

December 13, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on December 13, 2023 at Willis High School in the Performing Arts Center, 10005 Highway 75, Willis, Texas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Kyle Hoegemeyer called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 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 Hoegemeyer, presiding, Cliff Williams, Scott Carson, Paulett Traylor, Nikita Lagway.

Member Absent: Charles Perry, Sr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Hivnor thanked the Board and Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe for their understanding and diligence. Ms. Hivnor shared reasons why Board Member, Position #5, should no longer represent Willis ISD and wishes for this board member to resign.

Danica DeCosto spoke on UIL Sports with a request for the District to allow home schoolers to participate in sports.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 5:36 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. Discuss Teacher Resignations and Consider Approval of Teacher Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:01 p.m.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on the professional personnel presented in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MEADOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Meador Elementary School Principal, Tamara Good, introduced Meador students who led the pledges to the flags and the invocation.

Meador Elementary Honor Choir entertained those present with Christmas songs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Principal Good introduced and honored Elementary Student of the Month Grady Mitchell, a fourth grader at Meador Elementary. Ms. Good shared that Grady's teachers describe Grady as a student who is fantastic to teach, enjoys learning, loves to learn about engineering, has a sense of humor and is so kind, courteous and respectful to everyone.

Brabham Principal Dr. Shukella Price introduced Assistant Principal Danielle Hunnicutt who honored Secondary Student of the Month Jafet Beltran Serrano, an eighth grader at Brabham Middle School. Assistant Principal Hunnicutt shared that Jafet's favorite subject is math, he is active on campus, including athletics, he has positive words for all he meets and is the first to volunteer for any task giving one hundred percent.

Executive Director of Athletics and Fine Arts, Jason Glenn, celebrated volleyball and football athletes, thanked the coaches for all they have done and shared that Willis ISD has amazing coaches and kids being honored at this meeting.

Volleyball Awards – Director Glenn introduced Willis High School Volleyball Coach Megan Storms who introduced thirteen young ladies who are amazing volleyball players with great character and who achieved academic all district, all district honors, and all state academic. Coach Storms concluded by thanking the Board for honoring her and her team.

Football Awards – Willis High School Head Football Coach Trent Miller, who Director Glenn introduced as a leader of young men and someone who has had a real impact with the kids and the community, recognized football athletes who achieved Academic All District and/or All District Team Player. Coach Miller expressed his sincere appreciation for the community's support, the Board's support and for the coaches who sacrificed family time to support these boys and this team. Coach Miller spoke from his heart sharing that these young men have battled and work every day showing their commitment and love for each other and for the Willis community.

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

Community Involvement Liaison, Michelle Bischof, and Willis ISD Education Foundation members presented a donation to Willis ISD, \$80,845, the total for the 2023 Innovative Teacher Grants. Ms. Bischof shared that Foundation members visited campuses presenting the grant winners their checks and items are already being received.

Acting Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning John Vaglienly presented information regarding interim scores.

Assistant Superintendent Vaglienly presented the District Improvement Plan that has been written, reviewed and approved by District Leadership.

There were no questions regarding the Safety Performance Report for November 2023.

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

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe reported the student attendance on December 8, 2023 was 8,975 students.

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There were no questions concerning the 2022 Bond Projects Summary and information regarding the 2020 and 2015 Bond Issue funds.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

B. Approval of Management Safety Statement

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Executive Director of Student Services, Brad Mansfield, and Director of Guidance and Counseling Kelly Locke, discussed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Child Advocates of Montgomery County for student advocates. This agreement allows CASA to provide Willis ISD students with highly-trained volunteers, Student Success advocates, to support the students who are truant from school. Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe recommended this memorandum of understanding.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Cliff Williams to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the District entering into a MOU with the Child Advocates of Montgomery County. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Mansfield discussed the Willis ISD 2024-2025 Course Catalog: High School, Middle School and Elementary. Mr. Mansfield requested to add the following courses to the 2024-2025 WISD Course Catalog:

Plumbing Technology I
Practicum in Business Management
ASL 1 – American Sign Language
Fundamentals of Computer Science (Middle School)
Spanish II (Middle School)
3-D Modeling and Animation
Practicum in Animation
Practicum in Fashion Design

All course additions were recommended by Interim Superintendent Crowe.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2024-2025 Willis ISD Course Catalog including the above requested courses. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mansfield discussed the TASB Local Board Policy Update 122 which includes changes to the following local policies:

CQB(LOCAL): TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES – CYBERSECURITY

CSA(LOCAL): FACILITY STANDARDS - SAFETY AND SECURITY

DC(LOCAL): EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

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EHB(LOCAL): CURRICULUM DESIGN - SPECIAL PROGRAMS

EHBC(LOCAL): SPECIAL PROGRAMS - COMPENSATORY SERVICES AND INTENSIVE PROGRAMS

EHBCA(LOCAL): COMPENSATORY SERVICES AND INTENSIVE PROGRAMS - ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION

FEA(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FFAC(LOCAL): WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES - MEDICAL TREATMENT – wording will reflect that each applicable campus shall have at least two individuals who are authorized and trained to administer an opioid antagonist present during regular school hours.

FFB(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - CRISIS INTERVENTION

FL(LOCAL): STUDENT RECORDS

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Cliff Williams to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and add, revise or delete (LOCAL) policies as offered by TASB Policy Service for consideration and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 122 the Local Policy changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Director of Career and Technology, Travis Utecht, discussed the out of state travel request for the Culinary Arts Program, approximately sixteen students with district chaperones, to attend the Cook Around the World competition in Orlando, Florida, April 26-29, 2024. Interim Superintendent Crowe recommended this out of state trip where funds were raised all by students.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Nikita Lagway to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the out of state travel for the Culinary Arts Program. Motion carried unanimously.

District Planning and Construction Manager, Robert Eaton, discussed the Cannan Elementary Flooring and Paint Upgrades, Bond 2020 Project. Interim Superintendent Crowe recommended approval of this project with a total cost of \$2,442,356.00 to be paid from 2020 Bond Issue Funds and done through Kim Neal & Associates, LLC, a Texas Interlocal Purchasing System Awarded Vendor.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Chad Jones that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$2,442,356.00 from Bond 2020 Issue Funds, for the upgrades of the flooring and painting at Cannan Elementary. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eaton discussed the need for Construction Materials Testing Services for Middle School #3, 2022 Bond Projects. Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe recommended this project by HTS, Inc. Consultants with a total cost of \$158,579.00 to be paid from 2022 Bond Issue Funds.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Paulett Traylor that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$158,579.00 from Bond Issue Funds, for the construction material testing services for Middle School #3. Motion carried unanimously.

Construction Manager Robert Eaton discussed the need for professional Testing, Adjusting and Balancing (TAB) of the HVAC system for the New Middle School. Interim Superintendent Crowe recommended this project with a total cost of \$135,078.00 to be paid from 2022 Bond Issue Funds and done by TAB Technologies, LLC.

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Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$135,078.00 from 2022 Bond Issue Funds for Testing, Adjusting and Balancing (TAB) of the HVAC system for the New Middle School # 3. Motion carried unanimously.

Construction Manager Eaton discussed the need for professional commissioning services for the New Middle School #3. Interim Superintendent Crowe recommended these services to be done by EMA Engineering & Consulting in the amount of \$67,000.00.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$67,000.00 from 2022 Bond Issue Funds, for the commissioning services for the New Middle School #3. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eaton discussed Change Order Number 1 to the Willis High School Baseball and Softball Synthetic Turf Project, 2022 Bond. There is a need to utilize a contractual contingency fund in the amount of \$20,000.00; which will make the remaining balance \$189, 537.75. These funds are needed for fencing, back netting, poles, repairing, repainting, new dugout equipment, replacing dugout flooring and new dugout pads.

Board Secretary Chad Jones commented that he was proud that we had extra money to do this and compliment this great job.

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe expressed his appreciation to Mr. Eaton for bringing this to our attention and for finding a way to do these renovations and replacements which will improve the entire complex.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Cliff Williams that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Change Order #1 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe discussed Change Order #2, Final Acceptance of the 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. This is a deductive change order.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Paulett Traylor to approve the Change Order #2, Final Acceptance of the Work and Final Payment for the Additions to Lynn Lucas Middle School and Gym Addition to Elementary School Campuses (4 Elementary School Campuses) Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Board President Kyle Hoegemeyer expressed his appreciation of this great job and saving the district this money.

Interim Superintendent Crowe discussed Change Order #1, Final Acceptance of the Work and Final Payment to Durotech, Inc. for the New Pre-K Center Building Project.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson to approve the Change Order #1, Final Acceptance of the Work and Final Payment for the New Pre-K Building Project. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Crowe discussed the selection of an Architectural Firm for the Elementary School #7 Project. Elem #7.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Cliff Williams that the Board of Trustees select the firm of Stantec Architecture, Inc., a North Carolina Corporation, as the most highly qualified provider of architectural/design professional services for the Elementary School #7 Project and authorize the Superintendent to attempt to negotiate a contract pursuant to Texas Government Code §2254.004 and present the contract to the Board of Trustees for consideration and possible action. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Secretary Chad Jones expressed his appreciation to Mr. Crowe for working with Stantec.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Secretary Chad Jones commended the Willis High School Staff, WISD Counselors and Director of Guidance and Counseling Kelly Locke for the support they all gave to the Aquakats, the families and other students during the recent loss of a WHS student.

Interim Superintendent Tom Crowe expressed condolences to the Hardy Elementary Staff for their loss of a Hardy Paraprofessional recently.

President Kyle Hoegemeyer expressed appreciation for everything those at Willis ISD do each day and for each board meeting. Mr. Hoegemeyer also shared that Board Member Charles Perry and his family appreciates everyone's thoughts and prayers during the loss of his wife.

FUTURE BUSINESS MEETINGS

There will be a Special Meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. The regular January Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. Both meetings will be held at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Board Room 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 8:31 p.m.