



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Socorro Independent School District  
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928  
October 17, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Paul Guerra, Board President; Cynthia A. Najera, Board Vice President; Hector F. Gonzalez; Antonio 'Tony' Ayub; Angelica Rodriguez; and Jose Espinoza, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michael A. Najera, Board Secretary; and Gary Gandara

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Board President Paul Guerra. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- The SISD Special Education Department presented in honor of Disability Awareness Month.

**RED RIBBON WEEK PROCLAMATION, OCTOBER 23-31, 2017**

Following a presentation by Tammi Mackeben, Director of Guidance and Counseling, regarding Red Ribbon Week and how the district recognizes Kiki Camarena and assists students in taking a stand against drug abuse and instead living a healthy lifestyle, a motion was made by Hector Gonzalez, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve the proclamation as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN FORUM**

Angelica Soto expressed gratitude for employee's welfare and security, and for insuring that employees are treated fairly and equitably.

**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 Tony Ayub, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)  
New employment contracts require Board of Trustees approval.
- Requests for the Use of School Facilities
  - El Paso Christian Panthers Football for the use of Socorro High School
  - El Paso Flames for the use of Dr. Sue Shook Elementary School

- El Paso Parks and Recreation for the use of the Student Activities Complex (SAC)
- El Paso Supers for the use of Americas High School
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)
- Bids
  - Football Equipment Repairs – RFP No. 199-0925-E1814  
Solicitation for repairs and services on football equipment and uniforms as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$65,000)
  - GPS Tracking System – RFP No. 199-0815-E1810  
Solicitation to purchase a GPS tracking system for students, fleet and routing for the Transportation Department. (Maximum \$444,833)
  - Library Supplies – RFP No. 199-0925-E1821  
Solicitation to purchase library supplies as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$65,000)
  - Musical Instrument Repairs – RFP No. 199-0925-E1821  
Solicitation for musical instrument repairs as needed district-wide. (Maximum \$75,000)
  - PA Audio Equipment – RFP No. 199-1005-E1819  
Solicitation to purchase PA audio equipment, supplies and services as needed District-wide. (Maximum \$150,000)
  - Request to Increase – Professional Development Services RFP No. 199-0106-E1652  
Increase on the total annual awarded amount by \$200,000. The new total annual amount for this current term and any remaining extended terms would be \$700,000. Administration is pleased with the service awarded to multiple vendors and unanticipated usage resulted for the requested increase. (General Fund and Special Revenue)
  - Request for Lease Approval – District Technology Computers RFP No. 199-0127-E1750  
A lease for a data file backup system and DPS software in the total amount of \$381,397. The Lease Agreement would be through Dell Financial Services for 5 (five) years with an annual payment in the amount of \$76,279. (General Fund and Special Revenue)
- Application for Timeline for Accelerated Instruction Waiver  
Socorro ISD is requesting a waiver to adjust the timeline for providing accelerated instruction. District operates on a year round school calendar with the start of school beginning the last week of July. This limits the time the district has to provide accelerated instruction to students who do not meet the passing standards after the third administration.

**BANES GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC., GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP) FOR PHASE III – REMAINING BID PACKAGES FOR THE NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE PEBBLE HILLS AREA**

A motion as made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve the GMP Amendment No. 3 in the amount of \$12,378,026 to Banes General Contractors Inc., as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**LOCAL POLICY**

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve revisions to local policy FL as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was closed at 6:27 p.m. for discussion regarding Litigation/Intervention Regarding Application of El Paso Electric Company to Change Rates Pending before the State Office of Administrative Hearings SOAH Docket No. 473-17-2686, PUC Docket No. 46831; for discussion regarding status and employment of O. Najera to include recommendation from administration to suspend without pay and terminate employment for good cause; to discuss personnel and real estate matters; and

to consider administrative recommendation for Assistant Principal position at Helen Ball Elementary School under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074.

The meeting reconvened at 7:24 p.m.

**LITIGATION/INTERVENTION REGARDING APPLICATION OF EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CHANGE RATES PENDING BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-17-2686, PUC DOCKET NO. 46831**

A motion was made by Cynthia Najera, seconded by Tony Ayub, to approve this item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**EMPLOYMENT OF O. NAJERA AND RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION TO SUSPEND WITHOUT PAY AND TERMINATE EMPLOYMENT FOR GOOD CAUSE**

A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Cynthia Najera, to approve this item as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried with a 4-1 vote. Hector Gonzalez voted nay.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

Dr. Espinoza recommended Brenda Mills to assume all roles and responsibilities as Assistant Principal at Helen Ball Elementary School. A motion was made by Tony Ayub, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON NOVEMBER 14, 2017.**