



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
February 21, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Cynthia A. Najera, Board Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Board President Gary Gandara. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

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

**BOARD HONORS**

- SISD students were recognized for winning 2016-2017 District VASSP Soccer Championship.
- An Eastlake High School student was recognized for being a winner of the National Center for Women In Technology Aspirations in Computing for the El Paso Region Award.
- Eight SISD students were recognized for being named to All-State Choir, Band, Wind Ensemble and Jazz Groups.
- Americas High School girls cross-country team were recognized for winning the district title.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- Socorro High School coach Mike Bezemek was recognized for being named the 2016 UTSA Southwest Tennis Coach of the Year.
- Eastlake High School teacher Sheila Robles was honored for earning the National Center for Women in Technology Aspirations in Computing Educator Award for the El Paso Region.
- Eastlake High School principal Gilbert Martinez was honored for being named the West Texas Speech & Debate Association 2017 Principal of the Year.
- The Council of Regional Economic Expansion & Educational Development (CREEED) was recognized for partnering with Team SISD and supporting the dual credit scholarship program.

**PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK – MARCH 6-10, 2017**

Following a presentation by Shelley Chenausky, Director of Child Nutrition Services, regarding National School Breakfast week being celebrated throughout the country showcasing breakfast programs the week of March 6-10, 2017, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the Proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN FORUM**

None

## **FACILITIES REPORT**

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2011 Bond Program and other district-wide construction projects. 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.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of E1-Athletic Apparel and Miscellaneous Items RFP No. 199-0201-E1701. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2017 Board Workshop; January 17, 2017 Regular Board Meeting; and January 24, 2017 Board Workshop
- Employment of Personnel  
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
  - Borderland Warriors for the use of Montwood High School Football Field
  - East Spanish Congregation of Jehovah Witness for the use of Desert Wind School
  - Eastlake Congregation of Jehovah Witness for the use of Dr. Sue Shook Elementary School
  - El Paso Armor for the use of Socorro High School
  - Natalie Santini for the use of Montwood High School Parking Lot
  - Ultimate City Cheerleading for the use of Montwood High School Gymnasium
  - Vallarta Spanish Congregation of Jehovah Witness for the use of Escontrias Elementary School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Awarding of Bids (EXHIBIT C)
  - District Network Electronics – RFP No. 199-0113-E1744  
Solicitation to purchase network electronics district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds to these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$5,240,295-General Fund Budget/E-Rate School and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
  - District Technology Computers – RFP No. 199-0127-E1750  
Solicitation to purchase standardized desktops, laptops, tablets, servers, and related technology equipment at contracted prices as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$6,200,000-General Fund and Special Revenue)
  - Fire Alarm Upgrades, Maintenance and Services – RFP No. 199-0127-E1746  
Solicitation to purchase upgrades, maintenance and services for the fire alarm systems as needed district-wide. (Maximum for 1<sup>st</sup> Year \$845,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> Year (optional) \$345,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> Year (optional) \$345,000-General and Committed Funds)
  - HVAC Alterations for Montwood Middle School and Elfida P. Chavez Elementary School  
Solicitation to purchase services to provide HVAC alterations for Montwood Middle School and Elfida P. Chavez Elementary School (Maximum \$2,657,270)

- Internet Services – RFP No. 199-0113-E1745  
Solicitation to purchase internet services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds to these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$84,046-General Fund Budget/E-Rate School and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
- Local Telecommunication Services – RFP No. 199-0106-E1741  
Solicitation to purchase local telecommunication services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds to these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$700,000-General Fund Budget/E-Rate School and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
- Long Distance Services – RFP No. 199-0106-E1742  
Solicitation to purchase long distance services district-wide. (E-Rate funding application to be sent to Schools and Libraries Division). This award is subject to the availability of funding. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds to these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$65,000-General Fund Budget/E-Rate School and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
- Mechanical Insulation Services – RFP No. 199-0120-E1738  
Solicitation to purchase insulation services as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$75,000)
- WAN Services – RFP No. 199-0113-E1743  
Solicitation to purchase 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. The Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to secure access to the necessary District funds to these “E-Rate” projects. (Maximum \$1,338,600 plus future sites as needed-General Fund Budget/E-Rate School and Libraries Division Reimbursement)
- Contracts
  - Interlocal Agreement – Cooperative Purchasing with Canutillo Independent School District  
School districts routinely and frequently solicit bids and proposals for goods and services which are necessary for the operation of a school district. The term of this agreement is for one (1) year and will renew annually not to exceed a total of five (5) years. The school district making the purchase shall bear all costs and expenses related to the purchase of goods and services.
  - Purchasing Cooperative Utilization (2)  
For the acquisition of 14 vehicles (6 trucks and 3 cargo vans) for the Maintenance and Operations Department. (Maximum \$324,642)
    - a. Buy Board Contract #521-16, in the amount of \$271,872 from Caldwell Country
    - b. HGAC Contract #AM-11014, in the amount of \$52,770 from Chastang Ford

**BID – ATHLETIC APPAREL AND MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS RFP NO. 199-0120-E1701**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for discussion. Following a discussion regarding the cost savings and the different incentive programs, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the solicitation for the purchase of athletic apparel and miscellaneous items to outfit high school and middle school students as needed district-wide in the amount of \$500,000 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **NOTICE OF SEPARATION INCENTIVE**

Following a presentation by Rudy Campoya, Chief Human Resources Officer, regarding the separation incentive in the amount of \$500 to the first seventy-five (75) classroom teachers, administrators, or other professional exempt staff assigned to a school site, who submit a Notice of Voluntary Separation effective at the end of the 2016-2017 contract year to the Department of Human Resources on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 31, 2017, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **PROPOSED CHANGES TO SOCORRO ISD HEALTH PLAN**

Following a presentation by Mario Carmona, Director of Employee Benefits, regarding the changes to the health plan design under Phase I, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **CORRECTION DEED-CONVEYANCE OF LAND FOR PUBLIC USE**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the correction and replace the warrant deed-conveyance of land for public use recorded February 21, 2006 under Clerk's File No. 20060015230 Real Property Records, El Paso County, Texas to correct the property description as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **EASEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EP SUMMIT INVESTMENTS, LLC AND SOCORRO ISD**

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the easement agreement to provide access to the developer property located behind the existing Ed Center on Eastlake Drive as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK SERVICES FOR A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RFP NO. 199-0127-E1747 and AGREEMENT BETWEEN CBRE AND SISD FOR BROKER SERVICES**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to move the two (2) items to Executive Session for consultation with legal counsel under *Texas Government Code* Section 551.071. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 7:29 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel regarding ESD v. SISD lawsuit and proposed settlement from ESD; L. Cortez EEOC charge no. 451-2016-02353; L. Guerra v. SISD; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and to consider administrative recommendation for Principal at O'Shea Keleher Elementary School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

#### **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK SERVICES FOR A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RFP NO. 199-0127-E1747**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the following construction companies to help with the design of the new elementary school and construction project: 1. Banes General Contractors, Inc.; 2. Buford-Thompson Company; 3. Dantex Construction, LLC; 4. Dantex Construction, LLC; and 5. Venegas Engineering Management & Construction, Inc. as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN CBRE AND SISD FOR BROKER SERVICES**

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the Agreement with CBRE for broker services as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**ESD NO. 1 – PROPOSED SETTLEMENT**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to authorize Administration and legal counsel to continue negotiation on the terms discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**L. CORTEZ EEOC CHARGE NO. 451-2016-02353**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to authorize Administration and legal counsel to complete the financial settlement as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**L. GUERRA V. SISD**

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to authorize Administration and legal counsel to make a counter offer on the terms discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Josie Perez to assume all roles and responsibilities as Principal at O’Shea Keleher Elementary School. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 5-0-1 vote. Angelica Rodriguez abstained.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MARCH 28, 2017.**