

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Bastrop Independent School District**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Bastrop Independent School District was held on **June 19, 2007**, beginning at 6:30 PM at the **Bastrop ISD Service Center, 906 Farm Street, Bastrop, Texas.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Allen, President
Rene Barrientos, Vice-President
Karen Halladay, Secretary
Valerie Bullock
Glenn Peterson
Sophia Williams
Jim Mills

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katherine Vermillion
Andy Vermillion
Steve McCleskey
Gabriel Rodriguez
Kyle Hammock
Josh McLaughlin
Doug Clark
Jud Stahl
John Eaton
David Torres
Lydia Torres
Mike Goebel
Christine Hansen
Tresha Silva
Barbara Harris
Connie Cruise
Randy Wilson
Cary Bauer
Martha Hurta

ALSO PRESENT:

Roderick Emanuel, Superintendent
Betty Richardson, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Karen Dooley, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources
Sandra Callahan, Chief Financial Officer
Donald Williams, Exec. Director of Community Services
Henry Gideon, Chief Operations Officer
Lori Gracey, Director of Instruction & Technology
Sherri Gilmore, Director of Special Education Co-op
Lacey Padgett, Director of Human Resources
Thomas Dowdy, Director of Maintenance
Robert Washington, Director of Athletics
Jennifer Womack, Director of Curriculum & Assessment
Tessie Young, Director of Programs
Mike Benedict, Bastrop High School Principal
Jim Bonavita, Bastrop High School Associate Principal
Terrell King, Bastrop High School Asst. Principal
Jinger Myers, Cedar Creek Elementary Principal
Donna Orsag, Lost Pines Elementary Principal
Shawn Adams, Cedar Creek Intermediate Principal
Jim Hallamek, Cedar Creek Middle School Principal
Merv Doherty, Bastrop Intermediate School Principal
Al Gaines, Director of Child Nutrition
Beth Murray, Gateway School Principal
Natalie Bennight, Bastrop Middle School Asst. Principal
Lora Hardway, Bastrop High School Asst. Principal
Nancy Barrientos, Adm. Asst. to Superintendent
Bryan Doyle, Systems Administrator
Kelly Doyle
Laurie Bauer
Greg Moore
Jerry Acevedo

1. Opening, Presentations & Open Forum

A. Meeting Called to Order

President Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum of Board members was present. The meeting was duly called and notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

James Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

The Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

D. Opening Prayer

Glenn Peterson offered the opening prayer.

E. Open Forum

1. Katherine Vermillion

Ms. Vermillion addressed the Board on the goals and plans of the NJROTC Program at Bastrop High School. Mrs. Vermillion asked the Board not to cut the budget for the NJROTC program this year.

2. Lydia Torres

Mrs. Torres addressed the Board on the NJROTC Program. Mrs. Torres asked the Board to approve an increase in the budget for the program instead of a reduction.

3. Andy Vermillion

Mr. Vermillion addressed the Board in support of the NJROTC Program. He asked the Board to support the program for the sake of kids and everyone that works hard to support the program.

4. Doug Clark

Dr. Clark, President of the BHS Band Boosters, gave thanks and praise to the Board and the entire organization for the support of the Bastrop Band Bash. Dr. Clark gave special thanks to Henry Gideon and the operations team for an outstanding job!

2. Public Hearing on the 2007-2008 Budget

A. Public Hearing

The Public Hearing on the 2007-08 budget was opened at 6:46 p.m. Sandra Callahan reported that the tax rate would be set in September. She also reported that the bonds would be sold next week.

Mrs. Callahan reviewed the 07-08 general fund revenue comparison. She reported that the proposed budget is based on an ADA of 7780. Mrs. Callahan added that the estimated enrollment for the 2007-08 school year is 8521.

Karen Dooley reviewed the proposed salary schedule and stipend schedule for 2007-08. Mrs. Callahan reviewed expenditures by function and reported that the budget includes a 6% increase in instruction. She went on to report that payroll costs are at 76%.

Mrs. Callahan reported that property values continue to grow and there is a small increase in power plant values. Mrs. Callahan reviewed the district's fund balance analysis and projected the unreserved/undesignated fund balance to be at 15.1% based on the proposed budget.

President Allen called for questions. Valerie Bullock commented that the NJROTC is a wonderful program that can have a tremendous impact on a large number of the district's students. Mrs. Bullock asked for acknowledgment of their request. Mrs. Callahan explained that money for the NJROTC program comes from the campus budget – not from the district budget – and the principal decides how money is allocated to programs on

their campus. Mr. Peterson inquired about the rifle range. Mr. Gideon explained the challenges in scheduling the sports center facility as the district continues to grow. He stated that he would visit with Mr. Benedict and Commander Cave to resolve the rifle range issue.

President Allen called for comments or questions from the audience. Richard Kindred asked the Board to consider holding educators accountable.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

B. Consider Approval of Pay Grade System with Annual Salary Adjustments

Valerie Bullock moved and Rene Barrientos seconded to approve the pay grade system with annual salary adjustments as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Consider Approval of 2007-2008 Teacher Pay Scale

Rene Barrientos moved and Valerie Bullock seconded to approve the 2007-2008 teacher pay scale as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Adopt the 2007-2008 Budget for General, Debt Service, Food Service and State Technology Funds

Karen Halladay moved and Rene Barrientos seconded to adopt the 2007-2008 budgets for general, debt service, food service and state technology funds as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Superintendent's Report and Board Discussion

A. Personnel Report

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

B. Financial Report

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

1. Preliminary Financing Plan for the Sale of the District's Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2007

Josh McLaughlin from RBC Capital Markets reviewed the preliminary financing plan for the 2007 bond program. He reported that it is a good time to sell bonds, adding that the interest rate is currently at 4.54%. Mr. McLaughlin presented an overview of variable rate bonds. He stated that variable rate bonds are an alternative to long-term, fixed rate bonds, and the district may issue long-term bonds which utilize a short-term variable rate of interest to

potentially lower the district's overall interest cost and provide additional flexibility to manage the district's debt portfolio.

Mr. McLaughlin reported that based upon recent actions of the Texas Legislature, if the district has a debt service payment on the 2007 Bond Program prior to August 31, 2007, the 2007 Bond Program will qualify for funding from the EDA Program. The district could potentially receive \$15,300,000 over the life of the bond program from the EDA Program.

Mr. McLaughlin reviewed a summary of the preliminary financing plan which he is proposing to be sold in two installments. He explained that the district does not need all \$97 million at this time, so to avoid some of the interest costs, \$59,370,000 would be sold in June 2007 in a fixed rate mode and \$38,350,000 would be sold in July 2008 in a variable rate mode to potentially lower the district's borrowing cost. Mr. McLaughlin reported that bonds are amortized over a 35-year period.

Mr. McLaughlin reviewed the components of Series 2007 bonds and reported that based on current market rates, the maximum projected interest and sinking fund tax rate upon completion of the 2007 Bond Program would be \$0.469, less than the anticipated \$0.487. Mr. McLaughlin reported that the results of the bond sale would be reported at a workshop meeting of the Board on June 26th, and added that the district would receive funds on July 26th.

C. Curriculum Report

1. Update on TAKS Tutorials at Bastrop High School

Mike Benedict updated the Board on the TAKS tutorials at BHS. Mr. Benedict reviewed the number of students that have attended tutorials and reported that attendance is poor. Mr. Benedict reported that students and their parents were notified about the tutorials; however they must take some responsibility – the opportunity is there. Mr. Barrientos expressed his disappointment and added that the Board went out on a limb for the students.

2. Preliminary TAKS Results

Jennifer Womack reviewed preliminary TAKS results. She reported that accountability ratings would be out in August.

3. Gifted and Talented Student Identification

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

D. Operations Report

1. Update on BHS Renovations & Additions Program

Steve McCleskey and Gabriel Rodriguez from Bartlett-Cocke congratulated the Board and the district for the passage of the bond! Mr. McCleskey updated the Board on the additions and renovations at the high school. He reported that they have an aggressive schedule this summer to complete the work in time for the opening of school; however weather has been a factor in recent weeks. Henry Gideon reported that the districts' maintenance and housekeeping

departments have been extremely busy this summer and are doing a great job.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Minutes of May 15, May 18 and May 21, 2007

B. Consider Approval of Bids

- 1. BHS Yearbook Renewal**
- 2. Printing Services Renewal**
- 3. BMS Gym Floor Replacement CSP #2007-19**
- 4. Fire Control Systems Inspections & Services CSP #2007-20**
- 5. Athletic-Student Accident Insurance CSP #2007-21**

President Allen asked if any member of the Board would like to pull any of the consent agenda items for closer review. There being no requests or objections, the following consent agenda items were approved: the minutes of May 15, May 18 and May 21, 2007; renewal of the contract with Walsworth Publishing Company for the publishing of the BHS Yearbook for the 2007-2008 school year; the printing services contracts as presented; the contract for the BMS gym floor replacement to Bauer Sport Floors, Inc.; the contract for fire control systems inspections and services to JM Electronic Engineering; and the contract for athletic-student accident insurance and catastrophic insurance coverage to The Brokerage Store in the amount of \$29,963.00. GP moved RB seconded. Consent agenda approved.

5. Action Items

A. Consider Selecting a Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the TASB Assembly in September

Valerie Bullock moved and Rene Barrientos seconded to name Glenn Peterson as delegate and Jim Mills as alternate delegate to the TASB Assembly in September. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Consider Approval of Revisions to Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Department of State Health Services

Henry Gideon explained that the only revision to the MOU was the change of name from the Department of Human Services to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Valerie Bullock moved and Jim Mills seconded to approve the revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Texas Department of State Health Services as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Consider Approval of Amendment to Transportation Agreement with Durham School Services

Henry Gideon reported that due to growth, the district would be adding 3 regular and 1 special bus routes next year. Fred Martinez, Regional Vice-President for Durham School Services, thanked the Board and stated that he appreciated the boards' consideration and confidence for transporting students. Greg Andrus reported that Durham transported approximately 3,900 BISD students per day this past school year. He also reported that the Cedar Creek satellite site is saving the district over 42,000 miles annually. Mr. Andrus reported that Durham has had no preventable accidents since they took over transportation services.

Rene Barrientos moved and Sophia Williams seconded to approve the amendment to the transportation agreement with Durham School Services as presented. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Consider Approval of Fire Alarm Control Systems Bid

Thomas Dowdy explained that the state fire code dictates that all facilities have fire alarm systems and currently, four BISD facilities do not have fire alarms. He added that the fire alarm systems would be installed prior to the start of school.

Valerie Bullock moved and Rene Barrientos seconded to approve the contract for Fire Control Systems to HSP Commercial Systems. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Consider Approval of Bid for Roof Replacement for Portable Buildings

Henry Gideon reported that there were no bids received for roof replacement for the portable buildings. He went on to say that the district would continue to look for alternative methods and bring this item back to the Board.

F. Consider Approval of 2006-07 Budget Amendments

Sandra Callahan reported that this would be the last budget amendment for the 2006-07 school year. Karen Halladay asked how many BISD staff members are utilizing the employee daycare. Donald Williams reported that there are currently 25 employees utilizing the Emile daycare site and 13 utilizing the Cedar Creek site. Mrs. Halladay commented on the loss reported in the budget amendment. Mr. Emanuel stated that more staff have utilized the daycares in the past; however the numbers are low at this time. He added that the daycare is a benefit for staff and a great recruiting tool. Mrs. Halladay stated that the benefit does not outweigh the loss. Mr. Williams stated that the district has looked at ways to make the daycare more efficient, adding that there are options out there.

Valerie Bullock moved and Glenn Peterson seconded to approve the 2006-07 budget amendments as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Information Items

A. Update on Summer Leadership Institute

President Allen reported that the board attended the TASB Summer Leadership Institute in San Antonio this past weekend and the Superintendent and Donald Williams taught a great session on the successes with the Bastrop Education Foundation. President Allen reminded the Board of the upcoming TASB Convention in Dallas in September.

B. Proposed 2008 Bastrop Central Appraisal District Budget

Information was provided to the Board. There was no discussion.

C. Discuss Future Agenda Items

Valerie Bullock requested a presentation and an update from the NJROTC Program in October and would like for them to bring information on how the Board can assist them with their plans. Karen Halladay would like an update on the employee daycare program as well as continued presentations on curriculum related items. President Allen stated that he would like to schedule a team building workshop later in the summer and the Superintendent offered to find a couple of dates for the workshop.

7. Closed Session

The Board of Trustees on June 19, 2007, beginning at 8:15 p.m. convened into closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

A. Real Property (551.072)

1. Discussion of Possible School Sites

B. Personnel Discussion (551.074)

1. Administrator Assignments for 2007-08 School Year

8. Action Resulting from Closed Session

The Board of Trustees reconvened from closed session at 8:50 p.m.

Karen Halladay moved and Rene Barrientos seconded to approve hiring Dr. Laurie Bauer as Interim Principal for Bastrop Middle School. President Allen asked the Board for comments or discussion. There being none, President Allen called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Supt. Emanuel reminded the Board of the workshop meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 26th at 6:30 p.m. The Superintendent also asked the Board about changing the July meeting to July 31st. The Board agreed to move the July meeting from the 3rd Tuesday to July 31st.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Board Secretary

Board President