



MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Socorro Independent School District
12440 Rojas Drive, El Paso, TX 79928
March 24, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

This meeting was held by teleconference. The teleconference was accessed via audio and through an audio feed. Any member of the public wishing to comment on an agenda item was able to send an email; these comments were read accordingly.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cynthia A. Najera, Board President; Angelica Rodriguez, Board Vice President; Paul Guerra, Board Secretary; Gary Gandara; Paul Garcia; Eduardo Mena; David O. Morales; and Jose Espinoza, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Cynthia Najera. All members were present and a quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

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

FACILITIES REPORT

Tom Eyeington, Chief Operations Officer, provided a presentation of the 2017 Bond Program and other district-wide construction projects. No action was taken on this agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Administration read the following statements submitted via email:

1. Received at 3:23pm: Concerned parent Jazmin Contreras addressed the abuse of essential personnel clause; she urged the district to reconsider the district role to help prevent the spread of the virus.
2. Received at 5:31pm: Regarding Special Education annual review and dismissal ARD meeting lack of professionalism and becoming verbally abusive and hostile intimidating parents.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve all items under the Consent Agenda with the exception of E2a-Emergency Response team-City of Socorro Police Department; E31-BuyBoard #549-17, Blue Star Sales, LTD; and E3d-Texas DIR Contract #DIR-TSO-3416, T-Mobile USA, Inc. as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Items approved under the Consent Agenda:

- Board Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2020 Regular Board Meeting; February 24, 2020 and March 16, 2020 Special Board Meetings
- Employment of Personnel (EXHIBIT A)
- Budget Amendments (EXHIBIT B)

- Awarding of Bids
 - Fire Alarm Upgrades, Maintenance and Services – RFP No. E220
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations with fire alarm upgrades, maintenance and services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$345,000)
 - Musical Instruments – RFP No. E2044
Solicitation to purchase musical instruments and services as needed district wide. (Maximum \$450,000)
 - Paper Supplies – RFP No. E2032
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations the ability to purchase paper supplies as needed district wide. (Maximum \$300,000)
 - Relocation of Portables and Related Services – RFP No. E2029
Solicitation to provide the Department of Maintenance and Operations the ability to relocate portables as needed district wide. (Maximum \$150,000)
 - Socorro ISD Ancillary Benefits – RFP No. E2038
Solicitation for Ancillary Benefits to included Basis and Voluntary Life, Dental, Vision, Educators Disability, Critical Illness and Accident. (No cost to the District)
 - Video Security Equipment, Materials and Installation – RFP No. E2034
Solicitation to purchase video security equipment, materials and installation as needed district wide. (Maximum \$500,000)
- Contracts
 - Amendment – Letter of Agreement Workforce Solutions Borderplex (Youth Job Skills Grant)
To continue with establishing a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship to set forth the relative responsibilities of the parties insofar as they related to providing recruitment, educational mentoring and career navigation services for youth.
 - Memorandum of Understanding – Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force
To delineate the responsibilities of the child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force (CEHTTF) personnel, formalize and strengthen the relationship with FBI giving current Detectives access to resources currently not in place and bring instant support to SISD in cases that involve our students who may fall prey to child exploitation or human trafficking.
 - Purchasing Cooperatives
 - Goodbuy Contract #8F000, Silsbee Ford – for the acquisition of three (3) vehicles (3 interceptor utility) for the Department of Police Services (Maximum \$130,002)
 - Region 19 Allied States Cooperative #18-7287, National Restaurant Supply Company, Inc. – to purchase cafeteria equipment for the Department of Child Nutrition Services (20 items). (Maximum \$240,789-CNS Funds)
- TEA Low Attendance Waiver
The Texas Education Agency allows school districts that have experienced a significant drop in attendance to apply for a waiver application for low attendance days. Due to safety related issues that occurred at Americas High School on Thursday, February 27, 2020; the student attendance for the following day, February 28, 2020, as affected and the District qualifies for this waiver.

CONTRACT: EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM-CITY OF SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

This item was pulled from Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra. Following a brief discussion regarding related services and resources in the form of unified Emergency Response Team (ERT) with the City of Socorro, a motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASING COOPERATIVE: BUYBOARD #549-17, BLUE STAR BUS SALES, LTD

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Eduardo Mena. Following a brief discussion regarding the acquisition of ten (10) Conventional Special Education School Buses (standard 53 passenger buses), a motion as made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the purchase in the amount of \$953,700 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASING COOPERATIVE: TEXAS DIR CONTRACT #DIR-TSO-3416, T-MOBILE USA, INC.

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Paul Guerra. Following a brief discussion regarding the acquisition and estimated time of delivery, a motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the acquisition of 1,000 Mobile Hot Spot devices for 24 months in the amount of \$172,000 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF “SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020,” IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$174,160,000, FOR REFUNDING (DEBT SERVICE SAVINGS) PURPOSES, LEVYING A CONTINUING DIRECT ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH BONDS; AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH BONDS, INCLUDING DELEGATING CERTAIN MATTERS TO AN AUTHORIZED DISTRICT OFFICIAL WITHIN CERTAIN SPECIFIC PARAMETERS

A motion was made by Gary Gandara, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK PROCLAMATION, APRIL 13-17, 2020

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Trustee Paul Garcia left the meeting.

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD PROCLAMATION, APRIL AND APRIL 17TH “PURPLE-UP DAY”

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Gary Gandara, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to approve the item as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PARKHILL SMITH & COOPER (PSC) TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMPLEX II (SAC II)

A motion was made by Eduardo Mena, seconded by Paul Guerra, to approve the item as presented under Miscellaneous Professional Services District Wide, RFP No. 199-0308-E1841 in the amount of \$104,700 using 2017 Bond Program funds as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CEA GROUP TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE SPORTS LIGHTING AT EASTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL AND SPORTS LIGHTING FIELD AND MODIFICATIONS AT PEBBLE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Angelica Rodriguez, to approve Administration to negotiate a fee with CEA as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed at 7:04 p.m. for discussion with legal counsel to receive and discuss the recommendation of administration to terminate the probationary contract of A.C., teacher on special assignment at the District Service Center, for good cause and recommendation of administration to finalize termination of the term contract of R.C., teacher on special on special assignment at the District Service Center for good cause; to consider parent grievances filed by L&S Sander and P. Barrera; to discuss personnel and real estate matters under *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074 and 551.082.

The meeting reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

PROBATIONARY CONTRACT OF A.C., TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AT THE DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER, FOR GOOD CAUSE

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Gary Gandara, to issue the appropriate notice as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

TERM CONTRACT OF R.C. TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AT THE DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER

A motion was made by Paul Guerra, seconded by Eduardo Mena, to take final action as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

PARENT GRIEVANCE OF L&S SANDER

A motion was made by Angelica Rodriguez, seconded by Paul Guerra, to accept Dr. Quatrini's level 3 grievance findings as discussed in Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

PARENT GRIEVANCE OF P. BARRERA

No motion was taken on this item. Matter will be resolved by the action of Hearing Officer Dr. Quatrini.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON APRIL 21, 2020.