

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 15, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Vines who then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chairman Vines, Vice Chairman Bill Jarnigan, Anne Marie Potts, Randall Bradley, Denise Fair, Maurice Solomon and Dusty Cox. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Potts led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Vines requested that Item #2 – Approval of Professional Educators Collaborative Conferencing Act (PECCA) Special Question Committee Members be moved to beginning of the meeting. Board Member Cox requested that the rigging for the JCHS Performing Arts Center be added to the agenda under Unfinished Business.

Upon motion by Dusty Cox and second by Maurice Solomon, the board voted 7-0 to accept the agenda with the above changes and addition. (see attached)

At this time, Chairman Vines recognized Doug Shover from the architectural firm of The Lewis Group. He presented the board members with a picture of the front entrance of Jefferson County High School that was recognized at the Tennessee School Board Association Conference as “School of the Year” for architectural design.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon motion by Bill Jarnigan and second by Maurice Solomon, the board voted 7-0 to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. (see attached)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items for discussion.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

1. Each board member received a current copy of the October and November 2016 financial reports.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Professional Educators Collaborative Conferencing Act (PECCA) Special Question Committee Members

Mandy Schneitman went over the duties of the Special Question Committee which was to establish and publish the date for a survey, the method of the survey and the window of opportunity for each of the Professional Organizations that have a local presence to distribute their literature asking for votes to allow them to represent the teachers at the Collaborative Conferencing table. Ms. Schneitman asked that the Board of Education appoint three (3) board members/management team members to serve on the committee. She stated that JCEA had nominated Laura Cummings, the current president to serve as their representative, the PET organization had nominated Carolyn Elder and Andrew Alder was recommended to serve as the unaffiliated representative.

The board appointed Denise Fair, Randall Bradley and Scott Walker to serve on the Special Question Committee.

Maurice Solomon made the motion to approve the Special Question Committee. Board member Potts seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0. (see attached)

2. Budget Amendments

- (a) General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #8

Upon motion by Bill Jarnigan and second by Dusty Cox, the board voted 7-0 to approve General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #8 as submitted. (see attached)

- (b) Federal Purpose Fund 142 Budget Amendment #6

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Denise Fair, the board voted 7-0 to approve Federal Purpose Fund 142 Budget Amendment #6 as submitted. (see attached)

- (c) Food Service Fund 143 Budget Amendment #2

Upon motion by Dusty Cox and second by Denise Fair, the board voted 7-0 to approve Food Service Fund 143 Budget Amendment #2 as submitted. (see attached)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. White Pine School Building Project

Board member Cox made the motion to have \$800,000 that was reserved in fund balance for White Pine School amended into the White Pine School construction account and have it presented to the county commission for their approval. Board member Jarnigan seconded the motion.

Board member Bradley commented that he could not support the motion. He pointed out the board still needed \$1.5M to complete the project. He felt the board needed to get an architectural firm that could complete the project for the \$2.8M they already have.

Board member Fair was concerned about prices continuing to rise by delaying the process.

After some discussion, the motion passed 5-2. Board members Potts and Bradley opposed.

Board member Cox made the motion to amend the previous motion to utilize \$200,000 in 141 Capital Outlay for the JCHS baseball stadium and instead utilize \$86,300 for the White Pine School renovation and addition and \$113,700 for the Performing Arts Center theatrical rigging at Jefferson County High School. Board member Solomon seconded the motion.

Board member Solomon questioned the safety of the baseball stadium. Michael Phagan addressed that issue. He stated there were issues that needed to be addressed but they were fine for now according to the structural engineer's report. Mr. Phagan also stated the stadium would not be available for the renovation until July 2017. He pointed out the project could be funded at a later time through fund balance or the annual budget process.

Board member Potts pointed out the board had established a capital projects plan. She stated that in her opinion the \$2.8M for the White Pine School project should be upheld. She stated the plan they had was the problem.

Board member Bradley stated that capital projects would be in a hole and that other schools in the county would suffer.

Board member Fair stated there were more pressing needs than the rigging system at the high school. She felt the money should be used for emergencies. Board member Solomon recommended using the \$113,700 for an emergency fund instead of the rigging system.

Unfinished Business – White Pine School – continued

After the discussion, the motion failed 4-3 due to not receiving 5 votes in favor of the motion with board members Potts, Fair and Bradley opposing.

Board member Cox made the motion to accept the fee reduction offers from BurWil and Cope totaling \$10,942 and apply that to the White Pine School renovation. Board member Fair seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-1. Board member Potts opposed.

Board member Cox made the motion to amend the motion that \$86,300 from the \$200,000 baseball stadium renovation be applied to the White Pine School renovation. Board member Solomon seconded the motion.

Board member Bradley commented that he could not support any motion that takes away money from capital projects.

Board member Potts stated for the record that the motion was out of order due to the motion being similar to the one that had just failed.

The motion passed 5-2 with board members Potts and Bradley opposing.

Board member Cox asked Mr. Potts, County Finance Director, if there were any other motions that needed to be made in order for all the money to be available for the White Pine School project. Mr. Potts responded no.

Vice Chairman Jarnigan made the motion to take \$12,000 from the maintenance department budget to begin busting up the concrete floor in the White Pine School kitchen during the Christmas holidays. Board member Cox seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-1. Board member Potts opposed.

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ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. followed by a joint meeting with the county commission budget committee.

Jim Vines, Chairman

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

Date

Date

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND
COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 15, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

CALL TO ORDER

John Neal Scarlett, Chairman of the County Commission Budget Committee, called the meeting to order. Members of the County Commission Budget Committee in attendance were Bob Beeler, Gene Eslinger, Jimmy Carmichael, John McGraw, John Neal Scarlett, Katy Huffaker, Randy Baxley, Robert Tucker, Steve Douglas and Tim Seals. School board members in attendance were Jim Vines, Maurice Solomon, Denise Fair, Dusty Cox, Anne Marie Potts, Bill Jarnigan and Randall Bradley.

Chairman Scarlett stated the joint meeting was at the request of County Commissioner and Budget Committee Member Randy Baxley.

Chairman Scarlett stated the Budget Committee would be asked to take action requested by the school board to move \$646,000 previously approved to fund the school board's capital projects to the White Pine School project and to approve the \$800,000 in the school board's general fund to the White Pine School project. Mr. Scarlett pointed out the action by the school board to use \$86,300 from the baseball stadium repairs for the White Pine School project, \$12,000 from the school's maintenance department budget to break up the concrete in the kitchen at White Pine School and the fee reduction offer from BurWil and Cope totaling \$10,940 to be applied to White Pine School did not need approval of the Budget Committee.

There was much discussion from the budget committee regarding the increase in cost of the White Pine School project. Budget Committee member Huffaker expressed her concerns regarding the increase in cost and the school system's plan for the school's maintenance department installing the roof on White Pine School. Budget Committee members McGraw and Carmichael also expressed their concerns regarding the roof and the delay with the architect's contract. They also expressed feelings about taking capital project funds away from schools and seeking an architect that could come up with another plan that would come within the \$2.8M budget.

Budget Committee member Tucker stated that he was willing to approve the diversion of the capital project funds as long as the school board did not come back to County Commission with emergency capital project needs in the future.

Budget Committee member Baxley made the motion to approve School Capital General Fund 171 Budget Amendment #1 reallocating remaining capital projects funding to the White Pine School project in the amount of \$646,000. Budget Committee member Beeler seconded

continued

the motion and the motion failed 4-6. Budget Committee members Beeler, Eslinger, Baxley and Tucker voted yes.

Budget Committee member McGraw made the motion to approve School Capital Fund 177 Budget Amendment #1, item #2, to allocate \$800,000 from School General Fund 101 fund balance reserve to the White Pine School project. Board member Carmichael seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-1. Budget Committee member Tim Seals opposed.

Budget Committee member Tucker made the motion to approve School General Fund 141 Budget Amendment #9, Item #1, to release \$800,000 from fund balance reserve and transfer to School Capital Fund 177. Budget Committee member McGraw seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-1. Budget Committee member Tim Seals opposed.

Budget Committee member Douglas made the motion to release \$910,000 to begin work on the White Pine kitchen during Christmas break with \$455,000 coming from the previously approved \$1,000,000 in County General Fund #101 and the other half coming from the school board (\$455,000). Budget Committee member Huffaker seconded the motion and the motion passed 8-2. Budget Committee members Tucker and Baxley opposed.

Budget Committee member Tucker made the motion asking the Board of Education to consider using their fund balance for the remaining amount required to fully fund the White Pine School project. Budget committee member Beeler seconded the motion and the motion failed 4-6. Budget committee members Beeler, Eslinger, Baxley and Tucker voted yes.

School board member Cox made the motion to amend the capital projects list by removing the lift system for the performing arts center and the intercom system for a total of \$407,100 to be used for the White Pine School project. Board member Solomon seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-2. Board members Potts and Bradley opposed.

School board member Jarnigan made the motion to take \$238,900 from the school system's fund balance to go toward the White Pine School project. Board member Cox seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-2. Board members Potts and Bradley opposed.

School board member Solomon made the motion to accept the offer from the budget committee to finish the kitchen at White Pine School for a total of \$910,000 (half from school board (\$455,000) and half from county commission (\$455,000) but stated the budget committee and county commission could not forget the total project needed to be completed. Board member Potts seconded the motion.

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School board chairman Jim Vines commented that he would like to take the \$646,000 request that failed in the budget committee to the full county commission for consideration. Chairman Scarlett pointed out that acceptance by the county commission would allow for an emergency meeting.

Board member Potts urged the school board to consider accepting the motion. She stated the renovation to the kitchen was the board's number one priority and this was a chance to move forward.

Vice Chairman Jarnigan was concerned about what effect this would have on the remainder of the project.

Dr. Edmonds stated that he would like to see the entire project done but it was important for the kitchen to be worked on during the Christmas holidays. He pointed out they could not turn down the kitchen but expressed his feelings to the budget committee that they could not forget the whole project needed to be completed.

The motion failed 3-4. Board members Potts, Bradley, and Solomon voted for. Board members Vines, Cox, Fair and Jarnigan opposed.

Budget Committee member Beeler made the motion to approve the Board of Education's request to utilize \$407,100 from School Capital Fund 177 and \$238,900 from School General Fund 141 for the White Pine School project. Budget committee member Baxley seconded the motion and the motion failed 4-6. Budget committee members voting yes were Beeler, Eslinger, Baxley and Tucker.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the joint meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Jim Vines, Chairman

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

Date

Date

