

**MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
AUGUST 30, 2011 – 6:30 P.M.  
JCHS MEDIA CENTER**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anne Marie Potts who then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chair Potts, Randall Bradley, Annette Loy, Maurice Solomon and Jim Vines. Vice Chairman Bill Jarnigan arrived after the meeting started. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Potts led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chair Potts recommended that the items listed on the agenda be reversed so that Vice Chairman Jarnigan could be present for the 2011-2012 General Purpose Budget discussion.

1. Approval – Energy Grant for Chiller at White Pine School

Michael Phagan, Director of Facilities, Capital Projects and Transportation, thanked Bill Nolen, former Director of Facilities and Nancy McBee from Trane, for helping in acquiring the \$100,000 reimburseable grant. Mr. Phagan commented that J & F Mechanical was awarded the bid in the amount of \$99, 601.00 and pointed out that the money needed to be spent by October 31, 2011. He asked that the board approve the grant so it could be forwarded to County Commission for approval.

Dr. Edmonds commented that they were very fortunate to get the grant in order to get the chiller replaced at White Pine School. Mr. Phagan also commented that they would possibly be pursuing the same grant for next year in order to replace the chiller at New Market School.

Board member Vines made the motion to approve the energy grant to replace the chiller at White Pine School. Board member Solomon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval – Renovations at JCHS

Tony Pettit, from Rentenbach, went over the schematic design estimate for renovations and additions to Jefferson County High School with the addition of resurfacing the track and installing an artificial turf on the football field for a total base project cost of \$25,423,632.

**Unfinished Business – continued**

Board member Solomon made the motion to remove the artificial turf and track resurfacing in the amount of \$917,100 from the renovation and addition document. Board member Loy seconded the motion.

Board member Bradley commented that he would like to see the school board present the entire document as written to the County Commission and let them decide whether or not they wanted to eliminate anything.

Board member Vines commented that he understood the cost but felt it would save the county a significant amount of money in the long run. He also pointed out that the present state of the track was not safe.

The motion to remove the artificial turf and track resurfacing at JCHS in the amount of \$917,100 from the renovations and additions document failed for lack of a majority. Board members Solomon and Loy voted for the motion while board members Bradley, Vines and Jarnigan voted against.

Doug Shover, architect from The Jerry Lewis Group, went over the renovations and additions to JCHS which included a 650 seat auditorium and answered any questions from the board.

Chair Potts suggested that a reconciliation be done of the cost estimate from the Public Building Authority and where they are to date. She also suggested that a cover letter be drafted to the county commission explaining that the renovation and addition documents were for their review along with an invitation to meet in an informal setting with the school board where they could ask questions. She recommended that the cover letter be signed by all members of the school board at the September 8 board meeting so they could send the information to the county commission for their meeting on September 19. Chair Potts asked that the reconciliation be included in the board packets next Tuesday.

3. 2011-2012 General Purpose Budget

Dr. Edmonds pointed out that county commission requested a reduction of the school budget of \$563,092 and the county budget committee had also asked that the school system reduce the usage of fund balance by 10%. Dr. Edmonds presented six (6) options for additional reductions to achieve a total of \$563,092 for the board's review along with a listing of account numbers to refer to. Option 1 (Transportation), Option 2 (Operation of Plant and Maintenance of Plant), Option 3 (Maintenance of Plant), Option 4 (Operation of Plant), Option 5 (Operation of Plant), Option 6 (Operation of Plant and Maintenance of Plant).

**Unfinished Business – Budget – continued**

He commented that he and his staff had worked with the finance office in order to identify different options for the board's consideration.

Board member Loy commented that it was a problem for her that all the options were based on possibly having to go back to county commission to ask for additional funding.

After further discussion, board member Vines made the motion to approve Option 6. Vice Chairman Jarnigan seconded the motion.

Dr. Edmonds commented that there had been some miscommunication between the finance office and maintenance department regarding monies to be expended for the canopy for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade academy at JCHS. He pointed out that the figures were correct but they may need to look at one (1) line item. Michael Phagan, Director of Facilities, commented that he was concerned over account #72620-399 other contracted services due to the maintenance department having to use those funds for last year's needs as well as this year's. He explained that \$149,000 under other contracted services was not spent last year due to a miscommunication that the line item was moving to zero, therefore the \$149,000 was rolled into the fund balance without being used when the error was discovered.

Board member Loy commented that she could not support anything that would take away from maintenance of plant. She further commented that the county had a problem with the salary scale that needed to be addressed. She pointed out that instead of cutting school bus drivers' salaries for one semester as presented in Option 1 that they look at cutting the administrators and central office salaries. Chair Potts pointed out that there were four (4) other options that had been presented to the board that did not affect any personnel salaries. She added that the board never mentioned cutting bus driver salaries they only used that amount in order to balance the budget which would be restored through a budget amendment. Dr. Edmonds commented that they would have information for the board at the next board meeting showing central office directors and supervisors in terms of what they receive from the state to fund central office and how much they save.

Vice Chairman Jarnigan commented that they needed to make a decision on one of the six options prior to October 1. He further commented that it was not the board's decision to set the salaries for the employees. Board member Bradley commented that if salaries needed to be cut to balance the budget it was the board's responsibility.

Board member Vines commented that the school system could not function without those employees. He then called for the question.

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**Unfinished Business – Budget - continued**

The motion to approve Option 6 for a reduction of \$426,154 failed 3-3 with board members Vines, Jarnigan and Potts voting for the motion and board members Loy, Solomon and Bradley voting against.

Board member Vines made the motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Anne Marie Potts, Chair

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Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools &  
Secretary to the Board

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Date

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Date