

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
JANUARY 22, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.  
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The 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, Randall Bradley and Anne Marie Potts. Board members absent were Jonathan Rogers and Ralph Lowery. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. John McGraw, County Commissioner, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION – DIRECTOR’S ART GALLERY WINNERS**

Sherry Finchum, Elementary Director, introduced the winners of the Director’s Art Gallery for the first nine weeks. Winners were Emily Baker, third grader from Jefferson Elementary, Chloe Lindsey, fourth grader from Jefferson Elementary and Elora Sweet, fifth grader from White Pine School. Art teachers Kim Tupps and Miranda Lewis were present to explain the winners’ art work. Each winner was presented a certificate and their art work framed.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon motion by Judy Cavanah and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 5-0 to accept the agenda as submitted along with the additions. (see attached)

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Randall Bradley, the voted 5-0 to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. (see attached)

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS**

1. Dr. Edmonds pointed out that School Board Appreciation Week in Tennessee is January 25-31, 2015. He expressed his gratitude to the school board for their hard work and dedication. Dr. Edmonds presented each member with a Certificate of Appreciation.
2. Each board member received a copy of the current financial reports.

**Items for Information – continued**

3. Michael Phagan, Facilities Supervisor, updated the board on a canopy from the front door to the curb at Patriot Academy. He stated that he had received two cost estimates, one from Peachtree Protective Covers in the amount of \$62,901 and one from Rusco Custom Canopies in the amount of \$120,000. Mr. Phagan pointed out that the canopy originally bid out as an alternate was \$397,000. Board member Bradley questioned what the difference in the cost was. Mr. Phagan commented that it was the quality of the canopy. Dr. Edmonds pointed out that some of the other schools needed a canopy as well. There was some discussion from Vice Chairman Vines regarding the need of a canopy at the alternative school and the possibility of using some left over canopy from portables that had been removed. Mr. Phagan commented that he was planning to see this summer if some of the used canopies could work at the alternative school. Board member Vines commented that he would like to see that done during the spring break if possible. Board member Bradley asked about the modular canopies at the high school and if they could be used in some way when the modular were removed. Mr. Phagan commented that one section of that might be used. Board member Bradley requested that further information regarding cost to finish the project be brought back to the board for review.

4. Dr. Edmonds referred to the minutes of May 20, 2012 where Rentenbach requested an amendment in the contract for the Patriot Academy through a change order in the maximum amount of \$698,587 due to the application of the Federal Davis Bacon Wage Provision at which time the board approved the request. He pointed out approximately \$2,000,000 was saved because of the county issuing Recovery Zone Bonds. He pointed out that at the present time there is \$117,000 left for the Patriot Academy project. He stated that there had been discussion regarding using the money for the improvement of turn lanes and a canopy at Patriot Academy. Mr. Phagan commented that he had been in discussion with Charles Tipton, county road supervisor, regarding the turn lanes and the cost. The board requested a total amount for the turn lanes at the next board meeting.

5. Chairman Jarnigan set the work session cancelled in January for February 12, 2015 beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Patriot Academy media center. He requested that the March work session include White Pine School on the agenda.

6. Board member Cavanah expressed her concern regarding leaks at the high school that the county commission had discussed and why the school board had not been informed. Dr. Edmonds commented that there had been leaks over time but he was not aware of any leaks at the time the county commission was discussing it which was at the December 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. Board member Potts commented that the board saw a crack in the wall in Pod 4 when they toured the building and thought it was going to be addressed.

**Items for Information - continued**

Dr. Edmonds commented that the engineers were still monitoring and checking that. Board member Cavanah commented that she thought the board needed to be notified when anything went wrong.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2015-2016 JCHS Curriculum Guide

Nancy Ann France, JCHS Assistant Principal, went over minor changes to the 2015-2016 Curriculum Guide. She pointed out that most of those changes were made due to name changes of some of the CTE classes. She commented that AP Environmental Science, Introduction to Business and Marketing and Health Information Technology had been added. She also pointed out that according to TCA 49-6-12, if, during high school, a student enlists in a branch of the US military or in the national guard through the military delayed entry program, the national guard split training option or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduation from high school, then the student shall receive high school credit towards graduation for basic training. Credit for basic training may be substituted, upon the choice of the students, for the required credit in lifetime wellness and credit in one (1) elective course or for credit in two (2) elective courses.

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 5-0 to approve the 2015-2016 JCHS Curriculum Guide as submitted. (see attached)

2. Approval – General Budget Amendment #8 and Federal Budget Amendment #8

Langdon Potts, County Finance Director, went over the budget amendments and answered any questions the board had.

Upon motion by Randall Bradley and second by Anne Marie Potts, the board voted 5-0 to approve General Budget Amendment #8 and Federal Budget Amendment #8 as presented. (see attached)

3. Request – Use of Jefferson County Fairgrounds – JCHS FFA, Annual Tractor and Truck Pull – Saturday, April 4, 2015

Upon motion by Randall Bradley and second by Vice Chairman Vines, the board voted 5-0 to approve the above request for the JCHS FFA to use the fairgrounds for their annual tractor and truck pull on Saturday, April 4, 2015.

**New Business – continued**

4. Appoint Members to the Building 8 Construction Oversight Committee

Bill Jarnigan and Randall Bradley agreed to serve on the Building 8 Construction Oversight Committee as requested by County Commission.

5. Employment of School Board Attorney

Chairman Jarnigan stated that the board had met in an open meeting with three potential attorneys prior to the board meeting in order to make a decision on the hiring of a school board attorney. The three attorneys were Scott Bennett, Melinda Jacobs, and Scott Reams.

Dr. Edmonds made the recommendation to continue to use and retain Melinda Jacobs for special education work, which is her specialty, at a rate of \$250 per hour. He also recommended hiring Scott Bennett as the school board attorney for general issues at an hourly rate of \$170.

Upon motion by Anne Marie Potts and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 5-0 to accept Dr. Edmonds recommendation to hire Scott Bennett as the school board attorney.

Upon motion by Anne Marie Potts and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 5-0 to accept Dr. Edmonds recommendation to hire Melinda Jacobs to handle special education issues.

Dr. Edmonds requested that the Executive Committee draw up the two (2) contracts and submit them to the board for review. Board member Potts requested that the county attorney review the contracts prior to coming back to the board. Chairman Jarnigan requested that the contracts be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

6. Resolution No. 2015-23 – Building 8 Surplus Items

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 5-0 to approve Resolution No. 2015-23 declaring items in Building 8 as surplus property.

Board member Potts questioned if the process needed to get started of writing or inquiring about a waiver from Travelers Insurance Company regarding the Building 8 collapse. Dr. Edmonds commented that he would contact Mr. Harb, the board's attorney, who is handling the case. The board agreed by consent for Dr. Edmonds to contact Mr. Harb.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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Bill Jarnigan, Chairman

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

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Date

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Date