

The Board of Trustees of Willis I.S.D. met in a Public Meeting Concerning the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget and 2021-2022 Tax Rate on August 11, 2021 at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Boardroom, 612 N. Campbell Street, Willis, Texas.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

President Cliff Williams called the Public 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: Cliff Williams, presiding, Rebecca Broussard, Paulett Traylor, Charles Perry, Sr., Robin Sproba, \*Christen Arnold, \*Kyle Hoegemeyer.

Members Absent: None.

\*arrived during public meeting at 5:35 p.m.

### **PUBLIC MEETING 2021-2022 BUDGET / TAX RATE**

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, Garrett Matej, presented information concerning the proposed 2021–2022 Budget and Tax Rate. This public meeting was advertised on July 30, 2021 in the Conroe Courier.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments and no questions concerning the proposed budget and tax rate.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Christen Arnold to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The public meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on August 11, 2021

at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Boardroom, 612 N. Campbell Street, Willis, Texas.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

President Cliff Williams called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 5:40 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: Cliff Williams, presiding, Christen Arnold, Charles Perry, Sr., Paulett Traylor, Kyle Hoegemeyer, Robin Sproba, Rebecca Broussard.

Members Absent: None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No public comments.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board entered into closed session at 5:41 p.m. for the purpose of considering matters for which closed sessions are authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Sections (.071 - .129): 551.074

A. Discuss Teacher Resignations and Employee Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:46 p.m.

There were no motions from closed session.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Superintendent Harkrider led the pledges and CTE Director Travis Utecht led the prayer.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

Dr. Harkrider recognized Deputy Jerrod Rhodes from Precinct 1 to thank him on behalf of WHS Athletics and Athletic Secretary Virginia Nickerson for all he does for Willis ISD.

### **STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS**

Care Here Clinic Director Jay Aschbach presented an update on the Willis ISD Wellness Center. CareHere has been purchased by another company and will transition to Premise Health by October 2021.

Superintendent Harkrider reviewed the Safety Performance Report for July 2021; no injuries, no accidents and no workers comp for July.

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

Superintendent Harkrider reviewed the 2020 Bond Summary, an update on bond issuance and district bond projects.

Executive Director of Facilities and Construction, Paul Dusebout, reported on the 2021 summer projects and updated the Board on the current status of the 2020 Bond projects. Dr. Harkrider shared that the water refill stations have been ordered and would be installed as soon as they

arrive. The Board thanked Mr. Dusebout and his departments / staff for the hard work this summer – great job!

Mr. Brad Mansfield reviewed information and changes that are being made to the Student Handbook for the 2021-2022 school year. The following items have been added and/or expanded:

- School Phone Directories (pp. i - xii)
- Updated assessment and crisis intervention protocol (pp. 5-8)
- Addition of Director of Guidance and Counseling as named support (pp. 5-9)
- Sexual Education not offered in Willis ISD (p. 14)
- Updated official attendance taking times (p. 29)
- Anonymous alert (pp. 32, 83)
- Campus Behavior Coordinators (p. 43)
- FAFSA or TASFA update (p. 62)
- Other examination or screenings (p. 71)
- Transfers between school (p. 92)

Director of Guidance and Counseling, Kelly Locke, discussed assessment crisis prevention protocol. President Cliff Williams thanked Mr. Mansfield and Ms. Locke for their presentations.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Christen Arnold to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching & Learning, Dr. Brian Greeney, discussed the need to contract with Solution Tree to provide Professional Development. Board approval is needed with cost exceeding \$50,000 for this 2021-2022 purchase. The total cost is estimated between \$60,000 and \$70,000.

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Rebecca Broussard to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the expenditures in relation to professional services provided by Solution Tree in excess of \$50,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Student Services, Brad Mansfield, discussed that the Student Code of Conduct had no significant changes from last year and Superintendent Harkrider recommended that the Board approve the 2021-2022 WISD Student Code of Conduct as presented.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2021-2022 Willis ISD Student Code of Conduct as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance, Garrett Matej, reviewed the proposed final budget amendments for the 2020-2021 school year; transferring funds from Maintenance and Operations and Intergovernmental Charges to Curriculum and Instruction, Instructional Development, School Administration, Guidance and Counseling, Health Services, General Administration, and Data Processing Services.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Christen Arnold to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to amend the 2020-2021 General Fund Budget by transferring funds between functions as listed above. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Matej discussed that to account for the updated debt scenario and cost of new debt issued in fiscal year 2021, the debt service budget needs to be amended to reflection the following increase to function 71:

**Debt Service (511)**

Beginning Budget	\$12,628,945
71 Debt Service (Increase)	\$ 753,602
Amended Budget	\$13,382,547

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Charles Perry to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to amend the 2020-2021 Debt Service Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matej discussed the need to transfer \$1,000,000 from Fund 755 Workers Compensation Fund to Fund 753 Health Insurance Fund to better strengthen the health insurance fund moving into the 21-22 school year.

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to transfer \$1,000,000 from Fund 755 Worker's Compensation Fund to Fund 753 Health Insurance Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Garrett Matej reviewed the proposed commitments of fund balance:

<b><u>PROJECT / ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
School Buses	\$ 600,000
Campus Improvement Projects	\$ 5,610,000
Stadium Enhancements	\$ 500,000
Enlarge Parking Lot Transportation	\$ 450,000
Renovations to WHS Auxiliary Field	\$ 5,000,000
Emergency Funds for Utility Costs	\$ 400,000
Future Insurance Claims	\$ 2,000,000
Purchase of Future School Site(s)	<u>\$ 5,140,000</u>
	<b>\$19,700,000</b>

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Robin Sproba to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the Board rescind all previous designations and replace them with the \$19,700,000 in commitments as listed on the following page. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Matej presented the recommendation to accept the certification of the debt service collection rate submitted to the District by the Montgomery County Tax Office for the 2021-2022 Budget Year.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Charles Perry to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to accept certification of the debt service collection rate as indicated in the letter on the following page. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Garrett Matej reviewed the proposed 2021-2022 budget information.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
199 General Fund	\$73,141,498
511 Debt Service	\$14,747,579
240 Child Nutrition	\$ 4,747,704

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2021-2022 proposed budgets for General Fund, Debt Service Fund and the Child Nutrition Fund as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matej reviewed the proposed 2021 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations. Board Member Christen Arnold requested that the district advertise that the tax rate has decreased, post the district's five year history and post how Willis ISD compares to other districts. Dr. Harkrider shared that all those issues are addressed during a bond election. Board members requested that this tax information be shared with local realtors.

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Paulett Traylor to adopt the 2021 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations of \$.8720/\$100 valuation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Matej reviewed the proposed 2021 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service and the 2021 Total Ad Valorem Tax Rate. Board member Christen Arnold complimented, "Good Job, Garrett!"

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to adopt the 2021 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Debt Service of \$.3000/\$100 valuation. I further move that the total property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.1720/\$100 valuation, which is effectively a 4.08 percent increase in the tax rate. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Support Services, Robert Whitman, discussed the need for adding additional personnel---to add up to ten teaching positions if they are needed during the school year to keep us in alignment on classroom size ratios. These additional positions will only be utilized as needed and the Superintendent will communicate with the Board regarding the use of each of these positions.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add up to ten (10) teaching positions if they are needed during the school year to keep us in alignment on classroom size ratios. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Whitman discussed the reclassification of existing positions:

1. ~~Special Education PEIMS Clerk to ITL Secretary~~ not at this time
2. Student Services Clerk to Student Services Secretary

Motion by Kyle Hoegemeyer and seconded by Robin Sproba to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the reclassification of the Student Services Clerk to Student Services Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

### **FUTURE BUSINESS MEETINGS**

The regular September Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING**

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Christen Arnold to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.