



WESLACO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

319 W. Fourth Street
Weslaco, TX 78599-0266

Winners. **I**nnovators. **S**cholars. **D**oers.

Dr. Priscilla Canales, Superintendent

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting:
Place:
Location:
Date:
Time:

Special Meeting
WISD Board Room
319 W. Fourth Street
July 1, 2019
7:04 P.M.

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Isidoro Nieto, Board President.
- II. The following board members were present

Isidoro Nieto, President
Dr. Richard Rivera, Vice President
Andrew Gonzalez, Secretary
Armando Cuellar, Trustee
Patrick Kennedy, Trustee
Erasmus Lopez, Trustee
Dr. Jaime Rodriguez, Trustee

III. Superintendent's Report

- June 24, 2019 Rain Event

Superintendent Dr. Canales presented an update on the heavy rains that occurred on Monday, June 24, 2019.

The picture below shows the flooding that occurred at the Transportation Department.



Around the District

The following observations were made:

1. The road to Las Brisas was impassable.
2. The Maintenance and Transportation departments were flooded. Buses and fleet vehicles were moved to higher ground at Mary Hoge and Rico.
3. While water surrounded our Warehouse, it appeared that the water did not enter the building.
4. FDR had minor flooding (library).
5. We did not have electricity at campuses North of expressway and off 1015.
6. Additionally, staff walked all campuses, and all were okay. Some minor damage to ceiling tiles due to roof leaks.

Flooding at Las Brisas



Transportation & Maintenance Departments



Buses & Fleet Vehicles at Mary Hoge



- Patrick Kennedy questioned why several buses were left at the Transportation Department.

Dr. Canales replied that the buses were inoperable and had not been used in years. The operable buses and fleet vehicles were not damaged because they were moved to higher ground at Mary Hoge Middle School and Rico Elementary. However, about 12 to 14 inches of water entered the Transportation Office, which will require repairs. The Gerloff Company was at the site the following morning to assess the damages at the Transportation and Maintenance departments.

Board President Isidoro Nieto commended Mr. De La Rosa and staff for making the decision to move the buses to higher ground.

- Erasmus Lopez wanted to know if there was a long-term plan to relocate the Transportation Complex to higher ground, and stressed the importance of getting the buses relocated to another location. He does not want staff to be on call every time there is rain in the forecast, or to be waking up drivers in the middle of the night to move buses.

Dr. Canales informed the Board that staff has discussed this situation and they are very concerned because of the flooding that has occurred in the past two years. The buses will remain at Mary Hoge and Rico campuses during the two weeks staff is out on vacation as a precaution in case any storms develop within this timeframe.

Mr. De La Rosa acknowledged the drivers/office staff at Transportation for their cooperation in moving the buses to higher ground, as well as the Maintenance staff for their assistance.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action to Ratify and Approve Procurement of Materials, Labor, and Other Services as Needed for the Immediate Repairs of the Weslaco Independent School District Facilities and/or Equipment Damaged as a Result of the Heavy Rains that Occurred in Weslaco, Texas On or About June 24, 2019, and Thereafter, Under the Authority of the Texas Education Code Section 44.03(h)

On June 24, 2019, and thereafter, unforeseen heavy rains occurred in the community of Weslaco ISD that caused heavy damage to buildings. On June 26, Hidalgo County issued a disaster declaration.

The heavy rains caused damage to the following district's facilities and equipment:

>Transportation:

- Main Office
- Maintenance Bay
- Lounge and Parts Office

Due to the emergency, the District will procure goods and services needed without following the normal procurement methods prescribed by law. As per Mr. Mike De La Rosa, Director of Employee Benefits & Risk Management, staff has filed a claim with the District's property insurance carrier. The cost will range from \$75,000 to \$80,000 and will more than likely fall under the policy's flood deductible. The repairs to the damaged facilities will be done during the summer.

Mr. Erasmus Lopez asked staff to come up with options to continue the roof repairs district-wide, and to find monies for the repairs.

Dr. Rivera made the motion to ratify and approve procurement of materials, labor, and other services as needed for the immediate repairs of the Weslaco Independent School District Facilities and/or Equipment damaged as a result of the heavy rains that occurred in Weslaco, Texas on or about June 24, 2019, and thereafter, under the authority of the Texas Education Code Section 44.03(h). Andrew Gonzalez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- V. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider the Selection of an Independent Auditing Firm to Conduct the Independent Fiscal and Compliance Audit of the District for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2019 with an Option to Extend the Contract for Two Additional One-Year Terms for Fiscal Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 (RFQ #19-06-26)

This item was discussed prior to going into closed meeting.

- VI. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of the Proposal Awards for Special Education Consulting Services: Occupational Therapy & Interpreting Services (RFP #19-06-35)

This item was discussed at the June 10, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, but was tabled by the Board pending additional information on the companies as requested by a board member.

The administration recommended that the Board approve the proposal awards to the following consultants to provide special education services for students with disabilities. All awards are subject to contract review by legal counsel.

Occupational Therapy		
Vendor	Rank	Points
P&G School Therapy Alamo, Texas	1 st	600
Kid Care Therapies Edinburg, Texas	2 nd	485
Believe-N-Care Rehab Harlingen, Texas	3 rd	465

Interpreting Services		
Vendor	Rank	Points
South Texas Interpreters, LLC McAllen, Texas	1st	570

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve the proposal awards for consultants to provide special education services for students with disabilities as recommended. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion.

Mr. Kennedy wanted to know why the services were awarded to different companies.

According to Mr. Neil Garza, Special Education Director, the services will be distributed among the three vendors throughout the year to ensure that services are always available in the event a situation occurs with one of the companies.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion made by Dr. Richard Rivera and Erasmo Lopez to approve the proposal awards for consultants to provide special education services for students with disabilities as recommended.

- VII. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of Change Order No. 1 to the Contract for the Construction of the New Band Hall at Weslaco East High School for Additional Work Needed and Corresponding Additional Days

On June 11, 2018, the Board approved NM Contracting, LLC for the construction of this project. Staff worked with ERO Architects, and NM Contracting (General Contractor) on the scope or work for additions needed to this project due to: unforeseen conditions, design adjustments, and/or additional work requested by WISD (determined as needed by staff).

The additional work was determined to be outside the scope of work as stipulated in the signed contract. The net cost of the additional improvements is to be paid/credited from/to the Owner's Contingency Allowance (\$80,000); therefore, there is no additional cost to the project.

Additional improvements will be paid from the Owner's Contingency:

Item No.	Description	Reason for	Cost Requested	Cost Accepted	No. Days Increase
CPR No. 1	Abandoned Irrigation Line: excavate and dispose of irrigation line section affecting construction, backfill, compact soil, and cap remaining line at both ends.	Unforeseen Item	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	14 days
CPR No. 2R3	Deletion of Millwork, Addition of Locker Doors, & Grout New Color: WISD staff requested the deletion of the storage millwork in Percussion Room included in the plans and requested the addition of instrument locker metal doors that were not included in the plans. A change in the grout color was requested.	Design Adjustment	(\$2,977.50)	(\$2,977.50)	10 days
Totals of Net Additional Cost & Additional No. of Days			Net credit	(\$477.50)	24 days

This project should be completed by early or mid-August.

Dr. Richard Rivera made the motion to approve Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the construction of the new band hall at Weslaco East High School for additional work needed and corresponding additional days. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider Approval of Change Order No. 2 to the Contract for the Athletic Facility Renovations Project at Weslaco High School and Weslaco East High School for Additional Work Needed and Corresponding Contract Days

This item is for the Athletic Facility Renovations Project for the Weslaco High School site. The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the following:

- Additional work needed under the Athletic Facility Renovations Project will be paid from the project contingency allowances, and
- Change Order No. 2 for corresponding additional contract days.

Listed below is a summary of additional improvements that will be paid from the Owner's Contingency:

Item No.	Description	Reason for	Cost Requested	Cost Accepted	No. Days Increase
CPR No. 2	Additional outlets at Weslaco High School to varsity locker upgrades. WISD accepted to modify electrical design to include power to varsity lockers to accommodate USB ports.	Unforeseen Item	\$13,470.00	\$13,470.00	10 days
Totals of Net Additional Cost & Additional No. of Days				\$13,470.00	10 days

The completion date for this project will be July 24, 2019.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve Change Order No. 2 to the contract for the Athletic Facility Renovations Project at Weslaco High School for additional work needed and corresponding contract days. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- V. Discussion and Possible Action for the Board to Consider the Selection of an Independent Auditing Firm to Conduct the Independent Fiscal and Compliance Audit of the District for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2019 with an Option to Extend the Contract for Two Additional One-Year Terms for Fiscal Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 (RFQ #19-06-26)

The Administration advertised a request for qualification statements from CPA firms to conduct the independent fiscal and compliance audit(s) of the district and received five responses.

The Board interviewed five (5) firms during a board workshop held prior to this meeting. The board members took a few minutes to rank the firms. The results of the ranking are as follows:

Firm Name Location	Ranked	Points
Burton, McCumber & Longoria, LLP McAllen, Texas	1	671
Cascos & Associates, PC Brownsville, Texas	2	624
Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC McAllen, Texas	3	620
Luis C. Orozco, CPA Pharr, Texas	4	566
Oscar R. Gonzalez, CPA & Associates Pharr, Texas	5	549

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the ranking as presented and to authorize administration to execute the contract for the first ranked firm of Burton, McCumber & Longoria, LLP from McAllen, Texas. Erasmo Lopez seconded the motion.

Mr. Gonzalez thanked all the firms for their presentations. Board President Isidoro Nieto and Dr. Richard Rivera commented that all the firms were very good.

Voting in favor of the motion made by Andrew Gonzalez and seconded by Erasmo Lopez to approve the ranking as presented and to authorize administration to execute the contract for the first ranked firm of Burton, McCumber & Longoria, LLP from McAllen, Texas were Andrew Gonzalez, Erasmo Lopez, Dr. Richard Rivera, and Armando Cuellar. Voting against the motion were Dr. Jaime Rodriguez and Patrick Kennedy. Motion carried with a 4 to 2 vote.

- IX. Closed Meeting to Discuss:

The Board convened in closed meeting at 7:24 pm.

A. Personnel Matters (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Employment of Personnel
2. Resignations

3. Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee (Tex. Gov't Code 551.074 and 551.071)

a. Superintendent's Recommendation for the Position of Principal at B. Garza Middle School

B. Consultation with Attorney Regarding: a) Pending or Contemplated Litigation: b) a Settlement Offer: or c) a Matter in Which the Duty of the Attorney to the Weslaco ISD under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas Clearly Conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code (Tex. Gov't. Code 551.071)

X. Reconvene in Open Meeting

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:56 p.m.

A. Possible Action, If Necessary, on Items Discussed in Closed Meeting

1. Discussion and Possible Action on Employment of Personnel

NEW EMPLOYMENT		
Name	Position	Location
1. Arnulfo Alaniz	7 th Grade Math Teacher	Mary Hoge Middle School
2. Barba Matthew	PE/ISS Teacher	Weslaco East High School
3. Johnny J. Ramirez	Math Teacher	Early College High School
ADDENDUM		
1. Jesus Aguilar	8 th Grade Teacher	Weslaco East High School
2. Vicente Guerrero	Choir Teacher	B. Garza Middle School
3. Irma C. Guillen	Choir Teacher	Weslaco East High School
4. Rana Rizwana	English Language Arts Teacher	Weslaco High School
5. Jesus J. Torres	Environmental Systems (Chemistry/Anatomy)	Weslaco East High School
6. Heather Hernandez	Special Education Inclusion Teacher	Central Middle School

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve the contracts for certified professional personnel as presented. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Resignations

The following retirements/resignations were presented for the Board’s information.

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS		
Name	Position/Location	Reason/Effective Date
1. Xochitl Bugarin	Teacher B. Garza Middle School	Ms. Bugarin is relocating to Oakland, California. Her resignation is effective May 31, 2019.
2. Elyssa De Leon	Teacher Weslaco High School	Ms. De Leon is resigning to accept a teaching position with another school district. Her resignation is effective May 31, 2019.
3. Ruben De Los Santos	Teacher Weslaco East High School	Mr. De Los Santos resigned to accept a teaching position with Edinburg CISD. Her resignation is effective May 31, 2019.
ADDENDUM		
1. Ivan Perez	Teacher Weslaco High School	Mr. Perez resigned to accept a teaching position with Sharyland ISD. His resignation is effective May 31, 2019.
2. Tomas Perez	Teacher Weslaco High School	Mr. Perez resigned for personal reasons. His resignation is effective May 31, 2019.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Superintendent’s Recommendation for the Position of Principal at B. Garza Middle School

On June 24, 25, and 26, 2019, a committee interviewed the top ten (10) applicants and ranked the top (4) candidates for the position of principal at B. Garza Middle School.

The top four (4) candidates were interviewed by the Superintendent on June 27, 2019. Dr. Canales recommended that the Board approve Mr. Gilbert Reboloso for the position of principal at B. Garza Middle School.

Andrew Gonzalez made the motion to approve Mr. Gilbert Reboloso for the position of principal at B. Garza Middle School as recommended. Dr. Jaime Rodriguez seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.