

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on October 18, 2023 at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Boardroom, 612 N. Campbell Street, Willis, Texas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Kyle Hoegemery called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. and announced that a quorum was present and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Members Present: Kyle Hoegemery, presiding, Paulett Traylor, Chad Jones, Cliff Williams, Scott Carson, Charles Perry, Sr., Nikita Lagway.

Members Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dian Hivnor spoke regarding board members, elected officials. Ms. Hivnor shared concerns about a board member, an elected school board member, who represents the people of this district and makes important decisions for Willis ISD. Ms. Hivnor expressed the need for this board member to resign immediately.

Bob Holden spoke on education expectations and the importance to prepare students to be patriotic.

Don Burroughs spoke regarding an issue regarding his daughter and the Brabham Cheer Team. Mr. Burroughs shared the grievance complaint and other documentation with the Board of Trustees.

Mary Burroughs spoke regarding her daughter being kicked off the Brabham Cheer Team and concerns that the Cheer Coach never called the parents to discuss the issue.

Zach Dooris spoke on Bond and the need of more time for the community to receive more information and specifics about the facilities that will be presented in future bond elections.

Board President Kyle Hoegemeyer thanked all those who came to speak tonight.

STANDING INFORMATION

Search Consultants, Dr. Mike Moses and Mr. David Thompson from Thompson & Horton LLP presented information about their search firm's services, timelines and a proposal of cost for a superintendent search.

Board Member Scott Carson asked if there is a fee for covering the expenses for all candidates' travel.

Dr. Moses shared that it is common courtesy to pay candidates for any expenses and the expenses are generally modest.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 6:19 p.m. for the purpose of considering matters for which closed sessions are authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Sections (.071 - .084): 551.074

- A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney Regarding Legal Issues Related to the Dianne Sheldon Level III Grievance Hearing.
- B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074, Conduct Level III Grievance Hearing Regarding Dianne Sheldon and Deliberation Regarding Same
- C. Trustees may convene in closed session to obtain legal advice regarding Entergy Texas, Inc.'s request for a Non-Exclusive Easement – Entergy Texas, Inc., on an area of 0.3728 acres, out of that certain real property owned by Willis ISD identified as that 20.178 acre remainder out of a 50.914 acre tract, said property situated in the William Weir Survey, A-42, with the 50.914 recorded as File 2010024266 in the Deed Records of Montgomery County, Texas (Texas Government Code §§551.071 and 551.129).
- D. Discuss Teacher Resignations and Consider Approval of Teacher Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:59 p.m.

No motion was made regarding the legal issues related to the Dianne Sheldon Level III Grievance Hearing.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Scot Carson that the Board approve and adopt the Resolution as presented, including approval of the easement as included as Exhibit 1 to the Resolution, granting a non-exclusive easement to Entergy pursuant to these terms.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on the professional personnel as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – CANNAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Cannan Elementary Principal, Dr. Joann Colson, introduced Cannan students who led the pledges and prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Principal Colson introduced Elementary Student of the Month, Ryan Cook, a fifth grader who is always willing to help out a classmate or assist a teacher.

Lucas Middle School Principal Dr. Kelley Moore introduced the Secondary Student of the Month, Paxton Edwards, a Lucas eighth grader who is captain of the Aristokats. Dr. Moore shared that the word leader describes Paxton and Paxton understands how others feel, displaying a helpful positive attitude and always being a good leader who knows how to lead and how to help others lead.

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe honored Willis High School Teacher Pat Kercheval with a bouquet of flowers for her fifty years of service to Willis ISD.

Director Fails presented Roark Early Education Center Principal, Calandra Lewis, with the Architecture Award and shared that Stantec Architecture won this award for the design of the Roark Early Education Center building.

Ms. Fails who introduced Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Sara Goolsby, Executive Director of Secondary Education John Vaglienty and Executive Director of Elementary Education Patricia Lynn who, in honor of National Principal Month recognized each Willis ISD Principals and Assistant Principals

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

Leslie Schkade of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. presented a power point and discussed the Willis ISD Delinquent Taxes Collection Report.

Interim Superintendent Crowe reported the student enrollment for October 13, 2023 was 8,951 students.

Interim Superintendent Crowe reviewed the Safety Performance Report for September 2023 and there were no questions.

There were no questions concerning the financial reports and bill payment report.

There were no questions concerning the Bond Projects Summary.

There were no questions concerning the Annual Investment Report.

Willis ISD Board President, Kyle Hoegemeyer, shared the Board Member Training Report for November 1, 2022 to present as follows:

All Board Members are required to attend trainings annually and biennially:

ANNUAL – (9 total hours required)

Cybersecurity (1 hour) - All Board Members have completed the Cybersecurity Training.

Team Building (3 hours) – All Board Members have completed Team Building.

Additional Required Elective Training (5 hours) - All Board Members have completed five hours or more of Elective Training.

BIENNIAL (every other year) – (7-8 total hours required)

Child Abuse Prevention (1 hour) – All Board Members have completed the Child Abuse Prevention Training.

Update to the Texas Education Code – (1-2 hours after each legislative session) - All Board Members will receive an Update to the Texas Education Code when the Texas Legislature Sessions conclude.

Evaluation and Improving Student Outcomes (3 hours) – All Board Members have completed the Training of Evaluation and Improving Student Outcomes.

School Safety (2 hours) – All Board Members have completed the School Safety Training.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Approval of Board Policy CDA (local) Pertaining to Investments, Strategies and Approval of Brokers

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Chad Jones to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe discussed the renewal of the membership in Walsh Gallegos' Retainer Program. Retainer fee \$1,000 a year. Mr. Crowe recommends that the Board approve this membership renewal.

Motion by Paulet Traylor and seconded by Nikita Lagway to follow the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the Renewal of Membership in Walsh Gallegos Trevino Kyle & Robinson's Retainer Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Interim Superintendent Crowe discussed the need for five additional school resource officers. House Bill 3 requires that school districts must have a resource officer at each campus.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Charles Perry to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add five additional School Resource Officers. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, Robert Whitman discussed the need to add additional personnel – a District Custodial Supervisor. Interim Superintendent Crowe recommends the addition of a District Custodial Supervisor position.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add a Custodial Supervisor position. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Whitman discussed reclassification of a position within the district:

Director of Business and Finance to Business and Finance Office Coordinator

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the reclassification of the position listed above. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Student Services, Brad Mansfield, discussed the recommendation of the 2023-2024 Willis ISD School Health Advisory Council Members.

COMMUNITY MEMBER REPRESENTATION:

Michele Scaife-Returning member

Caroline Cruz-Returning member

Stephanie Holt

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Tina Wienecke-Returning Member

Jeanne Sloan

Albert Felix, Jr.

Lela Shaw

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Nikita Lagway to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve SHAC members for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Elementary Education, Patricia Lynn, discussed the need of a Class Size Waiver for Class Size. As of October 11, 2023 we have 4 campuses that we are requesting class size waivers for:

Cannan Elementary – 2 Kinder Bilingual classes (each over by 3)

Hardy Elementary - 2 Kinder Bilingual classes (each over by 1)

Lagway Elementary– 8 classes (each over by 1)

Meador Elementary – 3 classes in 4th grade (each over by 1)

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the class size waiver. Motion carried unanimously.

The agenda item regarding the Change Order, Final Acceptance of Work and Final Payment to Drotech, Inc. for the New Pre-K Center Building Project was tabled to a future meeting.

The agenda item regarding the Change Order, Final Acceptance of Work and Final Payment to Pogue Construction co., LP, for the Additions to Lynn Lucas Middle School and Gym Addition to Elementary School Campuses (4 Elementary School Campuses) Project was tabled to a future meeting.

The agenda item regarding the Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment to the Construction contract with Durotech, Inc. for the New Middle School #3 with Ancillary Facilities Project was tabled to a future meeting.

Executive Director of Support Services and Construction, Paul Dusebout, discussed the Lynn Lucas Middle School Central Plant Upgrades.

Board Secretary Chad Jones expressed that he felt this was the right recommendation, commended Willis ISD for working so hard on this project and this will be a huge advantage to the campus.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$6,838,159.00 from 2020 Bond Issue Funds, for the Lynn Lucas Middle School Central Plant Upgrades. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Lynn discussed Tuition Base Pre-K Program to fully utilize Roark Early Education Center and to move forward to build the program. Mr. Crowe clarified that this item is asking for the Board to approve the concept.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve a Tuition Based Pre-K program. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board President Hoegemeyer how blessed the Board is have Chad Jones on the board and his expertise

Board Secretary Jones extended a big thank you and great job to the Lagway administration and staff in handling an issue this week.

Congratulation to the WHS Band for qualifying in Area Marching competition.

Board Member Cliff Williams extended a special thank you to Sara Goolsby her time and service her. Board President Hoegemeyer added his appreciation to Ms. Goolsby for all her help and for stepping into Acting Superintendent when we needed her.

FUTURE BUSINESS MEETINGS

There will be a Special Meeting next week.

The regular November Board Meeting will be held on November 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sharon Hill Jennette Willis ISD Administration Building at 612 N. Campbell Street in Willis.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Paulett Traylor to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.