

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
August 13, 2003
District Office, Huntington, Utah

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

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to a public hearing for the purpose of receiving input on tax rates and the budget for fiscal year 2003-04. Ross Huntington spoke in favor of the budget, noting the hearing had been made necessary because the State Basic Levy had been set at 0.001825 rather than 0.001743, the rate the tentative budget passed in June was based upon. There is no change in total revenue or expenses, only a shift in taxes from the State to the local taxpayers. No one spoke in opposition to the proposed budget.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the budget and tax rates for fiscal year 2003-04. The tax rates are:

0.001825	State Basic Levy
0.000800	Voted Leeway
0.000433	Board Leeway
0.000158	Transportation
0.000023	Tort Liability
0.000459	Recreation
0.000357	General Obligation Debt
0.001520	Capital Outlay Foundation
0.000653	Ten percent of Basic

The total tax rate is 0.006228, which is down from last year's rate of 0.006617. The motion passed unanimously.

Doyle Jensen from the Maintenance Department was next on the agenda. Mr. Jensen reminded the Board about the annual requirement to notify workers, building occupants, or legal guardians about District activities concerning asbestos containing material. Management plans are located in each building and at the District Office. Plans are available for public inspection during normal business hours.

Mr. Jensen also presented the Board with a copy of the annual report card of Operators of Small Natural Gas Distribution Systems recently filed with the Utah State Division of Public

Utilities.

Mr. Jensen then reported on the lead-based paint inspection recently completed at Cleveland Elementary School by the Utah State Department of Air Quality and a group from the Southeastern Utah Health District. No lead was found on any of the building components.

Copies of fire sprinkler reports were distributed to the Board which will also be sent to Utah State Risk Management. Inclusion of these in the premium setting process results in some savings to the District on property insurance.

The following bids for newly required Class K Hood fire suppression systems was considered: Booth Fire, \$12,706.03; Firetrol, \$13,699; and, State Fire Equipment, \$7,974. These new systems will be required in Book Cliff, Castle Dale, Ferron Elementary Schools and also Emery High School. Mr. Jensen also informed the Board about the costs of having one of the Maintenance Department staff trained to inspect fire sprinkler systems and the savings the District would realize if we have someone on staff who is certified to conduct the required inspections.

Next on the agenda was a discussion on the cooling system at Emery High School. With the chiller down there is no cooling in the auditorium-gymnasium, media center or the science building. A rebuilt compressor will cost about \$17,000, a new one will cost \$20,000. Two engineering firms have been contacted for estimates on rebuilding the system into three separate zones. Preliminary estimates indicate the project could cost as much as \$324,000. A decision would be based upon the estimated useful life of the buildings. The current system allows us to only cool one of the areas at a time.

A brief discussion then ensued about energy consumption and some potential savings we might achieve by retrofitting lighting fixtures. The District will continue to work with Siemens Technology in evaluating this situation.

Following a brief update by Ross Huntington on the situation with the Elmo property, a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to offer the property for lease to the general public. The motion passed unanimously.

Extra-curricular pay adjustments were then revisited, having been tabled at the last Board meeting. A lively debate took place, after which, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the proposed schedule (which is attached and is a part of these minutes). The motion passed unanimously.

Ross Huntington recommended the following names for hire with the District for the coming school year: Darlene DeBry, a 6 hour Educational Assistant at Ferron Elementary; and, Darshan Bennett, a 3 hour class-size reduction Educational assistant also at Ferron Elementary. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

Carol Ediger, President of the Emery Education Association, requested clarification from the Board about the change in the calendar made at the last Board meeting. At the request of teachers, the Board had voted unanimously to move parent teacher conference day from Friday, January 23rd to Monday, January 19th. The question presented by Mrs. Ediger was, is the 19th recognized as a holiday or is it a work day? It was the consensus of the Board to not make any additional changes at this time, even though the public may perceive taking the 19th off as a holiday while in fact it is a work day.

Mr. J.J. Grant, Secondary Supervisor, was welcomed to the meeting. He reported on the Advanced Placement test results for 2002-03. Two students took the biology test and one passed for a passing rate of 50%. Six students took the calculus test and three passed, also a 50% passing rate. Of the nineteen students who took the language test, twelve passed, or 63%. Eleven students took the literature test and six passed, a 55% passing rate. Thirty-seven students took the US History exam with eighteen or 49% passing. While the percentage of students passing was considered outstanding, the Board expressed a desire to see more students taking the biology and the calculus tests. The District should set that as a goal and asked Mr. Grant to pass that information onto the teachers so that they may prepare themselves and the students.

Neal Peacock, Mayor of Castle Dale requested clarification on the water connection situation at the new warehouse construction site. The Board thanked Mr. Peacock and the Castle Dale City Council for waiving the \$700 connection fee. A share of water will also need to be transferred to the City. One of the shares on deposit with Castle Dale will be transferred. Castle Dale City will draft a letter of agreement for all parties to sign.

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 motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.