

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 18, 2018, 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, Dr. Ray Green, Dr. Mark Reid and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf. Mr. Randy Starks was absent.

Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss personnel (§551.074): consider resignations for professional personnel, consider employment of professional personnel, consider resignations of Tri County SSA personnel, consider employment of Tri County SSA professional personnel, discuss safety and security (§551.076) and hold a private consultation with the Board's attorney, if needed (§551.071).

Reconvene from Executive Session...

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board ended its closed session 7:04 p.m. on June 18, 2018.

Opening Activities

Dr. Hendricks led an invocation. The pledge to the American flag was led by Dr. Green and the pledge of the Texas flag was led by Mr. Wittkopf.

Public Hearing to Discuss Proposed 2018-2019 Preliminary Budget and Tax Rate

Director of Finance John Walker explained that with 1400 ADA at the end of the year the District fell below revenue expectations. Property values went up over \$36 million over last year. Even with a lower ADA, the District is able to decrease the property tax rate to \$1.5393/\$100 valuation, a reduction of \$0.02.

Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session

Dr. Reid made a motion to accept resignations from Curt Hale, CMS teacher; Linda Grubert, ACW counselor; and Joanna Byrd, ACW teacher. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to employ Susan Talbert, CMS counselor; Aaron Albert, CMS teacher; Charletha Wilburn, CES teacher and Jordyn Barnard and Baylea Higgs, ACW teachers. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to employ Linda Grubert as a Tri County SSA special education counselor. Ms. Herring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizens' Comments

None.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Herring made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 21 2018 and the special meeting on May 29, 2018 and the financial statements and investment summary for May 2018 with one correction (removing Dr. Reid name from a Tri County employment action). Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Amendment of the 2017-2018 Budget

Mr. Walker explained several amendments required to close out this year's budget including purchase of a police car, ESC services, SHARS, ERATE, the sale of bonds and other debt service fees. Mr. Wittkopf motioned to amend the 2017-2018 budget as presented. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Adoption of Proposed 2018-2019 Preliminary Budget

Mr. Walker explained the proposed budget was based on the budget study session held on May 29. Total expenditures in the operating fund will be \$13,857,972 with \$1,964.935 for debt service. He explained that the budget included a step raise for teachers and a two percent raise for other employees.

Dr. Reid motioned to approve the 2018-2019 preliminary budget as presented. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Adoption of the 2018-2019 Proposed Tax Rate

Mr. Walker proposed a tax rate of \$1.5393/\$100 valuation, a two cent decrease from 17-18.

Dr. Hendricks motioned to approve the tax rate of \$1.5393. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Property and Casualty Insurance

Mr. Walker explained that Trident Insurance Services was the sole bidder for property and casualty insurance, however; the cost is a decrease of \$2457 less than last year's cost.

Dr. Green motioned to approve property and casualty insurance carrier Trident Insurance Services for 2018-2019. Dr. Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Fiber 10 Network Proposal from Region 10 ESC

Director of Technology Al Shipp explained a proposal from the Region 10 ESC that would increase the bandwidth 50 times at a much cheaper rate. He stated that Regions 11 and 20 already had the fiber network and it was working very well. The district currently has 200 mg through Cumby Telephone. It needs to be increased which will cost \$900 per month. The new fiber cost will be \$1000 per month when it becomes available to the district in 2020. Mr. Shipp said after speaking with his ERATE consultant he was convinced joining the Region 10 project was a good move. The commitment papers will be signed in July.

Informational Reports

Mr. Alderman shared information for the Stuff the Bus and Back-to-School Bash.

The date for the July Board meeting will be Monday, July 16, 2018. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. for executive session, followed by the regular session at 7 p.m.

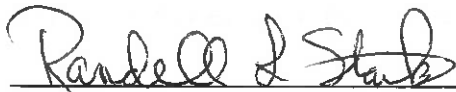
The check register was also presented.

Board Member Comments...

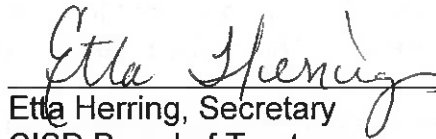
Dr. Hendricks said that the search for the new Texas A&M University-Commerce president was progressing and a selection should be made by late July.

Adjournment...

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Hooten stated that the meeting was adjourned.



Kathleen Hooten, President
CISD Board of Trustees



Etta Herring, Secretary
CISD Board of Trustees