

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.  
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Randy Baxley, County Commissioner, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON – 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

Board member Vines opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson. Board member Vines made the motion to nominate Bill Jarnigan. With no other nominations Board member Cavanah seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0 to elect Bill Jarnigan as the Chairperson for the 2015-2016 school year.

Chairman Jarnigan then opened the floor for Vice Chairperson. Bill Jarnigan made the motion to nominate Jim Vines. With no other nominations Board member Cavanah seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0 to elect Jim Vines as the Vice Chairperson for the 2015-2016 school year.

Chairman Jarnigan commented that it was an honor to be elected Board Chair and he appreciated the opportunity to serve. He stated that the board was there to do the very best for the students, teachers and staff. He pointed out that there were approximately 7,500 students in the county, 1,180 employees of which 560 were certified teachers and school buses travel over 800,000 miles per year. He expressed his appreciation to the central office staff.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Jarnigan requested that White Pine School be added under New Business, #9 for discussion.

**Approval of Agenda – continued**

Upon motion by Board member Cavanah and second by Vice Chairman Vines, the board voted 4-0 to approve the agenda as submitted with the addition of White Pine School. (see attached)

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Ralph Lowery, the board voted 4-0 to approve the consent agenda as submitted. (see attached)

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Chairman Jarnigan stated that citizens present who wanted to discuss White Pine School could address the board when the White Pine School discussion came up on the agenda.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS**

1. Each board member received a copy of the current financial reports.
2. Each board member received a copy of Coaches and Sponsors for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. Each board member received a financial report from the Jefferson County Fair Association in regards to the 2015 county fair. Dr. Edmonds noted that Jefferson Elementary and Jefferson Middle had both received \$1,500 from the fair association as stated in the contract but that Jefferson Middle had not received \$3,000 for parking as of this date but was on a list of bills still to be paid.
4. Michael Phagan, Facilities Supervisor, stated that at the last County Commission meeting there was discussion regarding the dish machine at White Pine School and why it had not been repaired. He pointed out the machine had gone down last April due to failure of the water softener and lime buildup. He stated that the student nutrition department was trying to wait until the next year's budget to take care of the situation. He stated the manufacturer had taken water samples the first week of school and they were waiting for the results from the lab. Mr. Phagan commented that if they could take care of the situation by adding additional water

**Items for Information – continued**

softeners or water conditioning equipment it would save a lot of money but they would not know until the results came back. Mr. Phagan explained that the student nutrition department was trying to keep from purchasing a new machine until everything was checked out because a new machine would be \$40,000-\$50,000. He pointed out that the machine was only five years old. Vice Chairman Vines asked if the machine had a warranty. Mr. Phagan responded that he would check on the warranty and report back to the board. He stated that White Pine was trying to function as well as possible by using paper products in order to avoid using the dish machine at all. He said he would keep the board updated on the progress.

Mr. Phagan passed out information on the dish machine at White Pine School, owner's and contractor's contingency, an update on the additions and renovations at JCHS, project progress on Building 8, school capital fund information and bid information on replacement gym windows at Jefferson Elementary, Maury Middle and Talbott Elementary and front windows at Piedmont. He pointed out that a site visit had been scheduled for each school on September 29, 2015 regarding the window bids.

Mr. Phagan and Dr. Edmonds commented on the open house at JCHS and what a success it was. Mr. Phagan thanked Don Devin, Technology Supervisor, for the excellent slide show he had put together and placed on the big screen in the auditorium showing the progress of the renovation from when it started until now. Mr. Phagan pointed out that everyone should be in their place at the high school by the end of the month except for Building 8.

Mr. Phagan commented that progress was moving along nicely in Building 8. He pointed out the wall anchors previously discussed had been 100% inspected at the construction manager level and that GEO Services would now do an inspection. Mr. Phagan pointed out that prime coat painting was 80% complete. He commented that he had been asked to look at doing drop-in ceilings in both bathrooms in Building 8 which was not included in the plan. He pointed out that it was in the hallways and classrooms but not in the shop area and bathrooms. He stated that the cost to do both restroom ceilings would be approximately \$13,400.

Mr. Phagan pointed out that capital projects monies reoriented by the board totaling \$90,000 to pay for the gym windows at Maury and replacement carpet in the library at Dandridge Elementary had been denied for lack of a majority by the full county commission. Mr. Phagan stated the county finance director had since found out that there was another \$25,939.59 in the capital projects account that was undesignated.

**Items for Information - continued**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approval – 2015-2016 General Budget Amendment #3 and Federal Budget Amendment #2

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 4-0 to approve General Budget Amendment #3 and Federal Budget Amendment #2 as submitted. (see attached)

2. Approval – Tennessee Risk Management Trust Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement

Dr. Edmonds briefly went over the agreement. He pointed out the agreement replaced the previous agreement dated July 1, 2007 and met the requirements of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance. He stated that Mr. Potts, County Finance Director, had reviewed the agreement and found no major changes. Dr. Edmonds recommended that the agreement be approved. (see attached)

Upon motion by Ralph Lowery and second by Vice Chairman Vines, the board voted 4-0 to accept Dr. Edmonds' recommendation and approve the Tennessee Risk Management Trust Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement effective July 1, 2015.

3. 2015-2016 Differentiated Pay Plan

Dr. Edmonds stated that the school system due to a correction of errors in student ADM numbers had received \$139,000 in additional state BEP instructional funds making it possible to fund differentiated pay for the 2015-2016 school year payable when teacher effectiveness scores are received late next summer or early fall. He pointed out that once employer cost had been removed the total would be \$119,000. He stated the board voted and approved putting the money into the salary schedule budget line for performance based pay. He pointed out the plan had been approved by the county commission budget committee as well as the full county commission. Dr. Edmonds stated that an estimation based on last year's percentage of teachers earning Level 3, 4 or 5, the approximate amount to be received is: Level 3 teachers would receive \$102.25, Level 4 teachers would receive \$204.50, and Level 5 teachers would receive \$306.74. He stated that when the teacher scores are known the teachers would receive their pay. He pointed out that Level 1 and 2 teachers would not receive any performance based pay. He asked the board to approve the 2015-2016 Differentiated Pay Plan.

**New Business – Differentiated Pay - continued**

Upon motion by Ralph Lowery and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 4-0 to approve the 2015-2016 Differentiated Pay Plan as submitted and recommended by Dr. Edmonds. (see attached)

4. Approval – Textbook Certificate of Compliance

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Ralph Lowery, the board voted 4-0 to approve the Certification of Compliance certifying that all students enrolled in the school system has been furnished all required textbooks, as determined by the commissioner. (see attached)

5. Approval – 2015 LEA Compliance Report

Upon motion by Judy Cavanah and second by Vice Chairman Vines, the board voted 4-0 to approve the 2015 LEA Compliance Report documenting that the school system is in compliance with all state education laws and State Board of Education rules. (see attached)

6. Appointment of (4) Delegates to TSBA Convention – November 15-16, 2015

Chairman Jarnigan appointed Jim Vines, Bill Jarnigan, Anne Marie Potts and Randall Bradley as the 4 delegates to the TSBA Convention.

7. Appointment of TLN (Tennessee Legislative Network) Representative

Chairman Jarnigan appointed Anne Marie Potts as the TLN representative.

8. Appointment of School Commissioners to 2015-2016 Committees

Chairman Jarnigan appointed Anne Marie Potts and Randall Bradley to the Board Policy Committee, Randall Bradley and Judy Cavanah to the Insurance Advisory Committee, Jim Vines, Randall Bradley and Anne Marie Potts to the Professional Employees Collaborative Conferencing Act, and Judy Cavanah was appointed to the Sick Leave Bank Committee for the Professional and Para-Professional Committee.

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted to approve the above committee members for the 2015-2016 school year.

**New Business – Committee - continued**

9. White Pine School

Chairman Jarnigan requested that the item be moved to the end of the agenda.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Piedmont Elementary Front Windows (4) – Funding Source

The item was deferred until the next meeting.

2. Timeframe for Gym Windows at Maury Middle School

Michael Phagan, Facilities Supervisor, requested that the board go back to the county commission and again ask that they approve the reoriented capital project monies to be used for gym windows at Maury Middle and carpet replacement for the library at Dandridge Elementary so they could move forward.

Chairman Jarnigan recommended that the board go back and ask county commission for funding again for the gym windows at Maury Middle (\$80,000) and Dandridge library carpet (\$10,000).

Board member Lowery made the motion to accept Mr. Jarnigan's recommendation. Board member Vines seconded the motion.

Board member Cavanah commented that she had a problem voting for that if nothing was going to be done at White Pine School.

The vote on the motion was tabled until after the White Pine School discussion.

**White Pine School Discussion**

Chairman Jarnigan passed out school board minutes regarding White Pine School discussions about actions to make needed improvements over the last five years.

Dr. Edmonds went over minutes from October 28, 2010, August 9 and 31, 2012, and September 13, 2012. He stated that there had been intent to do work at White Pine but when the new county commission came in to office in September 2012 the funding for renovation went from \$64.5M to \$53M which was \$11M less than what was anticipated.

**Discussion on White Pine School - continued**

Rita Musick, county commissioner, addressed the board about her concerns at White Pine School. She commented on the dish machine being out, the kitchen and cafeteria area, children sitting on the floor when they have to wait on buses, band room location, the portables, security issues and lack of space. She stated that something had to be done at White Pine School because the children deserved better.

Randy Baxley, county commissioner, thanked the board for considering White Pine School. He commented that he believed the county commission would be supportive in regards to White Pine School.

Dr. John McGraw, county commissioner, commented on problems at White Pine School especially in the kitchen and cafeteria areas including safety. He also stated that something had to be done at White Pine. He urged the board to work with the county commission in a joint meeting to discuss the issue.

Dr. Edmonds commented that he was in agreement with the needs mentioned at White Pine School. He stated that he would like to see the board approach the county commission with a proposal that would at least solve pressing needs particularly in the kitchen and dining area, the band room and getting out of the portables. He stated that he had received positive feedback from some county commissioners to fix the problem. He commented that in his opinion it could be done for a reasonable amount of money.

Vice Chairman Vines stated that the amount would have to come from the county commission. Mr. Vines and Chairman Jarnigan both agreed that something had to be done. Mr. Baxley, county commissioner, commented that it would have to be done in phases.

Dr. Edmonds pointed out that there was an undesignated amount of \$25,939.59 in the capital projects fund. He stated in order to get the project started they would need funds in order to get a conceptual drawing done first. Chairman Jarnigan recommended that the board place this on the work session agenda in order to have discussion before meeting with the county commission.

Vice Chairman Vines made an amendment to the motion to go back to county commission and ask for the \$80,000 for gym windows at Maury Middle and \$10,000 for carpet in the library at Dandridge Elementary and to add the \$25,939.59 undesignated amount for a drawing. Board member Cavanah seconded the motion.

**White Pine Discussion – continued**

Dr. Edmonds commented that he had no reservations in working with the county commission and obligating money from the board of education.

The amendment to add the \$25,939.59 undesignated amount for conceptual design and planning in phases for White Pine School passed 4-0.

The motion for the board to go back and ask county commission for funding for the gym windows at Maury Middle (\$80,000) and Dandridge Elementary library carpet (\$10,000) passed 4-0.

The work session was scheduled for October 6, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Patriot Academy.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 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