

Minutes of the Board of Education  
Emery County School District  
February 7, 2007  
San Rafael Junior High School, Ferron, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen, who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other board members present were Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton, and Rue Ware. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud was present as was Business Administrator Jared Black.

Others attending the meeting included J.J. Grant, District Secondary Supervisor and Jed Jensen, District Elementary Supervisor. Carol Ediger represented the Emery Education Association. Garth Johnson, Principal of San Rafael Junior High School was in attendance as was Leroy Maxfield, District Director of Maintenance. The press was represented by Corey Bluemel of the Emery County Progress. Ralph Bluemel was also in attendance. Kelly and Cindy Alton arrived midway through the meeting.

The first action item was to consider the warrants, minutes, and monthly financial report for January. Two corrections were made to the January meeting minutes. The specific bid amounts for benefits consultants were added to paragraph nine (9) and some grammatical changes were made to the last sentence in paragraph fourteen (14). A motion was made by Sam Singleton to approve the minutes as corrected, as well as the warrants and the January financial reports. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended that Kimalee Allred be hired as a 3 hour Special Education Assistant at Cleveland Elementary School to work with a special needs student. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Black updated the Board on the status of water shares held by the School District. All lessees from the 2006 irrigation season had been contacted and all indicated a willingness to continue the same lease agreements for the 2007 season. Marie Johnson asked Mr. Black to check with Castle Dale and Orangeville Cities to see if the School District might be able to receive reduced water fees in addition to the current lease agreement of having those cities pay the assessment for their leased shares. Mr. Black agreed to check with the two cities for consideration of future renewals. A motion was made by Royd Hatt to renew all water share lease agreements for the 2007 season with the same arrangements as were made in the 2006 season. The motion was seconded by Sam Singleton and passed unanimously.

Superintendent Sitterud presented to the Board a recommendation for an appropriate salary increase in the case of a classified employee promotion. When a current classified employee is recommended to be hired into a new position with a higher grade, the recommendation is to find the step on the new grade that is just above the employees' current wage, move up one additional step, and offer this grade and step as the starting wage for the employee in the new position. After consideration by the Board, Marie Johnson moved to accept this recommendation as a working practice in the District. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Principal Garth Johnson gave a report on the happenings at San Rafael Junior High School. Principal Johnson briefly reported on his staff, commending his two new teachers and new custodian, his

veteran teachers, and his classified staff for their performance. Principal Johnson also mentioned the success of the Reader's Club program at SRJHS. The Honor's Choir recently completed its trip and Principal Johnson recognized the choir for the dedication and excellence of its members. The combined Valentine's Dance will be held shortly and Principal Johnson thanked the School Board for approving the dance which has been a successful activity to help develop camaraderie between the two junior high schools in the District. Principal Johnson also recognized the Dawg Pound Award program in place at the school. This program rewards students each term for high achievement in grades, citizenship, service, and extracurricular activities. Those students who qualify are eligible for prizes and are get to attend a special 90 minute activity at the end of the term. The next activity will be karaoke.

Superintendent Sitterud reported to the Board on the current Utah legislative session, highlighting many of the bills that could potentially impact the School District. Some of the bills mentioned include: School District Compensation, Education Vouchers, Class Size Reduction, Instructional Expenses, School Board Member Compensation, Post Retirement Employment, Optional Extended-day Kindergarten, High School Graduation Amendments, and Boards of Education Membership Amendments.

Business Administrator Black reported on the status of the District Classification project and updated the Board on the status of contracts with Intermountain Financial Benefits and Ray Bartholemew. Mr. Black then invited Mr. Maxfield to report on the new gymnasium construction in Green River. Mr. Maxfield reported that the walls are close to being finished and that the project is progressing well, particularly due to the recent good weather.

Mr. Grant provided the Board with an update on the swimming pool project that the County is pursuing. Mr. Grant is the District's representative on the pool committee and provided the Board with rough architectural drafts of the project and described what the facility will include, both inside and out. The committee will continue to meet regularly and the project is anticipated to begin construction later this spring.

At 8:25 p.m., a motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss personnel issues. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session, Mr. Maxfield updated the Board on the status of potentially hazardous trees at Huntington Elementary School. Some of the trees need to be removed, with new trees replanted in their place. The maintenance department is willing to remove the hazardous trees which aren't near power lines. They would also plant new trees in the place of those removed. The Board recommended that the maintenance department perform this work during the upcoming summer, and also recommended pursuing bids for removing the potentially hazardous trees which are located near power lines.

Superintendent Sitterud informed the Board of his intent to fill the licensed electrician maintenance position vacated by Doyle Jensen.

At 8:35 p.m., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to re-adjourn to closed meeting to discuss personnel issues. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.