

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2022

REGULAR SESSION:

The January 5, 2022 meeting of the Board of Education, held at the Emery High School, 955 North Center, Castle Dale, UT, was called to order at 5:30 pm by Board President Tracey Johnson. Vice-President Marie Johnson and members Royd Hatt, Kenzi Guymon, and Todd Huntington were also present. Superintendent Ryan Maughan and Business Administrator Jackie Allred were also in attendance.

WORK SESSION:

A1. Emery County Commissioners Kent Wilson and Gil Conover attended the meeting to present the economic outlook for the county. Along with the commissioners, Laren Huntsman representing Pacificorp also gave the outlook for the two power plants located in the county. Alex Buxton from Zions presented different possible scenarios for the \$25 bond 2022 series.

A2. With the expected bid pricing for the EHS new building being higher than the available funding, KMA and Westland presented revised options for going forward. Option 1 looked at using the original design, but cutting square footage. Option 2 is to also keep the Science Wing portion and build around that facility. Both options showed the Spartan Center and Auditorium as remaining.

REGULAR SESSION:

B1/B2: President Johnson welcomed all in attendance and led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

C1: Trent Huntsman and Jessica Dahl from Westland Construction gave the board an update to the Ferron Elementary and Emery High Field construction projects. Details included the timeline and upcoming tasks. The snow storms have delayed the projects minorly, but critical paths are still on schedule.

C2: Westland also presented details for the bids received from the 75% plans for EHS building.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

D1: A motion from Marie Johnson for the a) December warrants, b) Monthly financial reports and c) Minutes for the December 1st and 7th meetings was made and seconded by Royd Hatt with all approving.

D2: Superintendent Maughan recommended the following individuals for board approval:

- Alayna Ewell School Foods Director District Office

Todd Huntington motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

D3: Jackie Allred along with Alex Buxton from Zions and Brandon Johnson from Johnson Farnsworth presented the resolution providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds. The District issued \$50 million of the voted \$75 million in March 2021. The remaining \$25 million is scheduled to be sold in March 2022. It was noted that the district was able to save 50 basis points on the previous estimated interest rate saving about \$4 M in interest for the original \$50 M bond. Todd Huntington moved to approve the resolution followed by a second by Royd Hatt. All members voted unanimously.

D4: JN Auto donated \$ 25,345 for the EHS football / soccer scoreboard located on the new turf stadium. This was combined with a donation received and approved in the December meeting from Emery Telcom (also \$25,345) for the full purchase price of the scoreboard. Marie Johnson motioned that we gratefully accept the donation with Todd Huntington seconding. All voting unanimously.

REPORTS:

E1: The Principal Report was given by Steven Gordon, principal, from Emery High School. Mr. Gordon stated that the school has focused on letting the public know the great things happening at the school this year. Math and Language arts, creative writing class, debate team competitions, art show, ProStart, FFA National convention, Honor Society have all had great success and publicized their student's achievements. Another focus is the ACT scores to increase by continuing the ACT prep classes taught the first semester of the year for juniors. USU Eastern will also help by giving a boot camp testing for juniors. Lance Whitesel, EHS counselor, has started a pre-ACT for freshmen class, and encouraged sophomores to take the ACT test before their junior year. Upcoming events include a CTE fair on January 21st. The college application day was a huge success with every student doing at least one application. EHS administrative staff continue to hold monthly meetings with USU Eastern to improve concurrent class offerings. Recognition was given to 19 Academic all-state students for the 2021 Fall sports.

Doug Mecham, secondary supervisor, took the opportunity to recognize Mr. Gordon and Dean Stilson as administrators at the building. They have been part of the EHS administration for 5.5 years with difficult tasks including the 9th grade inclusion to the high school, changing to a block schedule, covid pandemic, and working through the chaos of building and designing a new building. Extra-curricular activities are scheduled heavily and require much of their time as well.

F2: The Superintendent Report, given by Ryan Maughan, recognized Kim Player, Speech Pathologist, who has retired effective December 31st, 2021. Doug Mecham also reported that the grant application for the Green River High school's FFA club through the CTE special projects grant was awarded \$50,000. Other donations from community and other organizations are being sought after as well by the FFA advisor, Kent Nelson.

F3: Jackie Allred gave the Business Report to express appreciation for donations recently received. One was from William and Rosie Wilson to Huntington Elementary for \$2,500. JN Auto also gave an additional \$1,000 donation to Huntington Elementary. This level of donation does not require board approval, but the district expresses gratitude for the generosity shown to our schools and students.

F4: Committee reports: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (E):

CLOSED MEETING (F): At 9:00 pm., a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to move to a closed meeting 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:

- Tracey Johnson Aye
- Marie Johnson Aye
- Kenzi Guymon Aye
- Royd Hatt Aye

- Todd Huntington Aye

The closed meeting was held in the Little Theater at the Emery High School, January 5th, 2022, beginning at 9:05 pm. All Board members were present for the closed meeting. Superintendent Maughan and Business Administrator Allred were also in attendance.

A motion from Marie Johnson to return to Open meeting was made with Todd Huntington following with a second. All approved. Royd Hatt motioned and was seconded by Marie Johnson to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

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

I, Tracey Johnson, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose 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 closed executive session was not recorded.

Tracey Johnson