

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
JUNE 9, 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, Vice Chair Bill Jarnigan, Randall Bradley, Annette Loy, Maurice Solomon, Jim Vines and Michael Phagan. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Darrell Helton, County Finance Director, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Michael Phagan, the board unanimously approved the agenda with the addition of a budget amendment approval. (see attached)

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Bill Jarnigan and second by Annette Loy, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda items as submitted. (see attached)

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

David Gerrard, David Hodge, and Vickie Sitel addressed the board concerning their request of the board to consider passing the resolution they presented at a prior board meeting in regards to the New Market Intermodal. The resolution stated that the school board requests that Norfolk Southern Railroad relocate the proposed Quaker Valley/New Market intermodal terminal site and set an example by asking the safety of children a priority.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

1. Each board member received a copy of the current financial reports.
2. Review of Second Draft of 2011-2012 General School Budget and the Federal and Student Nutrition Budget

**Items for Information – School Budget - continued**

Dr. Edmonds went over budget assumptions for the 2011-2012 general budget. He commented on the major items of increase which included a certified state mandated 1.6% increase of salaries (\$409,677), retirement increase (\$600,000), local increase for teachers and support staff (\$742,210), Priority II E-Rate (\$313,884), Trane payment (\$55,000), and fuel costs for school buses (\$70,000) which totaled \$2,190,771. He pointed out that the 2011-2012 draft general fund budget totaled \$49,325,277 compared to the 2010-2011 amended budget of \$47,061,690 which was an increase of \$2,263,587. He further pointed out that \$1.4M was used from the fund balance to balance the 2010-2011 general budget. He commented that there was a healthy fund balance and they would be using some of that to help fund the 2011-2012 budget.

Vice Chairman Jarnigan was concerned over the local \$500 teacher raise due to the fact that teachers would be getting a 1.6% raise from the state. He made the motion that the board not consider the \$500 teacher raise at this time.

Chair Potts requested that the board not make any motions until they had a chance to hear the entire budget presentation. Vice Chairman Jarnigan withdrew his motion.

Darrell Helton, County Finance Director, went over the 2011-2012 general fund budget by line item and answered any questions from the board. He thanked Dr. Edmonds, all the department heads and his staff for their hard work on the budget.

Mr. Helton commented that the fund balance had grown to \$4.9M but projected a \$5.3M to a \$5.5M fund balance by the end of the year. He further commented that in his opinion the fund balance was healthy and he recommended using it as much as they could instead of a tax rate increase. Dr. Edmonds pointed out that it was expressed at the last two budget committee meetings that there would be no tax increase.

There was much discussion regarding employee raises. Board member Solomon commented that he was not against raises for employees but felt it would look bad to take the budget to county commission that included raises for school employees since county employees would not be receiving one. Board member Loy questioned how the \$500 raise for teachers and the 3% one-time bonus for non-certified employees came about since she was absent from the last meeting. Vice Chairman Jarnigan pointed out that the state had authorized a 1.6% raise for all teachers so he asked for a one-time 3% bonus for the support staff. Ms. Loy asked about the salary study. Chair Potts responded that they were analyzing the study. She commented that the committee of Dr. Edmonds, Dr. Williams Clappitt, Michael Phagan, and Darrell Helton had reviewed the study but no action had been taken.

**Items for Information – School Budget – continued**

Mrs. Loy commented that in her opinion the raise for teachers and non-certified employees was an honest attempt to take care of their employees but saw it as a “band aide” approach which would not solve the problem. She asked that the one-time 3% bonus for support staff stay in the budget but the \$500 raise for teachers be taken out. Board member Bradley pointed out that the last draft budget included a 1.6% local raise for teachers which totaled approximately a \$58 raise per teacher for the year so he asked that the line item be increased to \$500 per teacher. Ms. Loy suggested a 1.6% raise for support staff in order to be fair to everyone. There was some discussion regarding teachers with plus 20 years of service and if they were included in the 1.6% raise. Dr. Edmonds commented that every teacher would receive the 1.6% raise no matter how many years of service they had.

After the discussion, board member Solomon made the motion to give the support staff a 1.6% raise. Board member Phagan seconded the motion.

Board member Phagan commented that in his opinion if they were going to give a raise to the support staff a 1.6% ongoing raise was better than a one-time bonus. He suggested that the board consider taking this issue up in next year’s budget.

Board member Loy requested that the county commission be made aware of the 1.6% raise when the budget is presented to them and to let them know that the school board was trying to take responsible action with the inefficiencies in the pay scale by taking a long range approach.

The motion to grant support staff a 1.6% raise passed unanimously.

Board member Bradley made the motion to maintain the \$500 raise (\$352,418) for teachers in the budget. Board member Vines seconded the motion.

Board member Phagan commented that he felt they needed a more comprehensive plan in order to move forward with a pay increase.

The motion to maintain the \$500 raise (\$352,418) for teachers failed 3-4 with board members Potts, Vines, and Bradley voting for the motion and board members Jarnigan, Phagan, Loy, and Solomon voting against.

**Items for Information – School Budget - continued**

Board member Loy made the motion to increase substitute teacher pay by \$5 a day. Board member Bradley seconded the motion and the motion failed 4-3 with board members Potts, Vines, Jarnigan, and Phagan voting against and board members Bradley, Loy, and Solomon voting for the motion.

Board member Loy requested that a possible audit of the former administration and the finance department be placed on the July agenda for discussion.

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Maurice Solomon, the board unanimously accepted the 2011-2012 federal projects budget in the amount of \$4,761,412.

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Annette Loy, the board unanimously accepted the 2011-2012 student nutrition budget in the amount of \$3,599,105.

Chair Potts requested that Michael Phagan continue on the committee for the salary analysis. She asked that he bring a possible plan back to the July meeting for discussion.

3. Each board member received a copy of the updated 2011-2012 school calendar reflecting March 6, 2012 as an election day.
4. Dr. Edmonds updated the board on recent hail damage to county vehicles. He reported that eleven (11) vehicles had been totaled due to the damage and they would be collecting approximately \$61,000 from the insurance company. He commented that they hoped they could locate some used vehicles to replace the ones that were badly damaged.
5. Board member Loy requested that consideration on the intermodal resolution be added as the first item under New Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Norfolk Southern Railroad Intermodal Resolution

Board member Loy made the motion for the school board, who is charged with the welfare of the students in the county to stand together, oppose the location of the facility so close to New Market School, go on record and adopt the resolution. Board member Bradley seconded the motion.

**New Business – Intermodal Resolution - continued**

Board member Bradley commented that he had visited New Market School and was surprised to see how close the intermodal would be located. He further commented that it was their job as a board to protect the children and property of this county.

The motion to adopt the resolution opposing the location of the Norfolk Southern Intermodal Facility in New Market passed 4-3 with board members Potts, Loy, Solomon and Bradley voting for the motion and board members Jarnigan, Phagan, and Vines abstaining.

Board member Loy asked that a letter from the school system be written to that effect. The letter will be written and reviewed at the July board meeting.

At this time, Dr. Edmonds revisited the \$1.5M fund balance usage. He pointed out that there were other areas besides the major ones that they had dealt with such as department increases. He commented that they would have that ready for the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2. Approval – Jefferson County Baptist Association to use Fair Grounds for a Crusade from September 9-15, 2011

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Vice Chairman Jarnigan, the board unanimously approved the request from the Jefferson County Baptist Association to use the fair grounds for a crusade from September 9-15, 2011.

3. Approval – Student Nutrition Certification of Compliance for 2011-2012 School Year Program/Participation Agreement for the 2011-2012 School Year Policy Statement for 2011-2012 School Year

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Jarnigan and second by Annette Loy, the board unanimously approved the student nutrition certification of compliance, program/participation agreement, and the policy statement for the 2011-2012 school year.

4. Review of Architect's Contract

Dr. Edmonds requested that the item be delayed until the next meeting.

**New Business - continued**

5. 2010-2011 General Purpose Budget Amendment and Federal Budget Amendment #8

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Vice Chairman Jarnigan, the board unanimously approved the general purpose and federal budget amendment as presented. (see attached)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Building Program

Dr. Edmonds went over a breakdown of the bids opened on the new elementary school on June 6, 2011 at the Rentenbach office. He commented that there was \$10,500,657.16 from the proceeds of the sale of the QSCB bonds. He pointed out that the cost summary for the new school was \$10,484,203.00 which included all the alternates except replacing the split face CMU with cast stone totaling \$50,893,000 and an automated system to control heating, cooling and ventilation remotely from the different areas totaling \$84,637. He also pointed out that the cost did not include classroom desks, teacher desks, filing cabinets, office furniture or tables, chairs and shelving for the library or any expenses for Shady Grove to run a water line approximately a mile. He pointed out that some outstanding bids from some very good contractors had been received.

Board member Bradley inquired as to where the money would come from for items not included. Dr. Edmonds commented that there might be some proceeds left from the \$1.25M depending on the number of classrooms they would need at Talbott Elementary and the final amount they would have to pay on preliminary plans for the building and renovations.

Don Freeman from Rentenbach updated the board on the bid opening. He commented that the guaranteed maximum price was \$9,658,313 for the new school. He mentioned that the start date for construction was scheduled for June 13, 2011 with a completion date of July 12, 2012. He pointed out that they had 45 days to consider the two alternates. Mr. Freeman commented that Tony Pettit would be the project executive, Doug Pettit would be the senior project manager, Chris Myers was the assistant project manager and Tommy McCall would be the superintendent on the job for the program. He commented that they had the fire marshals approval on the drawings and they were ready to move forward.

Dr. Edmonds thanked Mr. Freeman and Rentenbach for all their hard work with the bid process. Dr. Edmonds recommended that the board accept the \$9,658,313 guaranteed maximum price for the new elementary school as quoted by Mr. Freeman.

**Building Program – continued**

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Jim Vines, the board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to approve \$9,658,313 as the guaranteed maximum price for the new elementary school.

Dr. Edmonds reminded the board of the ground breaking on the site of the new elementary school on Monday, June 13, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Board member Bradley inquired about the renovation numbers for the existing high school. Dr. Edmonds commented that he hoped to have those numbers by the called meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Vice Chairman Jarnigan asked about the process of naming the new elementary school. He commented that several people had asked that the board consider naming the school Mount Horeb Elementary. He asked that the board consider that name. Board member Solomon commented that he would like to involve the children and public in helping to name the school. Board member Bradley recommended Dumplin Valley Elementary School. There was discussion on possibly posting it on the website. Chair Potts recommended that they come back at the July meeting and name the new elementary school at that time. Board member Loy suggested that it be run in the local paper that the board is debating the name of two (2) new schools and they are open to suggestions.

Chair Potts mentioned that the board would meet with the board attorney on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the mediation that took place regarding Community Tectonics. The called board meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Edmonds recognized Bill Nolen, Facilities Director, who will be retiring at the end of June.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Anne Marie Potts, Chair

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

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Date

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Date

