



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
August 15, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Board President Paul Guerra. All members were present and 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 the Annual Peter Piper Pizza Calendar Art Contest.
- The Pebble Hills High School NJROTC was recognized for being named the third best unit in the nation and the 2017 Area Nine Most Outstanding Unit.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- The 2017 Facilities Advisory Committee was recognized for their service.

OPEN FORUM

None

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2017-2018 TAX RATE

Following a presentation by Tony Reza, Chief Financial Officer, regarding the proposed 2017-18 Tax Rate of \$1.274794 per \$100 valuation, the public was invited to comment on the adoption of the tax rate. No one came forward to address the Board. No action was taken on this agenda item.

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.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of item E3-Memorandum of Understanding with the El Paso Community College for the Emergency Medical Technician Program and with revision to item E5-change Montwood High School to Montwood Middle School. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2017 Regular Board Meeting; August 7, 2017 and August 9, 2017 Special Board Meetings
- 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 Cafeteria
 - Basketball El Paso for the use of Montwood High School Gymnasium
 - Destiny Faith Christian Church for the use of Montwood High School Basketball Courts
 - Las Tierras Community Church for the use of Paso Del Norte School Cafeteria
 - Mariachi Craze for the use of Eastlake High School Theater
 - Ministerio Jardin Del Eden for the use of Hueco Elementary School Fields
 - Race El Paso for the use of the Student Activities Complex (SAC)
 - SrA Danny Ray Sanchez Foundation for the use of Montwood High School Parking Lot
 - Street Cred Sports for the use of Pebble Hills High School Gymnasium
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Contracts
 - Amendment – Texas Workforce Commission Adult Education and Literacy Grant Contract Year 4
Amendment to increase funds for Year 4 from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 for a total grant award increase of \$2,630,092.
 - Interagency Agreement – Rio Grande Council of Governments
It is intended to aid the implementation of a grant provided to the RGCOG through the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor’s Office (CJD) and the partnership with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS). (Maximum \$48)
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – The University of Texas at El Paso Addendum A and Addendum B
This MOU is to establish a program of exchange and collaboration to benefit both institutions by establishing partner schools, and the placement of student teachers. Addendum A: School administrators and cooperating teachers agree to guide, support and mentor UTEP students during field experiences and student teaching. Addendum B: The intent of the partnership between UTEP’s College of Education and SISD’s Purple Heart Elementary School is to foster developmentally appropriate practices in early childhood, bilingual, elementary, and special education through clinical experiences, professional opportunities, and ongoing research related to EC-5 elementary education. (No cost to the District)
 - Memorandum of Engagement (MOE) – Community En Accion (CEA) for Montwood Middle School
This is in support of PASOS2 (“Partners Advocating STEM Opportunities for Student Success”) mentoring strategic initiative. The purpose of the this project is the building of community and campus-driven mentor capacity leveraging technology to enhance student grit, self-efficacy and self-determination in the student’s pursuit of college and STEM or STEAM studies. (No cost to the District)
 - Purchasing Cooperatives (2)
 - a. Region 19 Allied States Program – City Pipe and Fence Company
For the acquisition of chain link fencing materials, supplies and services for the Maintenance and Operations Department. (Maximum \$175,000)
 - b. US Communities Program – GameTime
For the acquisition of playground equipment, accessories, surfacing, related products and services. (Maximum \$165,000)

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PROGRAM WITH EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Tony Ayub for separate consideration. A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the continuation of the EMT instructional services at the High School level at the SISD Center for Health Occupation at a maximum cost of \$39,182 being funded by Carl Perkins Grant as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Tony Ayub abstained.

2017-2018 DISTRICT AND CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Following a brief presentation by Jeanette Williams, Director of State and Federal Programs, on the process involved in the development of the District and Campus Improvement Plans, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez was not present to vote on this item.

2017-2018 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX RATE

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to adopt the 2017-18 Maintenance and Operations tax rate of \$0.981640 per \$100 valuation in order to support the 2017-18 fiscal year budget as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez was not present to vote on this item.

2017-2018 INTEREST AND SINKING FUND TAX RATE

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to adopt the 2017-18 Interest and Sinking fund tax rate of \$0.293154 per \$100 of valuation in order to support the 2017-18 fiscal year budget as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez was not present to vote on this item.

RESOLUTION WHICH OFFICIALLY LEVIES THE TAX RATE FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the Resolution which officially levies the tax rate for the Socorro Independent School District for the 2017-18 school year as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL FLASHER AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF EL PASO AT GR CAMPUZANO AND RICH BEEM (PURPLE HEART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)

Following a presentation by Mr. Eyeington regarding the City's recommendation for two (2) 35' double sided school flashers on Rich Beem in the amount of \$58,272, a motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

LEASE WITH BRANCH TOWERS III. LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AT MONTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to postpone this item for further review. The motion carried unanimously.

BANES GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC. GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) FOR PHASE II – CONCRETE, STEEL & MEP BID PACKAGES FOR THE NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN PEBBLE HILLS AREA

Following a presentation by Mr. Eyeington regarding the GMP for Phase II in the amount of \$12,786,090, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2017-2018 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Following a presentation by Marivel Macias, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, regarding the revisions to include the change in the law for discipline as per SB 179, a motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez abstained.

TASB UPDATE 107 AND LOCAL POLICY

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve revisions to policy from TASB Update 107 DEE and local policy DNA as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve an Order calling a bond election in the amount of \$448,500,000 to be held in the Socorro Independent School District, making provision for the conduct of the election and resolving other matters incident and related to such election. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:23 p.m. for consultation with legal counsel; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; to consider Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument and Timeline; and to consider administrative recommendations for Assistant Principal positions at Americas High School and Montwood High School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION INSTRUMENT AND TIMELINE

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Michael Najera, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Administration pulled recommendation for Assistant Principal at Americas High School. No action was taken on this item.

Dr. Espinoza recommended Lourdes Coria to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Montwood High School. A motion was made by Michael Najera, seconded by Hector Gonzalez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2017.