

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Commerce ISD

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Commerce Independent School District was held on December 21, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the Commerce ISD Administration Building, 3315 Washington St., Commerce, Texas. President Kathleen Hooten called the meeting to order, extended a warm welcome and announced that a quorum was present. The meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Board members present were Mrs. Hooten, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, Dr. Mark Reid, Dr. Ray Green, Mr. Gabe Wittkopf, Ms. Etta Herring and Mr. Randy Starks.

Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:04 p.m. to discuss personnel (§551.074): conduct Level Three hearing on appeal of decision re: school employee (Felisha Jones), conduct hearing on complaint/grievance of school employee (Felisha Jones) and private consultation with Board's attorney, if needed (§551.071).

Reconvene from Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board ended its closed session 8:51 p.m. on December 21, 2017.

Opening Activities

Dr. Hendricks led an invocation. The pledge to the U.S. flag was led by Mr. Wittkopf and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Mr. Starks.

Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

At 8:52 p.m., Jay Youngblood, attorney for CISD, addressed the Board regarding the Level Three appeal for Mrs. Felisha Jones. Dr. Reid made a motion to deny relief sought by Mrs. Jones. The motion was seconded by Mr. Starks. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Youngblood asked the Board to consider the compliance/grievance made by Mrs. Jones. Mrs. Hooten made a motion to deny relief sought in the grievance by Mrs. Jones. Mr. Wittkopf seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Herring made a motion to discuss the Commerce Parks and related properties to this time. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. There was no opposition. Motion carried.

Citizens' Comments

None.

Discussion of City of Commerce Parks and Related Properties

Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Commerce Lacey Dingman explained that on March 31, 2015, the City received confirmation of the CISD Board's intent to donate

12.8 acres of land adjacent to A.C. Williams Elementary School to be used by the City to expand Bicentennial Park provided the City received a grant from the Department of Texas Parks and Wildlife. The City received the grant in March 2016. The City would like to move ahead with acceptance of the grant and construction of the park. After discussion, there was no opposition to the City moving forward.

Public Hearing for Overview of School FIRST Rating

Director of Finance John Walker explained how the district received a Superior FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Public Hearing to Discuss Public Education Grants

Dr. Patricia Tremmel, Assistant Superintendent, explained how Commerce Middle School was on the PEG (Public Education Grant) List this year. Letters explaining PEG will be sent home with CMS students with the semester report cards on January 11, 2018.

Presentation on TEA's A-F Accountability Rating System

Dr. Tremmel explained the state's A-F accountability rating system.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on November 15 2017, and the financial statements and investment summary for November 2017. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Budget Amendments Related to Fund Balance Transfer

Director of Finance John Walker explained that budget amendments were required to comply with audit procedures. Several construction projects were not completed last year; however, they were completed this school year. Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Informational Reports

Mr. Alderman stated that the enrollment count for this month was 1526, up 3 students from last month. The count is up 120 students from the beginning of the school year.

Mrs. Hooten noted that every board member with the exception of Dr. Hendricks had completed required training.

School Report Cards will be sent home with students Thursday, January 22 with semester report cards.

Mr. Alderman stated that the bond refunding was on schedule. Targeted savings over 20 years was projected to be \$572,000; however, \$723,000 will be the actual savings.

Board of Trustees election will be held May 5, 2018. First day to file for a place on the ballot will be January 17 and the last day to file for a place on the ballot will be February 16.

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, January 16, 2018, with executive session at 6 p.m. The district will close to observe Martin Luther King Day on January 15.

The Campus Highlights newsletter was included for December.

The monthly check register was included in the board packets.

Board Comments

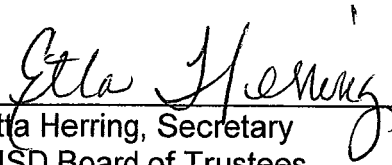
Dr. Hendricks invited everyone to attend the annual Martin Luther King program at Mt. Moriah Church at 2:30 p.m., January 14, 2018.

Adjournment...

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Starks seconded the motion. Mrs. Hooten stated that the meeting was adjourned.



Kathleen Hooten, President
CISD Board of Trustees



Etta Herring, Secretary
CISD Board of Trustees