



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
March 22, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

Angelica Rodriguez, Board President

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Board Vice-President Antonio ‘Tony’ Ayub. A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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

BOARD HONORS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- Two Americas High School Cross Examination Debate teams were recognized for qualifying for and competing at state contests.
- SISD elementary and middle school students were recognized for winning the district’s Second Annual Robocom Competition.
- SISD elementary students were recognized for winning the district’s First Math Bee Competition.
- Winners of the district’s First Battle of the Bluebonnets Reading Competition were recognized.
- Destination Imagination teams were recognized for qualifying for and competing at state contests.
- Four SISD students were recognized for advancing to state in the 2016 Visual Arts Scholastic Competition.
- Three SISD students were recognized for placing at the citywide 2016 Black History Art Show.
- Eastlake High School girls basketball team was recognized for winning 2015-2016 Championships.
- Americas High School boys basketball team was recognized for winning 2015-2016 Championships.
- High school wrestlers were recognized for placing at regionals, competing and placing a state.
- The El Dorado High School administration was honored for being nationally recognized as the 31st Avid National Demonstration School.

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD PROCLAMATION

Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, regarding a Proclamation recognizing the month of April as “Month of the Military Child” and April 15th as “Purple-Up Day” honoring all sacrifices our military-connected children have made, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the Proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Remi Garcia, Socorro SEA Vice President, presented a donation in honor of the 30th Anniversary Annual James P. Butler Games for student athletes with special needs.

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond program HVAC upgrade projects 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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL UPDATE

Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services and Luis Vega, Chief of Police Services, provided a presentation on revisions to the manual to comply with Policy CKE (LOCAL). No action was taken on this agenda item.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Hector Reyna, Chief Technology Officer, provided a presentation on the District's technology services focusing on network equipment update and security cameras project phase II. No action was taken on this agenda item.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of 9D specifically Budget Amendments #42 and #43, which is to be considered after item 10F. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
 - Alchemy Karate Academy for the use of O'Shea Keleher Elementary School Gymnasium
 - Eastside Texans for the use of Montwood High School Gymnasium
 - EP Broncos for the use of Pebble Hills High School Gymnasium
 - Jehovah's Witnesses for the use of Esconrias Elementary School Cafeteria
 - Make a Wish Foundation for the use of Montwood High School Parking Lot
- Budget Amendments #s 1-41 (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
 - Effluent Lift Station Replacements – CSP No. 199-0201-1622
Solicitation to purchase service to replace effluent lift stations at O'Shea Keleher Elementary School, Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School, William D. Slider Middle School and Socorro High School. (Maximum \$273,931-Committed Funds)
 - Letter Jackets – RFP No. 199-0226-E1612
Solicitation to purchase letter jackets for Athletics, Fine Arts and other departments as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$75,000)

- Physical Education Supplies – RFP No. 199-0226-E1670
Solicitation to purchase physical education supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$80,000)
- Request for Increase – Technology Lab Equipment RFP No. 199-0121-E1556
Increase in the total amount of \$150,000, awarded to Lab Resource for the Technology Lab Equipment, RFP No. 199-0121-E1556. The Board of Trustees approved the solicitation at the February 17, 2015 regular meeting for an annual amount of \$100,000. The new awarded amount will be \$250,000 per year. This increase will cover the cost of \$170,833.56 to establish two Principles of Technology Labs for the CTE program at Pebble Hills High School. The remaining balance will be used to purchase any additional resources and supplies through the remaining term of the contract ending February 21, 2017.
- Request to reconsider and re-award – Internet Services and WAN Services RFP No. 199-0108-E1655
Solicitation to purchase internet and WAN services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding from the Schools and Libraries Division. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds for these “E-Rate” projects. Review of initial award revealed additional possible savings. (Maximum for Internet Services \$99,600 per year; for WAN Services \$1,210,692-General Fund Budget/E-Rate Schools and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
- Contracts
 - Cooperative Purchasing Usage – Kitchen Equipment Purchase for Campuses
Utilization of Choice Partners Coop, TCPN and Region 19 for the purchase of kitchen equipment for various campuses: Ensor Middle School, Hambric School, Lujan-Chavez Elementary, Desert Wind School, Montwood Middle School, Elfida Chavez Elementary, Montwood High School, Escontrias Elementary, Americas High School and Benito Martinez Elementary. This purchase will allow for replacement of equipment. (Maximum \$231,014-Child Nutrition Funds)
 - Interlocal Agreement – Region 17 West Texas Food Service Cooperative Fourth Quarter Approval
Region 17 ESC is the coordinating center for the West Texas Food Service Cooperative. The district utilized the cooperative for commodity and commercial processing. Purchase Order(s) to Region 17 ESC for the fourth quarter from 4/1/16 through 6/30/16. (Maximum \$4,337,500-Federal and USDA donated commodity and commercial dollars)
 - Interlocal Agreement – Region 17 West Texas Food Service Cooperative
Region 17 ESC is the coordinating center for the West Texas Food Service Cooperative. The district utilized the cooperative for commodity entitlement, food expenditures, and paper goods. The district has participated in the cooperative for the past several years and would like to continue the relationship. The goal of the cooperative is to obtain substantial savings on specific food service items for member district through volume purchasing. (Maximum \$16,944,159-Federal and USDA donated commodity and commercial dollars)
 - Memorandum of Understanding – City of El Paso Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)
The purpose of this MOU is to continue the ongoing working relationships, and mutual responsibilities related to placement by the Sponsoring Agency of Foster Grandparent volunteers with Socorro ISD. Foster Grandparents will be assigned up to four (4) children having special or exceptional needs. The following school sites are currently participating: Americas High School, Benito Martinez Elementary, Desert Wind School, Horizon Heights Elementary, Jane Hambric School, Myrtle Cooper Elementary, O’Shea Keleher Elementary, Sierra Vista Elementary, and Socorro High School. (No cost to the district)

- Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Grant Contract – Ysleta Independent School District – Fiscal Agent *Performance Incentive Award*
This contract was previously approved by the Board on November 17, 2015. This request is to accept the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Performance Incentive Award in the amount of \$85,000. This Grant recognizes excellence in the Employer Partnership and College Integration category and constitutes the contract for the services to be provided by Ysleta Independent School District to its population of adult learners.
- Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Grant Contracts – Service Provider *Performance Incentive Award*
These contracts were previously approved by the Board on November 17, 2015. These requests are to approve the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Performance Incentive Award in the amount of \$28,333.34. This Grant recognizes excellence in the Employer Partnership and College Integration category and constitutes the contract for the services to be provided to its population of adult learners.
 - a. El Paso Independent School District
 - b. Ysleta Independent School District
- Utilization of the ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative Bid #14-4065 – Segovia’s Distributing Inc.
Utilization of ESC Region 19 Allied States Cooperative Bid #14-7065 awarded to Segovia’s Distributing Inc., for the acquisition of produce for school cafeteria. Segovia’s Distributing Inc., is the sole bidder with a HACCP Product Recall Program, Quality Control Program, Food Safety Program and Third Party Inspected (NSF). The purchase order to Segovia’s Distributing Inc. is for the fourth quarter from 4/1/16 through 6/30/16. (Maximum \$300,000- CNS Federal Funds)
- Submission of Grants
 - 2016-17 High Quality Pre-K Grant Program
Eligible school districts are entitled to receive grant funding for each qualifying student in average daily attendance in a High-Quality Pre-kindergarten program. The amount of funding per qualifying student will be determined based on the total amount of appropriated funding, the number of eligible grant applicants, and the number of qualifying students served by each eligible grant applicant. Funding for each qualifying student shall not exceed \$1,500 per student.
 - 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grant Competition
The purpose of 21st CCLC is to create community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities for children to meet state and local standards in core academic subjects. A community learning center assists students outside of school hours or when school is not in session to complement the students’ regular academic program. SISD will provide science, literacy, math, and enrichment (to include technology) opportunities at Montwood, Hernando, Puentes, Sanchez, Slider Ensor middle schools and Elfida Chavez, H.D. Hilley, Horizon Heights, and Ituarte elementary schools. Program goals are to improve the following participant outcomes: 1) Academic Performance, 2) School Day Attendance, 3) Positive Behavior, 4) Grade Promotion Rates, and 5) Graduation Rates.
 - McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation Academic Enrichment Grant
Is dedicated to providing support to help exceptional teachers create stimulating programs for their students. The Foundation will provide up to \$10,000 per year to a teacher that inspires and motivates others through innovative projects. John Drugan would like to submit an application that utilizes project-based learning with extension activities that integrate technology and include a final project/product that students will create and build upon for three years.

- 2016-17 Pre-Kindergarten Waiver (210 Minute School Day)
As a result of House Bill 2610, all districts that offer a pre-kindergarten program are required to comply with the requirement to provide an instructional day of 210 minutes (3.5 hrs). Socorro ISD currently offers an instructional day of 180 minutes (3.0 hrs). A one-time waiver will be granted for the 2016-17 school year to districts that offered a pre-kindergarten program offering a school day of less than 210 minutes in the 2015-16 school year.
- Surplus Property
The Department of Maintenance and Operations and Child Nutrition Services have identified the surplus property items. A list of the items was submitted for the Board of Trustees to declare as surplus property. Upon approval, the Department of Facilities and Planning will select a date to conduct the sale.

BUDGET AMENDMENT #42 – SCHOOL FOUNDATION PROGRAM’S BUDGET

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Michael Najera for discussion. Discussion followed concerning the purchase of ten (10) portable buildings listed under this budget amendment. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Following a presentation by Rudy Campoya, Chief Human Resources Officer, concerning the 2016-2017 contract recommendations for Certified and Non-Certified Administrators, a motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the contract recommendations including the revised list of Certified Probationary Administrator Contracts as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TASB UPDATE 103 AND LOCAL POLICY

Following a presentation by Ms. Macias regarding the revisions to the following policies from TASB Update 103: CAA, CB, CO, FEC; and local policy EIC and FM, a motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the revisions to the policies as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

SURPLUS PROPERTY – DELL CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

This item was pulled from the agenda. No action was taken.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE AQUATIC FACILITY

Following a presentation by Mr. Eyeington regarding the solicitation request for proposal for renovations to the Aquatic Facility to include pool plaster, tile replacement, repairs to the slide, stairs and equipment replacement totaling approximately \$500,000 using Committed Funds, discussion followed regarding the timeline for this project. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF TEN (10) PORTABLE BUILDINGS FOR 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018

Following a presentation by Mr. Eyeington regarding the purchase of ten (10) portable buildings along with ramps, electrical, fire alarms and cabling, to accommodate growth by providing four (4) double portable buildings at Desert Wind and three (3) double portable buildings at Ensor MS for the 2016-2017

school year; and three (3) double portable buildings at Mission Ridge for the 2017-2018 school year, a motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITMENT OF FUND BALANCE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DISTRICT ENHANCEMENTS

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding a resolution to commit \$11,050,750 of unassigned fund balance for the procurement of capital improvements and district enhancements, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET AMENDMENT #43 – FINANCIAL SERVICES

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for separate consideration. This budget amendment is being set-up to address the Resolution to commit General Fund of unassigned fund balance. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Guerra, to allow Javier Encina address Superintendent and Board of Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

Javier Encina addressed a concern regarding an overpayment after his resignation and settlement being negotiated with Administration and Legal Counsel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:49 p.m. for discussion regarding request for easement from El Paso County related to Desert Acceptance Wastewater Project; for discussion with legal counsel regarding status and possible settlement of H. Hernandez v. SISD; discussion regarding status of litigation/intervention in application of El Paso Electric Company to change rates pending before the State Office of Administrative Hearings SOAH Docket No. 473-15-5257 PUC Docket No. 44941; to receive and review parent grievance filed by C.C.; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider administrative recommendations for Director of Athletic Services, Principal for Loma Verde Elementary School and Assistant Principal at Lujan Chavez Elementary School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

EL PASO COUNTY – DESERT ACCEPTANCE WASTEWATER PROJECT

No action was taken on this item.

H. HERNANDEZ V. SISD

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to authorize Legal Counsel to take action as discussed in Executive Session in connection with a possible disposition of this case. The motion carried unanimously.

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY – CHANGE RATES PENDING BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-15-5257 PUC DOCKET NO. 44941

A motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to authorize Administration and Legal Counsel to execute stipulation and any other documents that may be necessary to finalize settlement as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Espinoza recommended Albert Hernandez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Director of Athletic Services. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Leslie Chavez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal of Loma Verde Elementary School. A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Maria Dickerson to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal of Lujan Chavez Elementary School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, 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 APRIL 19, 2016.