

The Parkersburg News and Sentinel

PHS Memorial Field House to get new roof

By MICHAEL ERB

merb@newsandsentinel.com

PARKERSBURG – The Wood County Board of Education Tuesday approved more than \$450,000 in summer roof projects, including a roof replacement for the Parkersburg High School Memorial Field House.

The board approved a \$255,410 contract with Murray Sheet Metal for roof replacement of the Field House. Assistant Superintendent Mike Fling said issues with the roof made it impossible to effectively patch.

“When they walked that roof, it is full of pin holes,” Fling said. “Pin holes are more unpredictable than tears because you don’t know where they are going to go. There are several patches on that roof already.”

Fling said because the Field House was a full replacement and because it was a significantly large project, the work was bid separately from other roof projects.

The board Tuesday also approved \$200,270 in roof repairs and replacements from Murray and Tri-State Roofing. Though the bids represented 10 projects lumped together, the contracts were awarded individually based on the lowest bidder.

Murray was awarded roof repair projects at Blennerhassett School for \$3,728, and at Greenmont Elementary for \$3,798, Kanawha Elementary for \$6,856 and McKinley Elementary for \$15,398. Tri-State was awarded

repair projects at Jefferson Elementary for \$6,900, Franklin Elementary for \$7,090, Parkersburg High for \$9,540 and for Parkersburg South High School buildings 3,4 and 5 for \$29,950.

Tri-State also was awarded a roof replacement project for the PHS annex. Fling said once officials began identifying patching projects for that roof, they realized the majority of the roof would require work.

“In places you had only 4-5 feet of roof that was going to be left,” unpatched, so the project was turned into a full replacement.

Mineral Wells Elementary School also will have repairs done by Tri-State at a cost of \$30,100. Fling said the nature of the project made it more expensive.

That roof “is in bad shape,” Fling said. “Also understand, you are talking about an acre of roof. That’s a lot of roof.”

Though the board approved all of the projects Tuesday, Fling said it is likely he will have to return to board for additional funding approval. Each project only allows for a 10 percent overage, which in some cases amounts to only a few hundred dollars in change orders before he has to come back to the board. If additional issues are found, such as damage to the structure beneath a roof, the costs could easily increase beyond that 10 percent mark.

Board member Lawrence Hasbargen, who retired from Wood County Schools as the assistant superintendent of facilities, said the prices presented Tuesday were good, but hinted at the level of need at area schools.

“That tells you where you need to be going in the future,” Hasbargen said. “We need to do something about our roofs.”

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