

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
JULY 14, 2011 – 6:00 P.M.
JCHS MEDIA CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Potts called the meeting to order and then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chair Potts, Vice Chair Bill Jarnigan, Randall Bradley, Maurice Solomon, Annette Loy, Michael Phagan and Jim Vines. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Solomon led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Maurice Solomon, the board unanimously approved the agenda as submitted. (see attached)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Michael Phagan, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda items. (see attached)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Mark Havelly, concerned citizen and parent, addressed the board regarding his concerns of the placement of the access road for the new elementary school. He requested that the board re-consider the location.

Dr. Edmonds commented that he, the road commissioner, the sheriff, county mayor architect and engineer had met to discuss Mr. Havelly's concerns. He further commented that they discussed the curve, design and where the access road should be. He pointed out that after the discussion they agreed that they were satisfied with the location. Mr. Jim Hinton, architect with Cope and Associates, commented that the design team had studied the location in depth and felt this was the best engineering location they had available. Mr. Greg Green, civil engineer, also addressed the board regarding why it was the best location and answered any questions from the board.

Items for Discussion - continued

Mr. Bob Carr, citizen, addressed the board regarding a request to name the new elementary school, Mount Horeb Elementary School. He presented a list of signatures in favor of the request.

Charlotte Havelly, concerned citizen and parent, addressed the board and asked that the board consider an alternative access road for the new elementary school.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

The financial reports were moved to the last item on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Policy Changes for Review and Adoption (First Reading) – **4.301 Interscholastic Athletics, 4.406 Use of the Internet, 5.1141 Teacher Effect Data, 4.205 Enrollment in College Level Courses, 4.600 Grading System and Lottery Scholarship Information, 6.708 Awards and Scholarships, 5.115 Assignment/Transfer, 6.200 Attendance, 6.203 School Admissions, 6.307 Drug-Free Schools**

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Jarnigan and second by Maurice Solomon, the board unanimously approved the above policies on first reading.

2. Proposed Improvement to School Property – Rush Strong School – Wooden Playground Equipment

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Jim Vines, the board unanimously approved the request to erect new wooden playground equipment at the northeast corner of Rush Strong School. Cost of the project is \$5,000 to be paid by the PTO.

3. E-Rate Amendment

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Jim Vines, the board unanimously voted to allow Dr. Edmonds and Darrell Helton to move forward once the funding allotment had been determined with a budget amendment up to \$313,000 to come from the fund balance.

New Business – continued

4. Approval – Yearly Dues
 - (a) TSBA On-Line Policy Maintenance - \$3,000
 - (b) Tennessee School Systems for Equity (TSSE) - \$3,375
 - (c) TSBA 2012 Membership Dues - \$7,055
 - (d) Tennessee Risk Management Trust - \$420,991

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Michael Phagan, the board unanimously approved the above dues for the 2011-2012 year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Building Program

Chair Potts requested that the building program be moved to the end of the agenda.

2. Talbott Addition

Vice Chairman Jarnigan requested that the item be discussed at a later date.

3. Letter to County Commission Regarding Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility Resolution

Each board member received a copy of a letter for their review to the county commission showing their support in passing a resolution opposing the proposed location of the Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility at New Market. The board agreed to submit the letter to the county commission with the attached resolution. (see attached)

4. Audit – Finance Department

Board member Loy made the motion to pursue the idea of requesting an audit of the school system's portion of the county finance department. Board member Bradley seconded the motion.

Board member Solomon was concerned over cost to conduct the audit. Chair Potts pointed out that cost would depend on the scope of the audit and how many years they wanted to go back.

Unfinished Business – Audit - continued

Board member Phagan suggested that the board refer their concerns to the county finance committee.

Board member Loy requested to change her motion. Board member Bradley withdrew his second.

Board member Loy made the motion to make a formal request to the Finance Committee to review concerns and determine if an audit needs to be conducted on the county school budget. Board member Bradley seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-2 with board members Vines and Jarnigan opposing. Dr. Edmonds will forward the request to the finance committee.

5. Name for New Elementary School

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Jarnigan and second by Maurice Solomon, the board voted 5-2 to name the new elementary school Mount Horeb Elementary School. Board members Loy and Bradley opposed.

6. Report on Budget Process

Dr. Edmonds read a memo to the board recommending that the board amend the general purpose school budget for the 2011-2012 school year to reflect additional revenue in the amount of \$533,241 thus reducing the amount needed from fund balance to balance the budget from \$1,902,630 to \$1,369,389. He pointed out that the additional revenue was available due to recently realized funding that the finance department had recently discovered in a reserve account as funds remaining from a federal jobs grant received in October 2010. He further pointed out that the availability of these funds (\$533,241) amounts to a reduction of fund balance usage needed for the 2011-2012 school year of over 28%. He stated that at the July 7, 2011 county commission budget committee meeting that a request was made that all county departments reduce their budget by 10% of the anticipated amount of usage from fund balance to balance their budgets. He stated that the initial proposal was to use \$1,902,630 from fund balance before the finance office realized there was \$533,241 in reserve from the previous fiscal year that has to be spent under the requirements of the grant by September 30, 2011. He pointed out that the requested reduction in the use of fund balance by the budget committee was \$190,000 for the school board but that amount was determined before the discovery of the additional \$533,241 in revenue. He went over the breakdown and reduction of the reserved \$533,241 making the amount now needed from fund balance to be \$1,369,389.

Unfinished Business – Budget – continued

Dr. Edmonds also mentioned that the school system had a decrease in revenue this year from existing taxes of \$153,656.

Board member Jim Vines made the motion to accept Dr. Edmonds' recommendation to recognize the \$533,241 in additional revenue not currently reflected in the budget document. Board member Phagan seconded the motion.

After some discussion regarding why the \$533,241 was not accounted for, the board voted 5-2 to accept Dr. Edmonds' recommendation to recognize the \$533,241 in additional revenue not currently reflected in the budget document. Board members Bradley and Loy opposed. (see attached)

7. Darrell Helton, County Finance Director, informed the board that financial reports were not available at this time. Board member Loy requested that she be contacted as soon as possible when the reports were available. Mr. Helton commented that he would contact all board members. Mr. Helton presented each board member with a copy of capital outlay, QSCB and BABs expenditures and balances. Board member Phagan requested a breakdown of bond issuance costs for the August board meeting.

8. Building Program

Chris Myers, from Rentenbach, updated the board on the progress of the new elementary school and answered any questions from the board. Don Freeman commented on the 9th grade academy. Regarding the 9th grade academy, he mentioned that they had received drawings and specification documents from The Lewis Group which would be reviewed and prepared for bid sometime in August. Regarding renovation plans for Jefferson County High School, he pointed out that they would be preparing the project with three (3) add alternates. Alternate No. 1 included an auditorium, restrooms, and associated space, Alternative No. 2 included exterior door and window replacement, and Alternative No. 3 included a new bus drop-off canopy.

Dr. Edmonds commented that sanitary sewer hook-up with the City of Dandridge for the 9th grade academy did not look favorable. He further commented that Rentenbach had been directed to start ground work to build a self-contained sanitary sewer system for the 9th grade academy as well as the new elementary school.

Dr. Edmonds passed out a renovation and additions schematic design estimate for Jefferson County High School for the board's review.

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Building Program - continued

A work session was scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the JCHS media center. Chair Potts requested that the architects and construction manager be present at the work session.

Dr. Edmonds passed out information regarding participation of homeschooled students in athletics. The item will be discussed at the work session along with the renovations and additions to Jefferson County High School.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Anne Marie Potts, Chair

Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools &
Secretary to the Board

Date

Date