodgeville Public Library, 139 S. Iowa St., Dodgeville, WI
- Dubuque County Library, Asbury Branch, 5290 Grand Meadow Drive, Asbury, IA
- Eckstein Memorial Library, 1034 E. Dewey St., Cassville, WI
- Guttenberg Public Library, 603 S 2nd St., Guttenberg, IA
- Middleton Public Library, 7425 Hubbard Ave., Middleton, WI
- Schreiner Memorial Library, 113 W. Elm St., Lancaster, WI

Based on its SEA, RUS and USFWS have concluded that the nine proposed route modifications for the C- HC Project and the proposed land exchange would not result in significant changed circumstances or new significant impacts to geology and soils; vegetation, including wetlands; wildlife; historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; federally listed threatened and endangered species, candidate species, or federally designated critical habitat; water resources and quality; 100-year floodplains; air quality and climate change; noise; land use; transportation; visual resources; or human health and safety beyond what was evaluated in the FEIS. The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations.

In accordance with the NEPA, as amended (42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.), the CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508), and RUS’s Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1970), RUS and USFWS have determined that the environmental effects of the route modifications have been adequately analyzed for any potential future action that it considers and that no significant impacts to the quality of the human environment would result from construction and operation on the route modifications. Any final action by RUS and USFWS related to the route modifications will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal and state environmental laws and regulations. Because RUS and FWS’s potential action relating to this new information and changed circumstance is not expected to result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared for the route modifications.

Dated: February 23, 2024.

Publish: 3/7/24, 3/14/24 **WNAXLP**

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INVITATION TO COMMENT ON A PROPOSED COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY:

Harmoni Towers, LLC proposes to build a 97-foot monopole communications tower (overall height). Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes if required. The Site location is at 4893 Capitol View Road, Middleton, Dane Co., WI. Latitude: 43-7-19.99 N, Longitude: 89-33-5.85 W. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1277786.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS – Interested persons may review the application at (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number A1277786. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review within 30 days of this publication at (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

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Star News.....	Noon Thursday, the week prior to publication
Mount Horeb Mail.....	1 pm Thursday, the week prior to publication
Times-Tribune.....	2 pm Thursday, the week prior to publication
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Marquette County Tribune.....	10 am Friday, the week prior to publication
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MIDDLETON-CROSS PLAINS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD AGENDA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Generated by Cheryl Janssen on Monday, February 12, 2024

1. Call to Order Regular Board Meeting at 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Sheila Dahmen Hibner.

Present: President Sheila Dahmen Hibner, Vice President Bob Green, Clerk Tabitha Hansen (left at 9:53 p.m.), Treasurer Catherine Kells, and Board Members: Todd Berry, Marni Ginsberg, Bob Hesselbein, Simrnjit Seerha and Gail Shepler

Not Present: None

Others Present: Superintendent Dana Monogue, Deputy Superintendent Sherri Cyra, Assistant Superintendent Silvia Romero-Johnson, Assistant Superintendent Jerrud Rossing, Director Chris Mand, SEL Team and Attendance Team

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of the Minutes of January 22, 2024

MOVED by Green SECONDED by Kells to approve the Regular Minutes of January 22, 2024. Motion carried unanimously, 9-0.

3. Communications

A. Citizen Comments

Three written comments were summarized for the board. A student was representing 200 peers who signed a petition stating that they do not want artificial turf and would like us to allocate the money for sustainability. A community member explained why he was here tonight. He shared where we are using this money when we could be using it on sustainability efforts instead. He also shared the disadvantages of artificial turf. A softball player thanked the board for having a field built on the campus. She shared her thoughts on artificial turf and the need for it due to weather and field conditions. Game postponements cause problems. A softball coach spoke on behalf of Scott Hammer. They shared that we could debate this item all day but wanted to focus on the people who this impacts. Artificial turf would be a big advantage to students and athletes. They mentioned the reduction of weather delays and the safety risks when having to move to other fields that are not maintained as well. The President of the MHS Green Team spoke in favor of natural grass because of the cost different, safety issues and environmental impacts. A baseball player spoke favoring artificial turf. He shared the struggles of a student athlete, the challenges, and the lack of transportation for off campus practices and games. He also thanked the board. A softball player was thankful for the softball diamond being brought onto campus. She shared scheduling issues when there are field problems. Turf would eliminate these issues.

B. Correspondence/Board Communications

Todd Berry thanked Dana and Jerrud for meeting with him last week. Simrnjit Seerha shared that the Policy Committee met and so did the Wellness Committee. Bob Green highlighted the board candidate forum that was held at the library. Tabitha Hansen participated in the Candlelight Walk in Cross Plains. She is thankful that we have these opportunities

for our staff. Catherine Kells attended the Little Prince presentation and enjoyed it. Marni Ginsberg attended many Compensation Committee, Special Education Handbook, and Student Services Handbook meetings. She also attended the Sauk Trail carnival. Sheila Dahmen Hibner attended the school board candidate forum. She thanked George Zens for organizing the event. She reminded everyone to vote on February 20. Sheila also highlighted the Wisconsin State Journal article on Principal Dom Ricks.

C. Legislative Update

Catherine Kells presented the Legislative update which included a bill in the Senate and Assembly regarding funding for the Office of School Safety. There is also work in the Assembly and Senate that would require a community approach to 4 year old kindergarten. The assembly held a public hearing and an executive session related to school districts. There is a vote coming on two bills to teach cursive writing and additional civic course programming. She also shared information on work on childhood obesity.

4. Superintendent's Report

A. Upcoming Events and Updates

Superintendent Dana Monogue updated the board on Black History month, the achievements of the boys swim and dive team, boys hockey and the girls dance team. She highlighted the Little Prince performance also. Superintendent Monogue updated the board on the athletic department podcast, the start of the open enrollment window, and the staff recognition throughout the month for school counselors, Career and Tech Ed and bus drivers.

5. Consent Agenda - Administrative/Business Services

MOVED by Berry SECONDED by Hansen to approve the following items on the consent agenda: 5.a. Approval of Bills Payable, 5.b. Treasurer's Report, 6.a. Approval of Employee Services List, 7.a. Approval of Two International Travel Requests - France and Cuba, and 7.b. Approval of Safety and Security Services Agreement. Motion carried unanimously, 9-0.

A. Approval of Bills Payable

The board approved under consent agenda the check list totaling \$3,607,372.36. (Exhibit A)

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

The board approved under consent agenda the current Treasurer's Report. (Exhibit B)

6. Consent Agenda - Employee Services - Certified Staff

A. Approval of Resignations/Staff Appointments/Retirements

The board approved under consent agenda the Employee Services list. (Exhibit C)

7. Consent Agenda - District Consent Items

A. Approval of Two International Travel Requests - France and Cuba

The board approved under consent agenda the two International Travel Requests. (Exhibit D)

B. Approval of Safety and Security Services Agreement

The board approved under consent agenda the Safety and Security Services Agreement. (Exhibit E)

8. Items for Information/Discussion

A. Social Emotional Learning/Mental Health Update

Director Chris Mand and SEL team members joined the board to share information on social emotional learning. The topics included: SEL competencies, mental health framework, combining the competencies to provide supports, integration, data used by the district, and next steps. There were questions on some of the data points and acronyms being used. The board is glad that they are incorporating the same thing work throughout the district and are thankful for the information that was shared. A comment was made about a big jump between middle school and high school in regards to anxiety.

B. Attendance Report

Director Chris Mand and team members introduced themselves. How the district addresses chronic absenteeism was shared throughout the report. The focus on practices and addressing absenteeism include - factors contributing to absences, proactive family engagement, building supports for our students, required school actions, timelines with additional steps, support examples, and collaboration. Attendance is very complex. Questions were asked regarding what causes attendance marks, are we able to work on all the attendance issues, transportation concerns, and what role does the Family Engagement Director play in this process. There was conversation regarding bus routes, walk zones and walking bus routes. The Board is very appreciative for the work of this team.

C. Certified Staff Compensation Model Review

Starting last October, administration brought together a group of certified staff for a compensation model review. Assistant Superintendent Jerrud Rossing is bringing forward a recommendation from the committee. He reviewed all the examples that the group considered before consensus was made at the last committee meeting. He highlighted the comprehensive overview provided in the report and covered the previous compensation models that were in the district over the years. Administration wanted to address the inequities that have occurred over the years. He reviewed several charts that he distributed along with the changes that were made since the board learning session. Jerrud opened it up for questions by the board. Questions were asked about how individuals will be handled that are above the step they should be at, what does the process look like moving forward to avoid this same problem, where is the money coming from to fund this proposal, and private sector competition. There was a concern on all the funds going to this package and possibly taking money from capital improvements. There was discussion on the purpose of the last referendum that was approved. This item will be voted on at the February 26 board meeting.

D. Update on Special Education/Student Services Handbook Meetings

Marni Ginsberg attended the meetings and provided an update on these two committees. There were lots of conversations around work day and equity. There was a lot of collaborative problem solving at all the meetings.

9. Items for Approval

A. Approval of Softball and Baseball Field Type

Superintendent Monogue and Board President Hibner shared information on the background for the field coverings along with the feedback received by the community and experts. The projects have been approved and tonight is a vote just on the type of field coverings for these two projects. Assistant Superintendent Jerrud Rossing shared where the funding is coming from and how that money needs to be spent in accordance with the law on referendum monies.

MOVED by Berry SECONDED by Seerha that the board authorize completion of the baseball field projects using only natural turf and that resulting savings and unspent arbitrage earnings be devoted to projects that further the board's adopted sustainability policy or debt reduction with specific fund allocations to be made based on staff recommendations that recognize opportunities to capture intergovernmental aid. Discussion by the board members followed. Tabitha Hansen called for a roll call vote on this agenda item. The roll call vote is as follows with yes meaning we would go with grass: Shepler - no, Berry - yes, Hesselbein - no, Ginsberg - yes, Green - no, Seerha - yes, Hansen - no, Kells - yes, and Hibner - no. Motion failed with a 4-5 vote.

MOVED by Shepler SECONDED by Hesselbein to approve the baseball/softball field type to be artificial turf. There was discussion on a possible friendly amendment about subsequent savings by Seerha. It was decided that this could be brought back to an upcoming meeting. Berry shared his concerns on artificial turf. The roll call vote is as follows with yes meaning we would go with artificial turf: Shepler - yes, Berry - no, Hesselbein - yes, Ginsberg - no, Green - yes, Seerha - no, Hansen - yes, Kells - no, and Hibner - yes. Motion carried with a 5-4 vote.

B. Approval of Capital Maintenance Projects for 2024-2025

MOVED by Green SECONDED by Hesselbein to approve administration's recommendation to adopt the capital maintenance plan. Motion carried unanimously, 8-0. (Exhibit F)

C. First Reading of Board Policy II-C

MOVED by Hesselbein SECONDED by Ginsberg to approve the first reading of Policy II-C with the discussed edits. Motion carried, 7-1 with Berry opposed.

D. First Reading of Board Policy III-F

MOVED by Hesselbein SECONDED by Seerha to approve the first reading with revisions. There was a general overview of the policy and the changes being proposed. Seerha stated that the order has changed but not the process and structure. After some discussion, Seerha asked that the board discuss the next policy (I-E.5) before voting on this policy. After discussing both policies the board voted and the motion carried unanimously, 8-0. Changes should be sent to Gail Shepler.

E. First Reading of Board Policy I-E.5

MOVED by Hesselbein SECONDED by Kells to approve this policy's first reading with revisions. There was discussion on the committee structure plan and policy and changes were recommended. Motion carried 7-1 with Berry opposed. Changes should be sent to Gail Shepler.

F. Approval of Pope Farm Lot

MOVED by Green SECONDED by Hesselbein to approve the Pope Farm Lot Number 7 offer. Motion carried unanimously, 8-0. (Exhibit G)

10. Next Meeting Dates and Adjournment

A. Future Meeting Date

B. Potential Board Agenda Items C. Adjournment

MOVED by Berry SECONDED by Shepler to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, 8-0.

Cheryl Janssen, Board Secretary

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