



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
November 17, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Angelica Rodriguez, Board President; Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub, Board Vice President; Gary Gandara, Board Secretary; Hector F. Gonzalez; Michael A. Najera; Cynthia A. Najera; Paul Guerra; and Dr. José Espinoza, Superintendent of Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Board President Angelica Rodriguez. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

Dr. Espinoza reported on personnel and district initiatives/events.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Elfida (Chavez) Romero.

BOARD HONORS

- SISD high school students were recognized for being selected to the 2015 Junior Leadership El Paso Class.
- SISD students were recognized for being named QuestBridge Scholars.
- A Jane A. Hambric student was recognized for winning the 2015-16 Peter Piper Pizza Calendar Art Contest.
- El Dorado and Americas High Schools cross country athletes were recognized for top honors at the UIL regional championships and competing at the state competition.
- SISD high school varsity volleyball teams were recognized for winning 2015 championships.

OPEN FORUM

Angelica Soto, SEA President, presented a Proclamation concerning National Education Support Professionals Day being celebrated November 18, 2015. Congratulations!

Rafael C. Salcedo, Community Member, address the Superintendent and Board of Trustees concerning traffic violations by SISD employees.

PUBLIC HEARING – FIRST INTEGRITY RATING SYSTEM OF TEXAS (FIRST)

Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the District attained a Passing performance for the 2014-15 financial rating under the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST). This report covers 2014 data. Also, in the Financial Services website, information relative to the Superintendent’s contract and Board of Trustees’ reimbursements are posted for the public’s review.

At this item, the public was invited to comment on the District's 2014-15 financial rating. There being no comments, the Board proceeded to the next item.

Mr. Ayub recognized the Financial Services Department for obtaining the highest possible financial rating under the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas. Congratulation on a job well done!

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond program on the following construction projects: Pebble Hills HS and on the three (3) HVAC upgrades at Sanchez, Slider and Socorro Middle Schools. No action was taken on this agenda item.

GRANTS REPORT

Ann Darnell, Grant Writer, provided an update on active discretionary grants for the District. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Discussion followed concerning the requirements of the Three Rivers migrant student dropout recovery program.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF REPORT

Rudy Campoya, Chief Human Resources Officer, provided a report detailing the status of all instructional employees in relation to Highly Qualified standards as outlined in Public Law 107-110, also known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Currently, Socorro ISD continues to maintain 100% Highly Qualified status for both teachers and paraprofessionals. No action was taken on this agenda item.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Hector Reyna, Chief Technology Officer, provided an update on technology services focusing on the security system initiative, mobile command unit, district police radio and phone systems. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Discussion followed concerning the district police radio system deadline.

SISD FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve Roxanne Bush to fill the vacancy on the SISD Foundation Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 8G-designation of property as surplus property and 8H-new job descriptions. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Be the Difference Foundation for the use of Americas and Montwood High Schools Gymnasiums
 - Desert Eagles Productions Dance Studio for the use of Pebble Hills High School Dance Room

- Falcon Youth Sports for the use of Eastlake High School Turf Field
- Fred Loya for the use of Montwood High School Parking Lots
- New World Montessori for the use of Americas High School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
 - Dropout Recovery Curriculum – RFP No. 199-0911-E1629
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure dropout recovery curriculum as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$100,000-General and Special Revenue Funds)
 - Instructional Materials Local & National – RFP No. 199-0911-E1617
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure miscellaneous instructional materials and supplies from local and national sources as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$2,500,000-General and Special Revenue Funds)
 - Intrusion Alarm Upgrades and Maintenance District Wide – RFP No. 199-1012-E1623
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure materials and supplies to upgrade and maintain the intrusion alarm systems as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$150,000)
 - Irrigation Supplies – RFP No. 199-1012-E1618
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure irrigation supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$155,000)
 - Pest Control Services – RFP No. 199-1012-E1610
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure pest control services as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$65,000)
 - Telephones – RFP No. 199-1020-E1630
Favorable prices and terms secured to procure telephones, licenses, and servers as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$100,000)
- Contracts
 - Contract – Don Haskins Center for Graduations
Five (5) year contract for the use of the Don Haskins Center for the Socorro ISD graduations.
 - Contract(s) – Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Adult Education and Literacy Grant
 - El Paso Independent School District – Service Provider
The contract for which approval is being requested is required by the funding agency, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The Socorro ISD’s Community Education Department as the lead organization for this grant proposes to provide El Paso ISD’s San Jacinto Adult Learning Center with resources to act as a service provider for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Grant as specified in the Notice of Grant Award (TWC Contract Number 1014AEL000). (No cost to the district)
 - Ysleta Independent School District – Service Provider
The contract for which approval is being requested is required by the funding agency, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The Socorro ISD’s Community Education Department as the lead organization for this grant proposes to provide Ysleta ISD’s Community Learning Center with resources to act as a service provider for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Grant as specified in the Notice of Grant Award (TWC Contract Number 1014AEL000). (No cost to the district)
 - Ysleta Independent School District – Fiscal Agent
The contract for which approval is being requested is required by the funding agency, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The Socorro ISD’s Community Education Department as the lead organization for this grant proposes to use the Ysleta ISD’s Division of Finance to act as the fiscal agent for the Texas Workforce Commission

- (TWC) Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Grant as specified in the Notice of Grant Award (TWC Contract Number 1014AEL000). (No cost to the district)
- Memorandum of Understanding
The UTEP-SISD Work-Study Mentorship Partnership aims to build college readiness and outreach for high school students in the district by placing college student mentors at area high schools with three objectives: (1) to delivery college outreach programs via Go Centers; (2) to provide financial literacy campaigns for students to increase personal financial planning and budgeting in support of persistence to graduation in college; and (3) to assist students transitioning from secondary to post-secondary education via mentoring incoming freshmen. (No cost to the district)

DESIGNATION OF PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY WITH NO ACTUAL MARKET VALUE

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Cynthia Najera for discussion. Following a discussion concerning the value of the property, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to deny the designation of property as surplus property. The motion carried with a 6-1 vote. Michael Najera voted against the motion.

NEW JOB DESCRIPTIONS: MULTI-MEDIA SPECIALIST AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Administration. Following a discussion concerning revisions to the job descriptions, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the new job descriptions for Multi-Media Specialist and Public Relations Specialist as presented with proposed revisions. The motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10200 SOCORRO ROAD

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the demolition of the former fire house located at 10200 Socorro Road. The motion carried unanimously.

TASB UPDATES 101 AND 102

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the revisions to the following policies from TASB Update 101: DGBA, FNG, and GF; and TASBO Update 102: DBB, DEA, DEAA, DEAB, DFFA and DHE as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT REPOT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Following a brief presentation by Craig Gibson, the managing partner for the account firm of *Gibson, Ruddock, and Patterson LLC*, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to accept the Audit Report for fiscal year 2014-2015 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EL PASO CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to reappoint SISD Trustee Gary Gandara for the 2016/2017 EPCAD Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to reappoint Fabens ISD Trustee Ben Morales for the 2016/2017 EPCAD Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:37 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel regarding status of workers' compensation claim for M.S.; for discussion and update on litigation with ESD #1, H. Hernandez v.

SISD, and discussion regarding recommendation of hearing officer on Level III Grievance of T. Cintron; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument and Timeline; and to consider administrative recommendations for Principal(s) at SSG. Manuel Puentes Middle School and Vista Del Sol Elementary School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:18 p.m.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM FOR M.S.

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Paul Guerra, to authorize settlement as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

LITIGATION WITH ESD #1

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to authorize negotiation as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

H. HERNANDEZ V. SISD

No action was taken on this item.

LEVEL III GRIEVANCE OF T. CINTRON

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to accept and approve the recommendation of hearing officer. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Administration pulled recommendation for Principal of SSG. Manuel Puentes Middle School.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Cynthia Velazquez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of Vista Del Sol Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON DECEMBER 15, 2015.