

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
May 7, 2002
Emery High School, Castle Dale, Utah

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

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Principal Gwen Callahan welcomed the Board to Emery High School. She reported to them about the high degree of success achieved this past year in student attendance. In only one year under the new policy the number of court referrals has dropped from 33 students to zero. The number of citations issued has decreased by about 50%. She told the Board about the recently completed accreditation process. Emery High had received very high marks, in fact the highest that had been awarded in the State this year. The accreditation committee encouraged officials at Emery High to do more promoting and let the rest of the state know what a great school they have.

The Board thanked Mrs. Callahan for the excellent job she and her staff are doing to promote education and help students to achieve success.

Reed Call and Neal Potter from Waxie Sanitary Supply were welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Call presented information on the Waxie system of custodial supplies and personnel support. His company provides a comprehensive system to assist school districts with building maintenance.

Kent Mitchie from Zions Bank discussed a notice of bonds to be issued and a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of not more than \$1.5 million aggregate principal amount of general obligation school building bonds. A resolution was then introduced in writing, was fully discussed and pursuant to a motion made by Board Member Marie Johnson and seconded by Board Member Sam Singleton was adopted by unanimous vote.

After carefully considering the financial situation of the District, declining enrollment, and decreased funding from the State, a resolution providing for the voters of Emery County to authorize increasing the voted leeway from .000400 to .000800 was adopted by unanimous vote following a motion by Royd Hatt and a second by Marie Johnson. Adoption of the resolution allows for the question to be placed on the ballot at the June 25th primary election.

A lease agreement with Zions First National Bank was introduced and discussed. The purpose of the lease is to lease physical exercise equipment for the National School Fitness Foundation Program. Emery High will make the monthly lease payments and submit for reimbursement. The lease agreement carries an annual interest rate of 3.9% with equal monthly payments of

\$4,622 for 36 months. Total cost of the lease is \$166,392, including interest charges. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the lease, authorize the Superintendent and Business Administrator to sign the necessary documents and look into the possibility of direct payments. The motion passed unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was a discussion of the fire curtain at Emery High School Auditorium. Neal Peacock explained about the two systems proposed by Oasis Stage Werks. After consideration of the costs involved, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to table any action on the proposal and attempt to find another bidder. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The future student built house construction project was then considered. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to have the District fund the next house with proceeds, not to exceed, those held over from the sale of the first student built house and the sale of lots to Utah Housing Finance Agency. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve District Policy DLC (Employee Travel and Reimbursement/ Procedures). A motion was then made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the policy as presented with one change i.e., adding St. George to the list of cities in section 3.(2)(a) where reimbursement rates will exceed \$55 per day. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended Colleen Bott be hired as the new secretary at Castle Dale Elementary for the next school year. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to accept the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Participation in the Early Retirement Plan was requested by Norma Jean Hansen, a teaching assistant at Book Cliff Elementary. Following the Superintendent's recommendation, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the application. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Trust land plans from Canyon View Jr. High and Ferron Elementary were accepted and approved by unanimous vote following a motion by Marie Johnson and a second by Royd Hatt.

Information items submitted by the Superintendent included a list of TSA winners from the District, recognition of Kent and Ruth Stilson as being named "Super Fans" by the Utah High School Activities Association, and thank you letters from Cottonwood and Huntington Elementary Schools. The closing social where we will be honoring all retirees will be held at 12:00 noon on May 30th at the Trail Mountain Resort in Joe's Valley.

Duane Merrill, a teacher at Emery High spoke to the Board about his concern over graduation requirements. Mr. Merrill is concerned that students are not being required to take enough classes in mathematics and science. He requested the Board review the requirement situation.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel issues and possible litigation. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.