

**MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
OCTOBER 28, 2014 – 6:30 P.M.  
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The called meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Jarnigan who then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chairman Jarnigan, Vice Chairman Jim Vines, Judy Cavanah, Jonathan Rogers, Anne Marie Potts and Randall Bradley. Board member Ralph Lowery was absent. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Jarnigan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Scott McMinn and Luke Emmert, concerned parents from the Jefferson Elementary PTO, addressed the board regarding the head lice issue at Jefferson Elementary. They asked the board to consider reviewing the board policy particularly where the policy states, “that the whole class rooms will not be examined, only parents of the affected child will be notified and classroom or school wide notifications will not be sent out”. Another concern was that teachers are not educated on the issue of head lice. Dr. Edmonds responded that he had talked to Glen Wolfenbarger, assistant principal at Jefferson Elementary, about the issue. He commented that this was an occurring issue that the school system has to deal with every year. He pointed out that when the board policy was developed on April 25, 2013 the committee followed the CDC guidelines. He said he would follow-up with the administration. Board member Vines recommended that the head lice policy be sent back to the Policy Committee for review. Mr. Vines also recommended that a memo be sent out from the school making parents aware of the infestation.

Chairman Jarnigan set the next school board meeting for November 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Patriot Academy.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Report to the Board on Building 8

Michael Phagan, Facilities Supervisor, gave a comprehensive report explaining financing for the Building 8 project beginning in 2011 up to the present and how the project had evolved.

**Unfinished Business – Building 8 – continued**

Mr. Phagan referred to the Building 8 Restoration and Renovation Costs and Funding Worksheet presented to the Board on October 23, 2014. He pointed out that under credit for Building 8 components in the JCHS Renovation Contract (HVAC, Electrical, Roof Structural Steel and Decking) the amount of \$301,474.75 had changed to \$251,474.75 due to a miscommunication between himself and Mr. Pettit with Rentenbach making the total amount currently needed from County Commission for the entire Building 8 project to \$2,776,369.60.

Board member Potts thanked everyone involved in getting the information together. She commented that her concern was that there was cash available in the amount of \$575,000 but now there had been \$251,000 identified and taken out of that leaving a balance of over \$300,000. Ms. Potts stated that she would like to see the board “honor their word” where they wanted to apply the \$575,000 plus any insurance settlement recovery that came from the litigation. She pointed out that money spent on the JCHS project was around \$20,000,000.00 leaving \$5,000,000.00 to complete the project. She stated that Don Freeman, CEO with Rentenbach, had stated that they were planning on coming within budget for the high school renovation. She stated that she would like to increase the funding from the \$25,000,000 by the \$323,525 to make it \$575,000. She commented that this would make the amount of the unfunded project \$2,452,844.35. Ms. Potts stated that in her opinion the school board had established a lot of credibility with the county commission and had moved forward in their relationship. She commented that she felt the board would have to go back to county commission on other funding matters over the next four years and in her opinion \$300,000 when there is \$5,000,000.00 left is not a lot of money to apply.

Board member Potts made the motion to request from the County Commission that they fund \$2,452,845 which is specifically designated for the Building 8 project and 100% of any insurance settlement received to be applied towards the debt. Board member Bradley seconded the motion.

Board member Rogers was concerned about breach of contract if the \$300,000 was taken out of the Owner’s Contingency.

Board member Jarnigan questioned if any funds were available for paving the parking lot at JCHS. Michael Phagan responded there was not any money left for that. He pointed out that money that might have been used for that was now tied up in structural renovations at the main building.

**Unfinished Business – Building 8**

Michael Phagan stated that he would have to respectfully disagree with Ms. Potts that there was around \$300,000 left from the \$575,000 because the roof for Building 8 still had to be paid for in the current contract. He pointed out that there was no allocation for the roof.

Board member Potts commented that \$219,000 received from insurance had not been designated. She pointed out that \$87,000 of that had been moved in an amendment to the budget to cover the gym or bleachers at JCHS. She stated that there is still money from the insurance company that had been signed off of which the board is to receive.

Board member Vines was concerned over pulling the \$300,000 from the \$5,000,000 due to something happening where they would need the money.

Chairman Jarnigan commented that he agreed with board member Potts. He pointed out that if something did happen along the way they would have to ask for more funding later on.

The motion passed 6-0 to request from the County Commission that they fund \$2,452,845 which is specifically designated for the Building 8 project and 100% of any insurance settlement received to be applied towards the debt.

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Jonathan Rogers, the board authorized Dr. Edmonds to go to county commission and ask for funding of \$2,452,845 for the Building 8 project. The motion passed 6-0.

2. Bonus for School Employees

Darrell Helton, County Finance Director, asked for clarification from the board on the employee bonus. Mr. Helton commented on what the county commission budget committee had done for their county employees. He stated that they were taking half of the funds totaling \$236,000 which rolled into fund balance for the purpose of providing county full-time and part-time employees a bonus. Mr. Helton stated that if the school board did the same thing that county commission did there would be \$120,000 which is half of \$240,000 that rolled over into the school system's fund balance divided by 895 school system employees. He pointed out that full-time employees would receive around \$120.00 and part-time employees would receive around \$60.00. Mr. Helton pointed out that the school system's employees would receive their bonus in December 2014. Mr. Helton further pointed out that approval for an amendment approving the amount had to be done before November 10, 2014.

**Unfinished Business – Bonus - continued**

Jonathan Rogers made the motion to use \$120,000 from the fund balance to give a bonus to all full-time and part-time school system employees. Board member Cavanah seconded the motion.

At this time board members Vines and Rogers referred to the statement regarding conflict of interest specified in the T.C.A. 49-2-202 declaring and certifying that the vote that they are about to cast on the pending matter is in the best interest of the school system and is not motivated or affected by said kinship.

The motion passed 6-0.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Bill Jarnigan, Chairman

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Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools &  
Secretary to the Board

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Date

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Date