

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
January 7, 2004
Canyon View Jr High School, Huntington, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Rue Ware, Sam Singleton, Marie Johnson and Royd Hatt. 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. The motion passed unanimously.

Beulah Oveson, who retired on December 31st was honored by the Board and presented with a clock recognizing her many years of loyal service. Mrs. Oveson has served the District for 16½ years as the Superintendent's Secretary.

Ralph Ison, who has worked for the District for 26 years in the Transportation Department was also honored by the Board and presented with a clock as well. Mr. Ison has served the past 18 years as the Transportation Director. Mr. Ison will be retiring on the 31st of January.

The Board thanked both of the retirees for their service and allowed them a few minutes to reflect back on their careers with the District.

Kay Kimball and Rick Roberts, Independent Auditors, from the accounting firm of Kimball and Roberts, CPA's, were welcomed to the meeting. They explained the auditing process, presented the results of their recently completed audit, and made a few recommendations for improvements to District operations. After they completed their report a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the report as it had been prepared and presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was a presentation by Mike Williams the Mayor of Emery Town and Craig Johansen from Johansen and Tuttle, Engineering, Inc. Mr. Williams requested the Board consider trading 40 acres of land that the District owns for some acreage owned by Emery Town.

The land owned by the District is needed to build a flood catch basin to protect the town of Emery and its citizens. Emery owns two parcels for the District to consider, one is a five acre parcel in the southwestern part of town and the other is a 40 acre parcel located west of town. Emery Town would be willing to absorb all of the costs associated with the trade.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the trade, contingent upon the acceptability of the land offered for trade by Emery Town. The Superintendent and Business Administrator, together with two Board members, will inspect the available parcels and make a recommendation to the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Three students from Green River High School (GRHS), Rachel Dunham, Rebekah Thornton, and Tessina Trejo requested the Board change the graduation date at GRHS from Tuesday the 25th of

May to Friday the 21st of May. The change to a Friday would allow more family and friends from out of the area to attend the graduation. The Board indicated that they would take the matter under advisement.

Canyon View Jr. High School Principal Larry Davis presented an overview of programs and activities at the school while also offering information on school demographics, fee waivers, free and reduced lunch, faculty and staff, honors and awards, grants, capital improvements, academics, policy and procedures, health, safety and welfare, and school needs. Mr. Davis thanked the Board for working so well with the school and for helping to meet the educational needs of the students. Also, Canyon View 9th graders Derek Jensen and Nic Cox made a presentation before the Board requesting approval for a joint junior high dance with Canyon View and San Rafael to be held February 13, 2004 at Canyon View Jr. High.

Following discussion about the dance, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the request on a one year trial basis. The motion passed 4-1 with board members Laurel Johansen, Royd Hatt, Sam Singleton and Marie Johnson voting in favor of the motion and board member Rue Ware voting nay.

Building and Grounds Supervisor, Mike Huntsman, was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Huntsman presented information about the proposed cooling projects at Emery High School, G RHS and Book Cliff Elementary School. Combined cost of the six projects is estimated to be about \$600,000. Mr. Huntsman explained in detail the various projects and the reasons for their need. Mr. Huntington explained the financing options available and recommended the Board approve and proceed with all six of the projects. After careful consideration, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Rue Ware to approve the six projects and hire Dale R. Wilde Co./Engineers to begin project designs. The motion passed unanimously.

Two areas of Emery High School can be converted to “closed-loop” heating systems by the maintenance crews themselves at an estimated cost of \$18,000. This would prevent the system from freezing under extreme weather conditions such as we have experienced the last couple of weeks. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve this project. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huntsman recommended the Board also approve roofing projects at Castle Dale Elementary School and the science wing at Emery High School. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the projects contingent upon acceptable bids. The motion passed unanimously.

Following a recommendation of the Superintendent a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to appoint Ross Huntington as the Business Administrator for the next two years. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board accept the early retirement request from Tim Farr a music instructor at San Rafael Jr High School and waive one-quarter (.25) point. Seventy-five points are required to qualify for participation in the early retirement program under Early Retirement Policy GCPCAA. Mr Farr will have seventy-four and three-quarters (74.75) points at the end of the school year and would like to retire. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve Gary Stevens as the new warehouseman/maintenance worker, effective January 5, 2004. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Secondary principals and counselors have requested permission to have the option to delay the parent-teacher conference scheduled in January until mid-term of the third term of school, otherwise there is no conference for semester-long courses taught second semester. Should they take this option they would still take the same day off as listed on the calendar, but would delay the conference until mid-term on two evenings. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the request starting in 2005 and instructed the Superintendent to “inform the public” on the matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud reminded the Board about the upcoming Utah School Boards Association Convention, January 9-10 at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. He also reminded them that the legislature begins on January 19th and runs through the 3rd of March. The USBA “Day on the Hill” is scheduled for the January 22nd at 10:00 AM in room 129 of the Capitol Building.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to appoint Royd Hatt as proxy to vote on behalf of the District at the annual Green River Water and Canal Company Annual meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Upon reconvening to general session it was decided by the Board to offer the students at Green River High School two options for a graduation date, either Tuesday May 25th or Friday May 28th.

A motion was then made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.