

MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of the Sweeny Independent School District met in Regular Session at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, in the All-Purpose Meeting Room of the Administration Building located at 1310 Elm Street, Sweeny, TX. Dr. Glenn Garrison called the meeting to order. The Pledges of Allegiance to the American and Texas flags were recited and Dr. Glenn Garrison gave the invocation. All Board Members were present except for Mr. Willie Myles, Mr. Earl Mathis, and Mrs. Peggy Ellis

The following Board members were present:

Glenn Garrison, President
Jan Reddoch, Vice President
Donna Bohlar-Schroeder, Secretary
Mark Gregurek

The following Board members were absent:

Willie Myles
Earl Mathis
Peggy Ellis

The following staff members were present:

Randy Miksch, Superintendent
Dr. Donna Thompson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Compliance, Federal & Special Programs
Vincent Strother, Executive Director of Business & Support Services
Brian Brooks, Principal, Sweeny High School
Michael Saul, Principal, Sweeny Junior High
Michael Heinroth, Principal, Sweeny Elementary School
Martha Finley, Recording Secretary

Also present for this meeting:

John Ideas	Alton Ward
Holly Romero	Will Hendricks
Marjie Mitchell	Tammy Chenault
Jean Higgins	Jobeth Chenault
Sam Williams	Anthony Maenka – Brazoria County News
Kelli McKnight – The Facts	Greg Poole – Jigsaw School Financial Solutions
Frank Petteway, Sr.	Donna Gregurek

PUBLIC HEARING: Overview of Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) – Mr. Strother presented the FIRST report which is required by the 77th Regular Session TX Legislature SB 218. The District has received its FIRST rating which is the highest rating possible of Superior Rating with earning 66 out of 70 points. He then gave explanations of the 20 measurements in the report. The only portion that we scored a one on is debt which we pay off quickly and that is viewed negatively by the state. Mr. Miksch said that we will continue to pay our debt off quickly which is a benefit to the school.

Dr. Garrison announced that we will move from the explanation to the actual Public Hearing at 6:08 p.m. to discuss the State’s Financial Integrity Rating System for the School District. Are there any patrons that would like to address the Board or direct questions to the Board about the financial report at this time? The statement was repeated 3 times and Hearing was closed at 6:10 p.m.

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE REPORT – None.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - Will Hendricks presented the Board members with a personal invitation to the Brazoria County Fair. He will be participating in several events and encouraged the Board to attend. Jobeth Chenault spoke inviting the Board and their families to the Fair. She mentioned the hard work that goes into getting her heifers ready to show.

CONSENT AGENDA – MOTION was made by Mrs. Reddoch, seconded by Mrs. Bohlar-Schroeder, to approve Items A-G as presented and recommended. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A CONSULTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN SWEENY ISD AND JIGSAW SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, LLC

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:17 p.m.

Section 551.074	For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, Evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a Public officer or employee, or to hear a complaint or charge against An officer or employee.
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The Board reconvened into regular session at 6:54 p.m.

MOTION was made by Mr. Gregurek, seconded by Mrs. Bohlar-Schroeder to approve the consulting agreement by and between the Sweeny Independent School District and Jigsaw School Finance Solutions, LLC. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

Dr. Garrison stated for the purposes of “clarity”, Jigsaw School Finance Solutions handles and has conducted numerous negotiations for corporations around the state for pilot programs... 313’s. These are the source of abatement opportunities that bring industry to the state of Texas and they are also covered under school finance. We are hoping that Jigsaw will be able to facilitate agreements and donations from industries considering moving into the Sweeny School District.

PERSONNEL – none.

2013 BRAZORIA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION(S) FOR 2014-2015

Mr. Miksch said that every two years they elect Brazoria County Appraisal District Directors and we recommend that Glenn Salyer be nominated as our representative. Dr. Garrison asked how many votes do we get? Mr. Miksch answered 173.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Bohlar-Schroeder, seconded by Mrs. Reddoch to adopt the resolution to nominate Glenn Salyer to serve on the Board of Directors of the Brazoria County Appraisal District. All votes aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE SWEENY ISD TRUANCY DIVERSION PROGLRAM (TDP) - Mr. Miksch said that we have been looking for a program to educate and assist us with truancy and tardiness that we deal with every day. Angleton has a program they implemented last year that has shown good results with a 1.6% increase in the student attendance.

John Ideas presented the Truancy Diversion Program (TDP), which is a power point program, to bring the responsibility of truancy from the child to the parent where it belongs. The program is designed to bring the parent up to date about what is going on. To let them know what their child is doing in school, what their attendance is and what the outcome will be if they don’t become compliant immediately. The program will be

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presented by John Ideas speaking about the criminal aspects, Michael Heinroth speaking about attendance and education, and the counselor addressing the role of attendance necessary for graduation and their future. It follows the laws of the State of Texas to do more than just file charges on students.

Michael Heinroth said the tragic thing is we already have multiply students that have been filed on for truancy and taken to court this year. We need another step in the process before students are filed on. The stand out feature of this program is only 3 parent notes (ex. tardy – sick at home 3 days – leave early ...equals 3 notes) are excused. There are other excused absences that can be made by (DNA) a doctor's note, the school nurse, or an administrator. If a student gets three unexcused absences (whole or partial days) then the parent and student will be required to attend the program. Discussion followed.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Reddoch, seconded by Dr. Garrison to approve the implementation of the Sweeny ISD Truancy Diversion Program as presented and recommended. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

ANNUAL SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC) REPORT - Dr. Thompson presented the SHAC Report that is required by the state. One of the key elements that we addressed this year is the adoption of the Abstinence and Sexuality Curriculum to be taught at Sweeny Jr. High and Sweeny High School.

2013-2014 SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC) - Dr. Thompson presented the potential members of the 2013-2014 Sweeny ISD School Health Advisory Council to the Board for approval. She explained the requirements are that there be a parent member that serves as a co- chair or chairman of the committee and the majority of the membership is parents. A majority of the District representatives are from school health. The committee is required to meet a minimum of four times a year.

MOTION was made by Dr. Garrison, seconded by Mr. Gregurek to appoint the representatives listed above as presented to serve as official voting members or consultants to the Student Health Advisory Council for the 2013-2014 school year. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

JOHNSON CONTROLS CONTRACT RENEWAL - Mr. Strother explained that Johnson Controls provides preventative maintenance services for the High School on previously installed equipment/software. They have been our provider for the past 4 years and want to renew for an additional year. Dr. Garrison asked why not renew for more than 1 year. Mr. Strother said that they would be looking for someone else in the future.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Reddoch, seconded by Mrs. Bohlar-Schroeder to approve the preventative maintenance services contract with Johnson Controls as presented and recommended. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

ENERGY FOR SCHOOLS CONTRACT EXTENSION – Mr. Miksch said that we have been with Energy for Schools since 2001. They are a coop for schools to purchased energy at a very good rate. Mr. Strother said that they pool several districts to get a wholesale discount rate. The 48-month contract extension would cap our cost per kWh at \$0.05682, a savings of \$0.008 per kWh versus our current rate. We should save an estimated \$180,000 over the 48 month contract extension. Current contract expires on May 31, 2016 and this extension will add an additional four years. Dr. Garrison asked is there a ceiling on this agreement or rebid process? Mr. Miksch said they will execute a strike date when the price is lower and the price you see now is the absolute top.

MOTION was made by Mr. Gregurek, seconded by Mrs. Bohlar-Schroeder to approve the contract extension with Energy for Schools as presented and recommended. All voted aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICIES AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES - Mr. Strother presented the report and stated no changes are suggested in investment strategies or policies at this time.

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MOTION was made by Mrs. Reddoch, seconded by Mr. Gregurek to approve the investment policies and strategies including the listing of approved investment brokers, as required by the Public Funds Investment Act as presented and recommended. All votes aye. (4-0) Motion carried.

TAX RESALE PROPERTY – No tax resale this month.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Gregurek said that he attended the Technology Meeting last week and there were about 15 people in attendance. They made plans to meet again on 10/9/2013. They would have their goals by December.

Mrs. Reddoch said that she and Mrs. Ellis attended the 1st annual Student Council Installation Ceremony and it was a very nice presentation. JaCory Clarke did a great job and the sponsor said that it was his idea for the meeting. It was very well received and they were very impressed.

Mr. Miksch said that the foundation work at the Elementary School was bid out and D Square will be doing that work, it will begin in the spring. The Technology Planning Committee's main goal is to bring to you the long range plan by December. Infrastructure is the first thing we need to start with. Our staff is very talented and we are lucky to have them. We are moving in the right direction. Also, I want to remind you that Tuesday, October 15 will be Team Goal Setting and Wednesday, October 16th will be the Update Training in Pearland.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Garrison adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Dr. Glenn Garrison

Donna Bohlar-Schroether