

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

June 20, 2023

District Administration Building

6:30 p.m.

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting scheduled for 6:30 pm at the District Administration Office was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chuck Finnegan, President.

**ROLL CALL**

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

**PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Harman Hostetter.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

A motion was made by Steven Johnson to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Nathan Coombs.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed

## **ACHIEVEMENT/ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS**

### **BOCES Report**

Mr. Chuck Finnegan reported that the BOCES meeting was postponed. They are still discussing the hiring of a new BOCES Director. The board is leaning at sharing the director position with Southern Colorado BOCES. Mr. Edgar is concerned with the hiring of a SPED Director. He feels that the district needs a Special Education person for the day to day operations to serve our students effectively.

### **NCEA**

No Report.

### **Administration Report**

Armed personnel training was held on June 10-11<sup>th</sup>. The two day training focused on defensive handgun skills as well as trauma cars. Sanford School District had armed personnel members attend the training as well. This training satisfies the legal requirements the school district must have in place to have armed personnel in our schools.

The District health insurance new plan coverage begins July 1, 2023.

Professional development/training and workdays for all NCSD staff will be August 10<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>. First day with students will be on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Edgar reported that the District just completed the 5 year audit on transportation and students. There were some issues with pre-school students attending Sanford pre-school that reside in our district and we will have to pay back around \$60,000.

Mr. Edgar discussed the My College Options program that connects students in our district to postsecondary planning tools and nearly 1,000 scholarship opportunities nationwide. The program provides improved postsecondary planning and a more comprehensive snapshot of the educational needs of our students and their parents. This is provided at no cost, but we need to respond by July 6, 2023.

We are working on district on-line registration for the 2023-2024 school year. There will be a Campus training on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Darren and Gale are working on moving some the District monies to get better interest bearing accounts that will benefit the district with a higher interest rate on the CD's.

Mr. Edgar has been working on job descriptions at the District Office. Darren is also working on facility staffing and planning with the District Facilities Manager, Richard Ruybal. He is also working on IT planning and scheduling and a needs assessment with Brad Huffaker and Brock Miller.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **2023-2024 Employee Salaries and Benefits**

Mr. Edgar prepared a salaries and benefits handout for board discussion. He asked the board “are the salary increases offered in April 2023 employees competitive with neighboring school districts in light of some of their large percentage increases?” He gave the board updated information and rumors from SLV school districts and some scenarios to consider. After some discussion the board decided to move this discussion item to an action items.

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez moved to move discussion item 2023-2024 employee salaries and benefits 9a. to action item 10g, seconded by Nathan Coombs.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Concurrent Enrollment Teacher IGA with Sanford School District**

A motion was made by Steven Johnson to approve the concurrent enrollment teacher IGA with Sanford School District, seconded by Nathan Coombs.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

### **Board Resolution: 2023-2024 Adopted Budget**

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve the board resolution: 2023-2024 adopted budget, seconded by Harman Hostetter.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Board Resolution: Spending Down the Fund Balance**

A motion was made by Steven Johnson to approve the board resolution: spending down the fund balance, seconded by Mary Jane Valdez.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Capital Construction: General Contractor Proposals**

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve the capital construction: general contractor proposals as presented, seconded by Garth Crowther.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Hiring of Personnel for the 2023-2024 School Year**

A motion was made by Harman Hostetter to approve the hiring of Hayley Crowther Vail as a La Jara Elementary teacher and Jordan Romero as a Manassa Elementary teacher, seconded by Steven Johnson.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Resolution to Participate in Upcoming Elections**

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve the resolution to participate in the upcoming elections as presented with Randa McCarroll appointed the designated election official, seconded by Garth Crowther.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**2023-2024 Employee Salaries and Benefits**

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve a 2% salary increase for classified employees and 3-4% increase on BA vs. MA (on base salaries). Total % increase for 2023-2024 is 3-4% for classified employees, certified employees with BA is 5% and MA is 7%. The board also approved the district paying a concurrent education class stipend to teachers teaching concurrent classes and paying up to 3 credits annually for employee for recertification or masters. The board will continue a discussion on employee health benefits, seconded by Mary Jane Valdez.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

Meeting adjourned 8:27 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be on August 22, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the district administration building.