

**MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 9, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Jarnigan. Board members in attendance were Chairman Jarnigan, Vice Chairman Jim Vines, Ralph Lowery and Randall Bradley. Board members absent were Anne Marie Potts, Judy Cavanah and Jonathan Rogers. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approval – General Purpose Budget Amendment #9 and Federal Purpose Budget Amendment #9

Langdon Potts, County Finance Director, went over the budget amendments with the board.

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Ralph Lowery, the board voted 4-0 to approve General Purpose Budget Amendment #9 and Federal Purpose Budget Amendment #9 as submitted. (see attached)

2. Approval – Use of Fairgrounds

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 4-0 to approve the use of the fairgrounds by the JCHS FFA for grade 3 Safety Day on March 13, 2015 and Carson-Newman University for Boot Scoot on March 20, 2015. (see attached)

3. Overnight Field Trips –

- (a) JCHS SCOPE Participants – March 8-9, 2015 – Murfreesboro, TN
- (b) JCHS Tennessee Technology Student Association (TSA) – March 4-7, 2015 Murfreesboro, TN
- (c) JCHS State DECA Conference – March 11-14, 2015 – Nashville, TN
- (d) JCHS HOSA State Leadership Conference – March 19-21, 2015 – Nashville, TN
- (e) JCHS Dance Team – Mardi Gras Nationals – March 21-22, 2015 – Nashville, TN

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 4-0 to approve the above overnight field trips as requested. (see attached)

## ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Dr. Edmonds passed out a memorandum dated January 14, 2011 to central office employees regarding central office employees reporting to work when schools are closed for inclement weather. There was some discussion regarding if the board had a policy in place regarding the matter. Board member Bradley requested that the item be placed on the April 7, 2015 work session for further discussion.
2. Each board member received a copy of the current financial reports. Langdon Potts, County Finance Director, commented that they were under budgeted in the Trustee Commission line item making it \$65,000 unfavorable by the end of the year. He also pointed out that \$14,000 was already overspent in Workers Compensation Insurance. He commented that he, Michael Phagan and Dr. Edmonds were working together in order to find the off set on these two items.
3. Board member Bradley requested that mandated and non-mandated testing information be added to the April 7, 2015 work session agenda. Chairman Jarnigan also requested that the bleachers at Mt. Horeb School be added to the April 7, 2015 work session agenda.
4. Michael Phagan updated the board on the sewer system at Rush Strong School. He stated that in 2011 they began reporting to TDEC that there was high ammonia numbers so they tried introducing a variety of additives and removing certain chemicals to address the issue. Mr. Phagan commented that after discussions and a meeting with the State, a consultant was hired to advise on the best way to proceed. The consultant advised that although the levels that were being reported to the State did not meet the creek discharge requirements, they were low enough to go into a drip field. He stated that by moving to a drip field, they would likely incur less cost and would no longer need to discharge into the creek. He pointed out that TDEC was pleased to hear that they were going to attempt to resolve the issue in this manner. Mr. Phagan commented that they started looking for suitable soils by first evaluating the soils on Rush Strong School property but none of the soils tested on the site proved suitable. He further commented that they started looking for neighboring properties that did contain suitable soils. The first option was an arrangement with First Baptist Church that would allow them to utilize a drip field on their property. Unfortunately, they did not have enough suitable soils to serve both the church's needs and Rush Strong's needs. He reported that they proceeded to evaluate other possibilities and located a viable option behind the community library but the property owners decided they did not want to sell or lease. He pointed out that searching for suitable property became an obstacle due to rocks, distance, etc.

**Items for Information – Rush Strong Sewer Issue – continued**

Mr. Phagan commented that in late 2014 the consultant suggested they approach TDEC about installing an engineered drip field on Rush Strong School property which they did. The Knoxville Office of TDEC was receptive and arranged a video conference with the Nashville TDEC office in late January 2015. They agreed to consider our proposal as part of the corrective action plan, but wanted us to evaluate the sewer plant first and see if we could get it to provide any additional treatment. Mr. Phagan stated they agreed and would start doing that as soon as weather permitted.

Mr. Phagan commented on an article that was written along with a picture in the Jefferson County Post about the Rush Strong School sewer plant. He pointed out that the picture was not a picture of the pipe at the discharge location. He passed out pictures of the discharge location to contrast with a copy of the picture from the article.

5. Each board member received information in the form of a handout on Building 8 and progress of the renovations at JCHS.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 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