

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
Wednesday, June 13, 2001
District Office, Huntington, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Sam Singleton, Rue Ware and Marie Johnson. Others present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

Following a request by Rue Ware to number the pages of future minutes, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn to a public hearing to receive comment on the tentative budget for FY2002. Motion passed unanimously.

Ross Huntington stated that the salient points of the tentative budget were the 5.5% increase in base salary for employees, the District funding the Gold insurance plan rather than Platinum and the need to do a judgement levy to recover \$726,706 that the District must refund to several centrally assessed taxpayers. Upon reconvening to general session, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn to a public hearing to receive comment on opening and adjusting the current year budgeted revenues and expenditures to actual revenues and expenditures. Ross explained that during the course of the year additional revenues are received and then spent. The law allows us to adjust our budget at year end to these levels. Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Rue Ware to allow the Business Administrator to adjust FY 2001 budgeted revenues and expenditures to actual. Motion passed unanimously.

A resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1.275 million in Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes was reviewed and discussed. A motion was then made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the resolution and authorize the Board President and the Business Administrator to sign all documents necessary to complete the transaction. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Neal Peacock was welcomed to the meeting to discuss the need for upgrades to the auditorium curtains and rigging system at Emery High. Following discussion on prioritizing the various options a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to contract with Oasis Stage Werks to do all the work as outlined in their proposal, dated May 9, 2001, also to investigate the fire safety curtain and approve it at a later time. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Students representing the Emery High Chamber Choir requested Board approval to travel to Hawaii to participate in the Fame Festival of Music, March 6-11, 2002. Their itinerary, objectives, estimated costs and an outline of the trip citizenship policy were included in the discussion. Board members expressed concern over the number of days of school the students would miss, the cost of the trip, the possible impact those students qualifying for fee waivers might have on the District finances and the influence this trip might have on future trips, recognizing that a school sponsored group had never taken an out of state trip during the school year. The Board chose to postpone a decision on this matter pending the outcome of a meeting with Mr. David Bird, Instructor, and clarification of a legal issue over the timing of the trip.

Larry Davis, Principal at Canyon View Jr. High School, requested Board approval to remove a wall between the two resource classrooms and combine the two into one room. Also, to relocate a wall in the resource teaching assistant's office making the office larger while eliminating the unused entry to Mr. Stucki's classroom. All work and associated expenses are to be covered by the school. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the building changes as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

After a satisfactory review of a statistical study comparing the use of personal and sick leave used by teachers the past two years to the previous year a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the following negotiated items with teachers; a 5.5% increase in base salary, the District fund the Gold insurance plan rather than Platinum, the District get the school safety program functioning and the District evaluate the feasibility of fully funding long term disability insurance beginning with fiscal year 2003. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the following be hired for the next school year: Corrine Dalton, Vocational Agriculture Teacher at Emery High School; Shanae Butler, Business Teacher at Emery High; Marcie Thayn, 3 hour Instructional Assistant for Title 1 at Book Cliff Elementary; Jodi Truman and Amy Lemon, 3 hour Instructional Assistants for Preschool at Book Cliff Elementary; and Lois Madsen, Head Custodian, Castle Dale Elementary. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the recommendations. Motion passed unanimously.

The next recommendation of the Superintendent was to increase the district mileage reimbursement rate for next fiscal year to \$0.30 per mile from the current \$0.25 per mile. Brief discussion ensued followed by a motion from Sam Singleton and a second by Marie Johnson to approve the recommendation. Motion then carried unanimously.

A request to complete a health survey by Dana Olsen, our public health nurse, was presented. Following a recommendation to change some of the language in the survey, it was moved by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to accept the survey with the recommended changes. Motion passed unanimously.

The next item discussed was Brigid Wickersham's request for a leave of absence for 14 school days in October to travel to Italy. Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve her request allowing her to use her personal leave days (5), granting her three days of professional leave (contingent on her returning with core curriculum related lesson ideas), and that she be docked the cost of the substitute for the remaining 6 days. A motion was then made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the request. Motion passed unanimously.

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the following individuals to serve on the District Safety Committee: Carol Ediger, Neal Peacock, Kerry Lake, Roma Brotherson, Sid Lancaster, Ross Huntington, J.J. Grant, Larry Davis, Ed Clark and Sam Singleton. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Superintendent then presented the Board with information about the use of two days of professional development training for teachers. Teachers will be trained in the use of WestEd's program for organizing, analyzing, and using assessment results to improve instruction. The training will take place on August 16 and 17.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to appoint Kirk Sitterud as the Superintendent for the next two years, from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2003. Members of the Board expressed appreciation and gratitude to Superintendent Sitterud before passing the motion unanimously.

Ross Huntington requested Board approval to sign all documents necessary to complete the sale of surplus vehicles, provided bidders meet or exceed the minimum advertised bids. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the request. Motion passed unanimously.

Painting the exteriors of Ferron Elementary and Emery High Schools was the next item discussed. Proposals from B&T Builders & Supply were presented in the amounts of \$4,321 and \$7,465 respectively. A motion was then made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to accept the proposals as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Laurel Johansen to adjourn to executive session to discuss possible litigation and personnel issues. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

