

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 June 13, 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, Ms. Etta Herring, Mr. Randy Starks, Dr. Mark Reid and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf. Mr. Michael Beane was absent.

Administer Oath of Office for Board of Trustees, Places 4 and 5

Dr. Hendricks was sworn in for Place 5 and Dr. Mark Reid was sworn in for Place 4.

Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:10 p.m. to consider personnel (§551.074) 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 7:09 p.m. on June 13, 2017.

Opening Activities

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

Board reorganization

Dr. Reid made a motion that the current board officers remain in their positions: Kathleen Hooten, president; Randy Starks, vice president; and Etta Herring, secretary. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing to Discuss Proposed 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget and Tax Rate

Director of Finance John Walker presented information about a very lean, conservative 17-18 budget which would require a less than two cent/\$100 valuation tax increase. He said that the new proposed tax rate for 2017 was \$1.5610. Superintendent Charlie Alderman commented that the tax increase would have been much more had the District not refunded the 2008 bonds earlier this year.

Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

Mr. Starks made a motion to accept resignations from Lisa Lipstraw, CHS teacher; Brooke Sellers, ACW teacher; and Chris Beard, CMS teacher. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Reid made a motion to employ Alicia Gibson, CES teacher; and Holli Harris O'Neal, ACW teacher. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizens' Comments

Ms. Angel Henry addressed the Board about the conduct of a board member.

Consent Agenda

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

Consider Approval of CISD Wellness Plan and Evaluation

Director of Health Services Kathy Myers presented the required wellness plan and evaluation. Ms. Herring made a motion to approve the wellness and evaluation as presented. Dr. Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Amendment of 2016-2017 Budget

Mr. Walker explained that several budget amendments were required for the 2016-2017 budget. Amendments that were included are increased costs of referees, insurance, bus overtime student athletic insurance and property insurance. Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to approve budget amendments as presented. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Adoption of Proposed 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget

Mr. Walker said the budget was proposed earlier during a budget study workshop. Mr. Starks made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 preliminary budget as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Adoption of 2017-2018 Proposed Tax Rate

Dr. Reid made a motion to adopt tax rate of \$1.5610 as presented, which represents a \$0.0174 increase. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Property and Casualty Insurance

Mr. Walker said he received updated rates for property and casualty insurance, which resulted in a \$2000 annual increase. Total cost of insurance is \$183,870. Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with Trident Insurance Services through local agent Janet Duncan for \$183,870 annually. Dr. Hendricks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Acceptance of Bid Received on Resale Property

Mr. Alderman explained that the property was located in Neylandville. Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the sale of 1.0-acre property in the J. Compton Survey, Abstract 161 on Hwy 224 in Commerce recommended by Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP. The minimum bid at sale was \$10,716.93. High bid was \$5000 from NEXTLOTS NOW LLC. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Bus Transportation and Shortage of School Bus Drivers

Mr. Walker and Denny Yoakum, director of Operations, discussed the problem of securing bus drivers. We have seven openings out of 20 drivers. Different options to reduce the number of routes were discussed as well as increasing pay to compete with area districts. Dr. Reid said he would like to see a formal proposal on increased pay and streamlined service including paying for license, fingerprinting and physicals for new drivers.

Consider Approval of TASB Local Policy Update 108 including EF, EFA, EFAA, EHDB, EIF, EL and GKB

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve TASB Update 108 as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Informational Reports

Mr. Alderman gave a summer school update. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Patricia Tremmel informed the board about a new teacher induction program and mentor training that would be ongoing this school year.

Alison Walker, Head Start facilitator, and Kathy Myers, director of Health Services, had developed a Stuff the Buss school supply campaign and a Back-to-School Bash for health and dental screenings, haircuts, child safety instruction, child ID fingerprinting, CPR and door prizes.

Mr. Alderman said the ACW playground installation should begin June 29. Other projects around the district would be completed throughout the summer.

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday, July 20, 2017, with executive session at 6 p.m. Schedule was changed due to board member conflicts.


The monthly check register was included in the board packets.

Board Member Comments

Dr. Hendricks invited everyone to attend the Juneteenth celebration honoring Etta Herring, Charlie Alderman and Wyman Williams on campus at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment...

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Reid 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

Ordinance

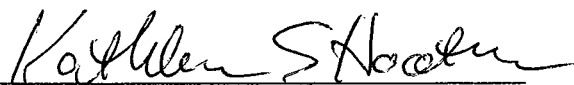
Levying a Tax Rate for the Commerce Independent School District for the Tax Year 2017

BE IT ORDAINED AND ORDERED by the Commerce Independent School District (CISD), Commerce, Texas that

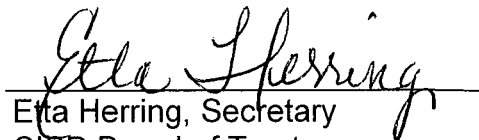
We, the Board of Education of Commerce Independent School District, do hereby levy or adopt the tax rate on one hundred dollar (\$100) valuation for this district for the tax year 2017 as follows:

\$1.1700	for the purpose of maintenance and operation
\$0.3910	for the payment of principal and interest on debt of this district
<u>\$1.5610</u>	TOTAL Tax Rate

The Tax Assessor-Collector is hereby authorized to assess and collect the taxes of the Commerce Independent School District, Commerce, Texas, on this the 13th day of June 2017.



Kathleen Hooten, President
CISD Board of Trustees



Etta Herring, Secretary
CISD Board of Trustees