

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
July 19, 2006
District Office, Huntington, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other board members present were Marie Johnson, Royd Hatt, Rue Ware, and Sam Singleton. Also present were Superintendent Kirk Sitterud, and Business Administrator Ross Huntington.

J.J. Grant, Secondary Supervisor, and Jed Jensen, Elementary Supervisor, were present. The Emery Education Association was represented by Kim Player and Carol Ediger. The press was not represented.

A motion to approve the warrants, minutes, and the June monthly financial report was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Following a brief explanation by Ross Huntington of the proposal to employee the services of an insurance/benefit advisor, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to begin the selection process and advertise for the contract. The motion passed unanimously.

The following items with the certified personnel were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Sam Singleton and a second by Marie Johnson: 1) The District will fund increment and lane changes, 2) Salary schedule index levels 18, 23, and 28 will be increased by 1%, 3) The District will fund a 3.5% cost-of-living allowance, 4) The Superintendent will discuss with elementary principals at the next administrative council ways that principals can work with teachers to provide prep time, 5) Bonus checks, if issued, will be clearly marked as to the funding source, 6) Certified personnel will be included in all policy changes that affect them. 7) Bonus checks, if available, will be distributed at different times during the year rather than always on December 15th, 8) The District will work towards raising the index levels on steps 18, 23, and 28 so that the increments are the same as other steps, and 9) The District will fund the Summit Care level of the Silver Plan from PEHP for health insurance, and will fund their share of the increase in dental insurance.

The following items with classified personnel were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Marie Johnson and a second by Sam Singleton: 1) The District will fund a 3.9% cost-of-living allowance, 2) The District will fund the Summit Care level of the Silver Plan from PEHP for health insurance for all qualified classified employees, 3) The District will fund step increases for all qualified employees, 4) Substitute custodians will be paid \$5.15 per hour, days 1-20, \$8.00 per hour days 21-59, and \$11.14 per hour for days 60 and over, 5) The District will provide workers' compensation insurance according to statute, 6) Twelve month employees will have ten paid holidays with one of those days either Thanksgiving or Spring Break, 7) Classified Employees will be invited and encouraged to attend opening institute, and 8) The District will "spotlight" classified employees and departments for recognition.

Ross Huntington recommended the Board approve the request of the Castle Valley Pageant Committee to rent buses during the upcoming pageant. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the recommendation, provided the committee furnish the proper certificate of liability insurance and pay the appropriate fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Ross Huntington recommended the Board approve two quotes (\$23,617 for Stand Alone Control Units, and \$16,670 for a Distributed Digital Control Unit) from Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. for HVAC upgrades at Green River High School. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the quotes and proceed with the project. The motion passed unanimously.

Marie Johnson made a motion, which was seconded by Royd Hatt, to approve the reappointment of Superintendent Sitterud for two years. The motion passed unanimously.

The shortage of housing in Green River City was the next item discussed. It has been determined that there is very little, if any, housing available in the area. In order for the District to attract and retain teachers it may be necessary for the District to provide some type of housing allowance or to purchase housing and then rent it to new teachers. The Board instructed the Superintendent to explore options and then report back to them.

Superintendent Sitterud recommend Board approval of coaches for the 2006-07 school year (*a list is attached hereto and is a part of these minutes*). A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the list as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve the following personnel be hired for the next school year: Patrick Brady, teacher, Green River High; Jennifer Wirick, teacher, Green River High; and Pamela Hunt, one-half day teacher at Book Cliff Elementary. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board accept the retirement letter of Johanna Jensen, an education assistant at Cleveland Elementary. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to accept her retirement. The motion passed unanimously.

Kari Alton from Four Corners Community Behavioral Health gave a Power Point presentation on the most recent Sharp Survey. Survey results indicate the level of tobacco usage among Emery County teenagers is higher than the State average. Using grant funding and working with Jed Jensen, she has focused primarily on policy development and revision this past year. They plan to continue the program this year if their grant application is approved.

Following her presentation Superintendent Sitterud recommended Board approval of revisions to

District policies JFCG - Smoking/Tobacco Use By Students and GBK - Smoking/Tobacco Use On School Premises By Staff/Volunteers and a new policy KGC - Smoking/Tobacco Use On School Premises By Visitors. In addition the Superintendent recommended approval of revisions to policy GDBE - Support Staff Vacations and Holidays and GCBCA - Employee Workers' Compensation Benefits. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud wished to express his thanks to the voters of Emery County for their support of public education. In the recent primary election voters passed an initiative authorizing the Board to levy a leeway tax up to a rate of 0.001600. Seventy-two (72) percent voted in favor of the proposition with only twenty-eight (28) percent opposed.

Superintendent Sitterud reminded the Board of several upcoming important dates.

The Superintendent informed the Board that the District's 4-6 Math Plan had received the first level of approval from the State Office of Education (SOE). He and Jed Jensen have been asked to meet with officials of the SOE to explain the details of the plan.

Superintendent Sitterud reminded the Board that the Boy Scouts of American want to use facilities at Canyon View Jr High School in June 2008. It was the consensus of the Board to charge a flat fee of \$500 to cover facilities usage but to defer setting of a bus rental rate until a time closer to the event.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss personnel issues, and the possible acquisition of land. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.