

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Fabens ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, July 22, 2020, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present: Orlando Flores Rey Sepulveda
Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia

Members Present via Teleconference: Adan Escobar Sylvia Gonzales
Ben Morales Greg Spence

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Dr. Veronica Vijil Ms. Michele Gonzalez

Administrators Present via Teleconference: Yvonne Coupland Mario Dominguez

Maria T. Rodriguez

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance 6:32 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Mr. Orlando Flores, Board President. Members present at Central Office: Mr. Flores, Mr. Rey Sepulveda, and Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia. Members attending via teleconference: Mr. Adan Escobar. Ms. Sylvia Gonzales, Mr. Ben Morales and Mr. Greg Spence. Mr. Morales led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Communication and Visitors 6:32 – 6:46 PM

A. To Submit Questions or Comments - please email: boardmeeting@fabensisd.net

B. Please click the link below to join the webinar:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-x1AKVIN4MC4_bHIShDLdg/videos?view_as=subscriber)

[x1AKVIN4MC4_bHIShDLdg/videos?view_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-x1AKVIN4MC4_bHIShDLdg/videos?view_as=subscriber)

or at www.fabensisd.net a link is available under the Fabens ISD Announcements Webinar ID # 982 7558 4433

Under this portion of the meeting, the following people addressed the Board:

Ms. Karen Martinez – Fabens Middle School teacher, requested clarification on the stipends for middle school. If they taught 6th grade, would they also get the stipend?

Does having a Master's degree make a difference? With the overlapping of grades what was the difference?

Ms. Sandra Bonilla – Fabens Middle School teacher requested clarification on certification needed for her middle school stipend to continue. She stated with the overlapping of the grades (4-8 and 7–12) she was not sure which one she needed.

Mr. Marco Martinez – Community Member and Parent thanked the Board for the board packets now posted and available to the community for the meetings and requested past packets be posted. He expressed concerns over the Tax Ratification Election held in 2018 and the funds that would be available if approved by voters; \$825,000.00 and questioned the current state on the district's finances. He stated the concerns he had with the fund balance and low reserves and for the district to run in the red. He stated that for years the community has asked the Board to make good choices and wise decisions in relation to the finances for the district. He asked the Board to conduct a self-evaluation. He requested that the Board members who were deficient in their continuing education credits make it a priority to fulfill their duties. An update of the public hearing scheduled for June 4, 2020 which could affect the finances of the district be provided to the community. He listed Exhibit A that contained several concerns over the opening of the new school year and what the district is doing to ensure the safety of all students, staff, and parents.

Ms. Lilia Garcia – Fabens Middle School teacher addressed the Board over a letter she received stating she will no longer qualify for her \$5,000.00 stipend due to her certification. She stated that she has received the stipend for the past 14 years. She hoped the district would protect its employees and asked for clarification on what exam to challenge.

3. Superintendent Report

6:46 – 7:23 PM

A. District Updates

Dr. Vijil opened the item and addressed the Board on:

- Mentor Program Allotment
- Instructional Model Parent Choice Form
- FISD Reopening Plan 2020 – 2021
- School Calendar

4. Consent Agenda

7:23 – 7:26 PM

- A. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes, June 17, 2020
- B. Fabens ISD Monthly and Quarterly Financials
- C. 2019 Property Value Study Report
- D. Approval of 2019 - 2020 Budget Amendments
- E. Approval of 2020 - 2021 Property Insurance
- F. Fabens ISD 2020 - 2021 Employee Handbook

- G. Approval of Fabens ISD 2020 -2021 Student Code of Conduct
- H. Fabens ISD 2020 -2021 Student Handbook
 - I. Fabens ISD 2020 -2021 DAEP Handbook
- J. Approval of 2020 -2021 Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Appraisers
- K. Fabens ISD 2020 - 2021 Texas Teachers Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Calendar

Dr. Vijil opened the item and read the Consent Agenda list. Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia motioned and Mr. Rey Sepulveda seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

5. Board of Trustees Business

7:26 – 8:39 PM

A. Discussion to Approve 2020 - 2021 Proposed Tax Rate and Select Date for Public Hearing on Proposed 2020 -2021 Tax Rate and Budget

7:26 – 7:54 PM

Ms. Yvonne Coupland, Chief Business Officer, presented the item. She presented a Power Point presentation giving a history of the proposed 2020 – 2021 tax rate with TEA assigning the final tax rate by August 31, 2020. A few questions were asked regarding the Board approving the proposed rate for publication and adopting a different rate. After the presentation, Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve a proposed tax rate of 1.36380 (1.0538 for M & O and .31 for I & S) for publication.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

Mr. Rey Sepulveda motioned and Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia seconded to have the public meeting on August 26, 2020.

Motion Carried 7 – 0

B. Selection of Date for Special August Board Meeting

7:54 – 7:56 PM

Ms. Coupland opened the item and explained that a Special Board meeting would be needed to approve the budget and tax rate after the public meeting. Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to hold a special meeting to adopt the budget and tax rate on August 26, 2020.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

C. November 3, 2020 Fabens ISD Board of Trustees Election

7:56 – 7:59 PM

1. Approval of Fabens ISD Order of Election

2. Approval of Board of Trustees Election Contract with El Paso County Elections Office

Dr. Vijil opened the item and read the Order of Election sent to the board members in their packets and stated that the contract for the election provided by the county had

also been sent. Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia motioned and Mr. Rey Sepulveda seconded to approve the Order of Election and the Election Contract with El Paso county Elections Department as presented.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

D. Approval of Personal Services Contracts in Excess of \$25,000

7:59 – 8:00 PM

1. Occupational Therapist

2. Visual Impairment Teacher

Ms. Michele Gonzalez opened the item and explained the need for the above personnel to be contracted through a Personal Services Contract for 2020 -2021. Mr. Greg Spence motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve the 2020 - 2021 contracted services for occupational therapist and visual impairment teacher as presented.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

E. Acceptance of Donation of Portable Digital Devices from Canutillo ISD

8:00 – 8:05 PM

Dr. Vijil opened the item and explained that the surplus digital devices Canutillo ISD has would be donated at no cost to the district prior to the beginning of the new school year to ensure the continuation of instruction. Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded the acceptance of the donation of at least 1,000 portable digital devices from Canutillo ISD.

Motion Carried 7 – 0

**F. Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Localized Policy Manual Update
115 Affecting Local Policies:**

8:05 – 8:08 PM

1. BF - Board Policies

2. DIA - Employee Welfare - Freedom From Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

3. DMD - Professional Development - Professional Meetings and Visitations

4. EI - Academic Achievement

5. FB - Equal Educational Opportunity

6. FD - Admissions

7. FEB - Attendance - Attendance Accounting

8. FFG - Student Welfare - Child Abuse and Neglect

9. FFH - Student Welfare - Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

10. FMF - Student Activities - Contests and Competition

11. FNG - Student Rights and Responsibilities - Student and Parent Complaints/Greivances

12. GF - Public Complaints

Dr. Vijil opened the item, Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded to add, revise or delete (Local) policies as recommended by TASB Policy Service and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 115.

Motion Carried 7 – 0

G. Fabens ISD 2020 -2021 Compensation Plan

8:08 – 8:14 PM

Ms. Audry Ortegon-Galvan, Human Resources Director opened the item and provided a short history of the compensation study done with Ms. Luz Cadena, TASB Compensation Specialist. Ms. Ortegon-Galvan did state that with the current financial situation the district is in and the uncertainty of COVID-19, only those areas below market value (custodians, food service, maintenance, transportation and some in the clerical/paraprofessional category) would be adjusted and teachers would receive their year of credit. She also stated that all employees would receive a \$250.00 flex card. Ms. Ortegon-Galvan answered a few questions from the Board. Mr. Rey Sepulveda motioned and Mr. Ben Morales seconded to approve the pay scales with the revisions presented by Ms. Ortegon-Galvan.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

H. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funding (ESSERF) Application

8:14 – 8:15 PM

Ms. Yvonne Coupland opened the item and explained that a requirement for this application was notification to our Board of the intent to apply.

I. Fabens ISD Mobile Hot Spots Purchase

8:15 – 8:17 PM

Ms. Michele Gonzalez, Asst. Superintendent, opened the item and explained that the Technology Lending Grant awarded to Fabens ISD was to be used for the expenses related to the purchase of hot spots for students. Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Avitia seconded to spend the balance of the Technology Lending Grant on hot spots for students.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

J. SLI Training Sessions: Discussion for School Board Officers with David Keompel and TASB Summer Leadership Institute

8:18 – 8:39 PM

Board Member, Sylvia Gonzales, addressed the Board on recent virtual workshops she recently attended. She explained that they were excellent workshops which covered several topic; including:

- How students are affected by COVID-19
- The need for more structure for all stakeholders
- The importance of the Team of 8
- Staying updated with information
- The need for training
- Being clear and consistent

- The importance of involvement by all
- Being accountable and communicating with all
- Trust and respect on the Team of 8
- Our Mission and Vision
- District Goals

6. District Employees and Officers

8:39 – 8:45 PM

A. 2020 -2021 New Hires

Ms Audry Ortegon-Galvan opened the item and introduce some of the new recently hired staff members who wished to Thank the Board:

Ms. Maria Becerra – Fabens Elementary

Ms. Maria Contreras – Fabens Elementary

Ms. Valeria Luna – Fabens High School

Ms. Maria Villarreal – Fabens High School

Ms. Alicia Garcia – Fabens Middle School

7. Lone Star Governance

8:46 – 8:53 PM

A. Selection of LSG Workshop Date

Dr. Vijil opened the item and discussed the need for the next Lone Star Governance workshop. Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded for July 29, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

8. Adjourn

8:54 PM

There being no further business, Ms. Rosamaria Gallo-Aviita motioned and Mr. Rey Sepulveda seconded to adjourn at 8:54 PM

Motion Carried 7 – 0

08/19/2020

Date Approved