## Emery County School District | Board of Education

President Laurel Johansen Vice-President Royd Hatt Member Marie Johnson Member Sam Singleton Member Nanette Tanner

The February 2015 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Book Cliff Elementary School, was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Sam Singleton and Nanette Tanner. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

At 5:00 pm, Mrs. Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Action Item (B1)**: Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the January 2015 meeting, and financial reports for January 2015. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (B2):** Superintendent Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

James Skinner:

Custodian, Part-Time

Emery High School

Sam Singleton motioned to approve the hiring recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded by Marie Johnson and passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

Superintendent Sitterud also presented a letter of resignation from Mike Monfredi, Custodian at Emery High School. Marie Johnson made a motion to accept the letter of resignation. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Board Member Nanette Tanner announced that, effective March 3, 2015, she is resigning her position as School Board Member in order to have adequate time for increased responsibilities in other areas of her life. She read a statement indicating her appreciation for having served on the school board for several years.

Board President Johansen and other members of the school board expressed their appreciation to Mrs. Tanner for her service on the school board, as well as their understanding of her decision to resign. Superintendent Sitterud, on behalf of the employees of the school district, expressed his thanks to Mrs. Tanner as well. He also outlined the process that would need to happen to select an interim board member.

**Board Action Item (B3):** Mr. Black indicated that the District has received notice that a legal adjustment was made to the assessed property tax value of Utah American Energy (UAE), and consequently, the District will need to repay \$122,076 to UAE as a tax refund. Under Utah law, the District is eligible to assess a judgment levy to cover the cost of this repayment. He indicated that his recommendation is to issue a judgment levy. The levy would be presented in a truth-in-taxation hearing in August and the tax refund would be paid in December 2015, after the District receives the tax revenue from the judgment levy. Marie Johnson made a motion that the District would move forward with issuing a judgment levy, as explained by Mr. Black. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Board Action Item (B4):** Due to a lack of necessary information, Royd Hatt made a motion to table this agenda item. Sam Singleton seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

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Ryan Hepworth presented information about the comprehensive guidance program, particularly as it relates to Green River High School. He noted some of the highlights and challenges of the program, based on a recent review, and outlined how the program is moving forward to improve areas of concern. Members of the Board thanked him for his presentation.

**Report Item (C1):** Principal Melinda Durrant welcomed members of the Board of Education to Book Cliff Elementary School and thanked them for their support. She reported that the school and community are thrilled with the upgraded parking lot. She expressed her appreciation to the faculty and staff at Book Cliff Elementary, particularly for their dedication to the students. She talked about some of the faculty, noting that new teacher Kristy Senn has brought enthusiasm to the school. Iva Wilse is planning to retire after many years of service. Pam Hunt has been teaching a combined 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade class very successfully. Principal Durrant indicated that testing is going well and scores are going up for many students. Mrs. Johansen thanked Principal Durrant for her report.

Principal Nolan Johnson gave a report on Green River High School. He said that the main goal for this year is to improve academics. Teachers are collaborating and the school community council has been active in developing plans to address academic needs. He indicated that the school has been exploring the possibility of implementing a block schedule for the 2015-16 year. He has been in contact with other small schools in Utah using a block schedule—to get ideas about how it could work. Mr. Sitterud added that there would be a variety of issues to look at with a block schedule. Mrs. Johansen thanked Principal Johnson for his report.

Report Item (C2): Mr. Black had nothing additional to report on.

**Report Item (C3):** Superintendent Sitterud reviewed some of the key education-related bills being considered by the Utah legislature.

**Public Comments (D):** Neal Peacock, on behalf of the Emery Education Association, thanked board member Nanette Tanner for her service.

**Closed Meeting (E):** At 6:00 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing the sale of real property, and for the purpose of discussion related to the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

•	Laurel Johansen	Aye
•	Royd Hatt	Aye
•	Marie Johnson	Aye
•	Sam Singleton	Aye
•	Nanette Tanner	Aye

The closed meeting was held in the gym/lunchroom at Book Cliff Elementary School on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, beginning at 6:10 pm. All five Board members were present for the closed meeting, as were Superintendent Kirk Sitterud and Business Administrator Jared Black. A recording of the portion of the closed meeting related to discussing the purchase of real property was made and will be kept on file by the District. A recording was not made of the portion of the closed meeting related to discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

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## **Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)**

I, Laurel Johansen, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the unrecorded portion of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this portion of the closed executive session was not recorded.

Laurel Johansen

The closed meeting finished at 6:35 pm.

**Adjournment (F):** Upon reconvening to regular meeting, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.