

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Commerce ISD

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A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Commerce Independent School District was held on August 19, 2019, at 6:30 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. Ray Green, Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, Ms. Etta Herring, Dr. Mark Reid, Mr. Randy Starks and Mr. Gabe Wittkopf.

Prior to the called meeting, the Board toured the Family and Community Engagement Center, including the Carevide health care facility.

### **Executive Session...**

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 6:29 p.m. to discuss personnel (§551.074), safety and security (§551.076), and hold a private consultation with the Board's attorney, if necessary (§551.071).

### **Reconvene from Executive Session...**

Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board ended its closed session 7:09 p.m. on August 19, 2019.

### **Opening Activities**

Mr. Starks led an invocation. The pledge to the American flag was led by Etta Herring and the pledge to the Texas flag was led by Mr. Wittkopf.

### **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session**

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to employ Tara Tran, ACW teacher, and Brad Swain, CMS teacher. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wittkopf made a motion to accept the resignation of Erin Barker, diagnostician, Tri County SSA. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried with six ayes and one abstention made by Dr. Reid.

Mr. Starks made a motion to employ John Hill as a diagnostician for Tri County SSA. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried with six ayes and one abstention--Dr. Reid.

### **Citizens' Comments**

None

### **Public Hearing on A-F Accountability Rating**

Assistant Superintendent Patricia Tremmel explained that Commerce ISD and CHS received a B in the TEA A-F Accountability rating system, both coming up from a C last year. CMS received an F, while ACW received a D. Principals explained their plans for improvement. A DCIS (District Coordinator of School Improvement) must be hired to facilitate school improvement at CMS.

### **Discussion of FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)**

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that the District received the highest rating possible in the FIRST rating from TEA. Director of Finance John Walker's department was credited for their exemplary work. His department scored 94 out of 100 points to achieve the A.

### **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on July 15, 2019, and the special meetings of July 22 and July 26, 2019, and the financial statements and investment summary for July 2019. The motion carried with Dr. Green abstaining.

### **Consider Approval of the budget amendment**

Dr. Reid made a motion to approve the budget amendment to increase salaries as presented. Dr. Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Consider Adoption of 2019-2020 Proposed Tax Rate**

Dr. Green made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 tax rate of \$1.44328 (\$1.06835 for maintenance and operation and \$0.37493 for payment of principal and interest on debt), a decrease of \$0.09602 due to House Bill 3 requirements. Mr. Starks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Consider Acceptance of Certification of 2019 Appraisal Rolls**

Mr. Walker explained that freeze adjusted taxable values. Hunt County values went down; however, Delta County values went up.

Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the total certified appraisal rolls of \$470,498,770 with \$467,181,662 for Hunt County and \$3,317,108 for Delta County. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Review of Student Handbooks**

The Board was sent student handbooks to review prior to the meeting.

### **Discuss and Consider Nominating Candidate for Board of Directors of the Hunt County Appraisal District and Execute Resolution**

Superintendent Charlie Alderman explained that the City of Commerce was nominating John Sands and recommended that the Board follow suit so that Commerce will have a better representation on the Appraisal Board. Dr. Hendricks made a motion to approve the

nomination of John Sands to the ballot for the Hunt County Board of Directors and approve Resolution reflecting the same. Mr. Wittkopf seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Informational Reports...**

Mr. Alderman reported enrollment of 1511 as of August 19, 2019, up from the first day enrollment of 1446.

Principals gave their first week reports.

The date for the September Board meeting will be Monday, September 16, 2019. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Executive session will be held at 6 p.m.

**Board comments**

Dr. Hendricks announced that Commerce Strong, a community fellowship, would be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at City Park. Hamburgers, hot dogs and t-shirts will be given away. Bounce houses and slides would provide fun for the kids.

Ms. Herring announced that Mt. Moriah Church and CCAP provided a back-to-school supply giveaway to local students prior to the start of school.

**Executive Session...**

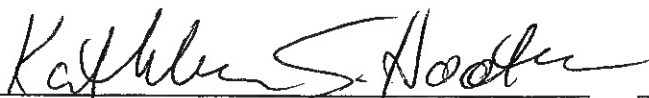
Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board would convene in executive session at 8:29 p.m. to discuss personnel (\$551.074).

**Reconvene from Executive Session...**

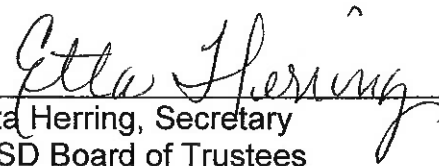
Mrs. Hooten announced that the Board ended its closed session at 10 p.m. on August 19, 2019.

**Adjournment...**

Mr. Starks made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Hooten stated that the meeting was adjourned.



Kathleen Hooten, President  
CISD Board of Trustees



Etta Herring, Secretary  
CISD Board of Trustees

# Resolution

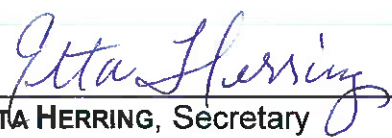
**BE IT RESOLVED** that on this the 19th day of August, 2019, the Commerce Independent School District, Board of Trustees voted to approve the nomination John Sands to serve a two-year term on the Board of Directors for the Hunt County Appraisal District

**IT IS, THEREFORE,** recommended by the Commerce ISD Board of Trustees that the name of John Sands be placed on the ballot of candidates for the upcoming election of the Board of Directors for the Hunt County Appraisal District.

**COMMERCE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**KATHLEEN HOOTEN, President**  
Commerce ISD Board of Trustees

Attest:

  
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**ETTA HERRING, Secretary**  
Commerce ISD Board of Trustees

# Ordinance


## Levying a Tax Rate for the Commerce Independent School District for the Tax Year 2019


**BE IT ORDAINED AND ORDERED** by the Commerce Independent School District (CISD), Commerce, Texas that

We, the Board of Education of Commerce Independent School District, do hereby levy or adopt the tax rate on one hundred dollar (\$100) valuation for this district for the tax year 2019 as follows:

<b>\$1.06835</b>	for the purpose of maintenance and operation
<b>\$0.37493</b>	for the payment of principal and interest on debt of this district
<b><u>\$1.44328</u></b>	<b><i>TOTAL Tax Rate</i></b>

The Tax Assessor-Collector is hereby authorized to assess and collect the taxes of the Commerce Independent School District, Commerce, Texas, on this the 19th day of August 2019.

  
Kathleen Hooten, President  
CISD Board of Trustees

  
Etta Herring, Secretary  
CISD Board of Trustees