

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, June 22, 2017

6:00 p.m.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTER/BOARD ROOM

904 Hester Avenue

Donna, Texas

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board President Mr. Efren Cenicerros called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. with the following board members in attendance:

Mr. Efren Cenicerros, President
Mr. Valentin Guerrero, Vice President
Mrs. Alicia Reyna, Secretary
Mr. Eloy Avila, Trustee
Mr. John Billman, Trustee
Dr. Donna Mery, Trustee
Mrs. Eva C. Watts, Trustee

The following administrators were in attendance:

Mr. Fernando Castillo, Superintendent
Mr. Javier Villanueva, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Mrs. Velma Rangel, Chief Special Programs Officer
Ms. Sandy Martinez, Accountant
Mrs. Alyssa Romero, Attorney
Mr. Juan Guerra, Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Fernando Castillo led a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The order of these agenda items may be changed. Consideration of items may include deliberation and/or action.

Mr. Fernando Castillo deleted E. (Conduct Hearing on the Proposed Nonrenewal of Christian Ray's Term Contract) will be heard at a later date and F. (Discussion Regarding Termination of Police Chief) will (both Executive Session and Open Session) be in Open Session.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Rescheduling Regular Board Meeting to July 25, 2017

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve rescheduling Regular Board Meeting to July 25, 2017.

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Billman, Mery and Reyna voted in favor. The motioned carried.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Nominations for the TASB Board of Directors for Region 1, Position A

No action on this item.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Findings From A Special Accreditation Investigation (SAI) Conducted by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Special Investigation Unit (SIU) Pursuant to the Authority Set Forth Under Texas Education Code 39.057

Trustee Dr. Donna Mery, had a question regarding the findings from a Special Accreditation Investigation (SAI) conducted by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Special Investigation Unit (SIU) pursuant to the authority set forth under Texas Education Code 39.057 to notify our community.

Trustee Valentin Guerrero stated for the record he had talked with Brenda Meyers the same day he received the actual letter (on a call back from Brenda Meyers) and had explained that the Board was totally new with the exception for the exception of Mr. Cenicerros. The rest of the six Board Members are all new. Mr. Cenicerros was in no way mentioned in part of this report. So I guess I would be free to say that the present Board was not in any way shape or form implicated in any wrong doing. Therefore, we try to be and remain as transparent as possible. And I think that the fact that we are going to invite the

Monitors to come in and help oversee if there is any deficiencies, irregularities or any other thing that we feel or that they feel needs to be brought to our attention. And we are going to welcome it as a sign of good faith that we want to make sure Donna ISD is as transparent as possible. We are welcoming this Monitor, if it is assigned to us and willing to work with us and I'm going to make sure, with Mr. Castillo, that he welcomes that person. Also so we want to make sure that we are proactive in this matter.

Trustee Efren Cenicerros said a few words about the findings from a Special accreditation investigation (SAI) conducted by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Special Investigation Unit (SIU) (pursuant to the authority set forth under Texas Education Code 39.057) that the allegations that were found by TEA occurred yes, they did. There is no denying that those things happened so there was no sense in appealing those things. If those things were indeed transpiring there was no sense and going in there and trying to defend something that was not defensible. So we are willing to accept whatever the Commissioner decides it is in his hands if he says we got a Monitor. We got a Monitor, we will work with the Monitor. We will welcome him here and if nothing else it will help get on the right track probably a lot faster.

Trustee Alicia Reyna added that the finding were between 2014 and 2016.

No action on this item.

- 1. Report and Update on the District Vision and Goal Setting Process**

Mrs. Alicia Reyna presented the report and update on the district vision and goal setting process.

- 2. Discussion and Possible Action on Memorandum of Understanding for Donna ISD and Teacher For America Accelerate Fellowship Interns**

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Donna ISD and Teacher For America Accelerate Fellowship Interns.

Trustee Guerrero made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Billman, Mery and Avila voted in favor. Trustee Reyna abstained. The motioned carried.

AS. ACADEMIC SERVICES

AS.1 Discussion and Possible Action on the Approval of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Contract in the Amount of \$22,794 for the 2017-2018 School Year

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Contract in the Amount of \$22,794 for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Billman, Mery, Ceniceros, Reyna and Guerrero voted in favor. The motioned carried.

AS.2 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the 2017-2018 School Calendar to Reflect the Revised 2018 Graduation Date for Both High Schools

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the 2017-2018 School Calendar to reflect the revised 2018 Graduation date for both High Schools (May 30, 2017).

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Billman and Reyna voted in favor. The motioned carried.

AS.3 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Purchase of Sing, Spell, Read, and Write Student Instructional Materials (English and Spanish) for Elementary Campuses for Pre-K-2nd Grades for the 2016-2017 School Year

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the purchase of Sing, Spell, Read, and Write student instructional materials (English and Spanish) for elementary campuses for Pre-K-2nd grades for the 2016-2017 school year.

Trustee Reyna made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Billman, Mery, Guerrero and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

AS.4 Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Donna ISD and Texas A&M

University Literacy-Infused Science Using Technology Innovation Opportunities (LISTO)

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Donna ISD and Texas A&M University Literacy-Infused Science using Technology Innovation Opportunities (LISTO).

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Billman, Reyna and Guerrero voted in favor. The motioned carried.

BF. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

BF.1 Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution to Approve Signatories on Depository and Other Accounts

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the Resolution to approve signatories on depository and other accounts.

Trustee Guerrero made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Avila. Trustees Mery, Billman, Reyna and Watts voted in favor. The motioned carried.

BF.2 Discussion and Possible Action to Award Vendor for "Re-Bid" of Request for Proposals (RFP) #010417-352 Electrical Repair and Services District Wide for School Year 2017-2018

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve to award vendor for "red-bid" of request for proposals (RFP) #010417-352 electrical repair and services district wide for school year 2017-2018.

Trustee Guerrero made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Billman, Reyna and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

BF.3 Discussion and Possible Action to Award Vendors for "Re-Bid" of Request for Proposals (RFP) #010417-353 Security & Fire Alarm System Monitoring Services, Parts and Repair Services for School Year 2017-2018

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve to award vendors for “re-bid” of request for proposals (RFP) #010417-353 security & fire alarm system monitoring services, parts and repair services for school year 2017-2018.

Trustee Mery made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Guerrero. Trustees Billman, Reyna, Watts and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

BF.4 Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Amendments for Special Revenue for the Month of June, 2017

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve budget amendments for Special Revenue for the month of June, 2017.

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Reyna. Trustees Mery, Cenicerros, Guerrero and Watts voted in favor. Trustee Billman voted against. The motioned carried.

BF.5 Discussion and Possible Action to “Reject & Re-Bid” Request for Proposal (RFP) #032417-358 Mops & Mats District-Wide for School Year 2017-2018

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve to “reject & re-bid” request for proposal (RFP) #032417-358 mops & mats district-wide for school year 2017-2018. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Billman, Reyna and Guerrero voted in favor. The motioned carried.

HR. HUMAN RESOURCES

HR.1 Discussion and Possible Action to Award Student Accident/Athletic Insurance for School Year 2017-2018

Trustee Billman made a motion to table to award student accident/athletic insurance for school year 2017-2018. It was second by Trustee Mery. Trustees Guerrero, Reyna, Watts and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

HR.2 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Proposed Policy FFA (Local) as Recommended by TASB

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the proposed Policy FFA (Local) as recommended by TASB.

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Billman, Guerrero and Reyna voted in favor. The motioned carried.

III. The Board Convened into EXECUTIVE SESSION as Authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, 551.074, 551.075, 551.076, 551.082, 551.083 and 551.084. . (7:06 p.m.)

- A. Discussion of Superintendent's Recommendation of Personnel**
- B. Discussion on District Personnel**
- C. Conduct Level III Grievance of Bernadett Caceres**
- D. Conduct Level III Grievance of Diana Quintanilla**
- E. Conduct Hearing on the Proposed Nonrenewal of Christian Ray's Term Contract**
- F. Discussion Regarding Termination of Police Chief**
- G. Discussion Regarding Approval or Rejection of Letters of Assurance**
- H. Discussion and Private Consultation with Attorney Regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Settlement Matters, and/or Matters Where the Professional Duty Under State Board Requires Private Consultation with the School Attorney**

The board reconvened back into open session at 11:11 p.m.

IV. OPEN SESSION - Take possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session.

- A. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve of Superintendent's Recommendation of Personnel**

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve the Superintendent's Recommendation of Personnel as discussed in Executive Session.

Trustee Avila made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Mery. Trustees Billman, Guerrero, Reyna and Watts voted in favor. The motioned carried.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve of District Personnel

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve District Personnel as discussed in Executive Session.

Trustee Guerrero made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Mery. Trustees Billman, Reyna, Watts and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Level III Grievance of Bernadett Caceres

Trustee Reyna stated that this was a hard decision.

Trustee Mery made a motion to deny Level III Grievance of Bernadett Caceres as discussed in Executive Session based on legal. It was second by Trustee Billman. Trustees Cenicerros, Guerrero and Reyna voted in favor. Trustees Watts and Avila voted against. The motioned carried.

D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Level III Grievance of Diana Quintanilla

Trustee Guerrero made a motion to approve to grant in part and deny in part the Level III Grievance of Diana Quintanilla as follows one the granting of any and all harassment or retaliation against Ms. Quintanilla for filing her claim be enforced the other remedy requested is being denied because it is out of our scope of ability to do what you are asking us to do. Right now there is still a pending forensic audit at this point we are going to deny the first part and approved the part on any type of harassment or retaliation. It was second by Trustee Billman. Trustees Mery, Reyna and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

**E. Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed
Nonrenewal of Christina Ray's Term Contract**

This item was deleted.

**F. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Termination of
Police Chief**

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve regarding termination of Police Chief.

Trustee Billman made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Mery. Trustees Cenicerros, Guerrero, Reyna, Watts and Avila voted in favor. The motioned carried.

**G. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Approval or
Rejection of Letters of Assurance**

Mr. Fernando Castillo recommended the board to approve regarding approval or rejection of Letters of Assurance as noted in with one individual that was discussed.

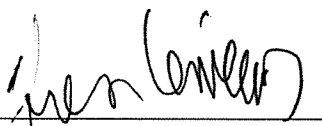
Trustee Reyna made a motion to approve the recommendation of Mr. Fernando Castillo. It was second by Trustee Avila. Trustees Mery and Cenicerros voted in favor. Trustees Billman, Guerrero, and Watts voted against. The motioned carried.

**H. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Regarding
Pending or Contemplated Litigation, Settlement Matters,
and/or Matters Where the Professional Duty Under State
Board Requires Private Consultation with the School
Attorney**

No action on this item.

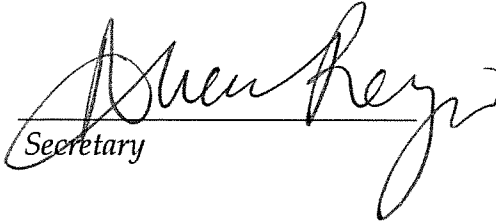
V. ADJOURN

Trustee Avila made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was second by Trustee Watts. Trustees Mery, Guerrero and Reyna voted in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 p.m.



President
Board of Trustees
Donna ISD

or



Secretary

Date Approved: July 25, 2017