

MINUTES OF THE **OPEN SESSION OF A SPECIAL MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, RESCHEDULED FROM JULY 19, 2011 AND HELD ON **THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011** IN ROOM 1630 AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the President pursuant to notice. The President announced the meeting was a continuation of the July 19, July 11 and June 21, 2011 meetings.

PURPOSE OF
MEETING

A copy of the meeting and certification by the Secretary are a part of the official minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams answered. Dr. Betheny Lyke, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Community Relations; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Mrs. Leslie Morris, Coordinator of Business Services; Mr. Brad Beilfuss and Mrs. Dorith Johnson, Co-Principals of Thornridge High School; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Principal of Thornton High School; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Principal of Thornwood High School; Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President; Mrs. Deborah Scaletta, Faculty Association Executive Director, and Mr. Anthony Bass, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the Food Service Bid** to Arbor Management in the amount of \$1,801,888.85 as presented by Dr. Lyke. In accordance with Illinois School Code, the lowest responsible bidder must be awarded the bid. Arbor will continue to work with students and staff to improve the food service. A discussion ensued concerning accepting the second lowest bidder which is approximately \$20,000.00 more than Arbor.

APPROVAL OF
FOOD SERVICE BID

Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Defer the Food Service Bid** for further review by the Finance Committee and all Board members. On roll call, Members K. Williams, T. Williams and Robinson voted aye; Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion failed.

MOTION TO DEFER
FOOD SERVICE BID

For the record, Mr. Williams stated the Finance Committee did not discuss the Food Service Bid; the Board has not reviewed the bids nor had conversation with the bidders in an open meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted aye for the lowest bidder; Member K. Williams voted aye and stated he did so to enable him to bring the matter before the Board in the future; Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
FOOD SERVICE
BID, Con't.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Emergency Extension of the 2011-2012 Transportation Contract** as presented by Dr. Lyke. The proposal from the incumbent vendor for the one-year extension is reasonable, proper and beneficial to the District. An analysis followed by a revised schedule was prepared due to decreased transportation needs. Any savings to the District will be determined after a Business Manager is hired. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
EMERGENCY
EXTENSION OF
2011-2012
TRANSPORTATION
CONTRACT

Mr. Williams requested that Items 5, 6 and 7 be stricken from the Agenda. Mr. Crayton stated that the agenda must be followed. Mr. Williams recited Board Policy regarding rescheduling of Board meetings. Mrs. Williams stated that the Policy Committee had not met regarding Agenda Item 6 and therefore the item could not proceed. Regarding Agenda Item 5, Mr. Williams stated he did not receive the contract within 48 hours prior to the Board meeting nor had any Board conversation regarding the terms of the contract and therefore was striking it from the agenda.

REQUEST TO
STRIKE AGENDA
ITEMS 5, 6 AND 7

Mr. Crayton moved to defer Agenda Item 5 to Executive Session. Mr. Williams responded that nothing will be discussed that is not a valid agenda item and it will be moved to the next Board meeting.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, for **Vice President Edward Crayton to Preside Over the Meeting**. Mrs. Williams requested the administrative leave communication to Dr. McJunkins. A discussion ensued about the legality of Dr. McJunkins' contract, which was previously signed and afterwards approved at the July 13th Board meeting.

MOTION TO
WITHDRAW
MOTION TO
APPOINT VICE
PRESIDENT TO
PRESIDE OVER
MEETING

Legal counsel stated that the President is required to follow the legal agenda. If the items are to be removed, it must be through proper motion and vote.

The discussion continued regarding notice of the acting superintendent contract.

Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. Banks withdrew the motion to appoint Vice President Edward Crayton to preside over the meeting.

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Table the Approval of the Acting Superintendent Contract**. On roll call, Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion failed.

MOTION TO TABLE
APPROVAL OF
ACTING
SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Approve the Acting Superintendent Contract**. Mr. Williams stated that District 205 currently employs an Interim Superintendent whose contract expires August 8, 2011. He does not believe it is appropriate to award a second contract for the same title/position. He has not received and asked for the letter regarding the dismissal of Dr. McJunkins. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted aye; Member Robinson abstained; Member K. Williams voted aye and stated that as Board President he does not agree with this action but voted yes to enable him to bring the matter before the Board in the future; T. Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ACTING
SUPERINTENDENT
CONTRACT

Mrs. Lawrence moved for Vice President Edward Crayton to preside over the meeting as President *Pro Tem*. Mr. Williams denied the motion and addressed Agenda Item 6.

MOTION FOR
PRESIDENT *PRO*
TEM

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the Resolution Approving Amendment to the Following School Board Policies and Procedures: 2:105; 2:110; 2:125; 2:150; 2:160; 2:220 and 3:70**. Mrs. Williams stated the Policy Committee has not met to discuss any changes to any policies and repeatedly asked what is the emergency to replace the Board President. Mr. Williams presented information regarding the approval of charges. He did not receive all the facts regarding the charges and requested a 30-day continuance in order to seek legal counsel. He asked for all discovery including a list of witnesses and supporting documentation for the charges that will be used at the hearing. Mr. Bass explained that the authority vested in the President will be vested in the Vice President until April 2013. He advised that no comments be made regarding any litigation and to only address agenda items. The question Mrs. Williams asked about the emergency is related to the litigation. Mr. Williams commented about the regulations of the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Banks asked Mr. Williams to please call the roll. Mr. Williams did not call the roll.

APPROVAL OF
RESOLUTION NO.
2011-1

Mrs. Lawrence moved and Mr. Banks seconded to close the discussion. Mr. Banks requested Mr. Williams to please call the roll for the second time. Mr. Williams did not call the roll.

MOVE TO CLOSE
DISCUSSION

At 10:07 p.m., Mr. Williams left the meeting and the President's chair was vacant. Mrs. Williams stated the meeting was in violation of the Open Meetings Act regarding the policy change.

MR. WILLIAMS LEFT
MEETING

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Appoint Vice President Edward Crayton as President** to preside over the meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson and T. Williams voted nay; President Williams was absent; motion passed.

MOTION TO
APPOINT VICE
PRESIDENT TO
PRESIDE OVER
MEETING

At 10:09 p.m., Mr. Williams joined the meeting.

MR. WILLIAMS
JOINED MEETING

On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson and T. Williams voted nay; President Williams stated he would not vote because it was a conflict of interest; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
RESOLUTION NO.
2011, Con't.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Approve the Resolution Approving the Forwarding of the Approved Charges for Removal from the Board to the Regional Superintendent, Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Attorney General or its designee under Illinois House Bill 16 for a hearing on the matter (Board Policy 2:60)**. When asked for clarification, Mr. Bass stated that due to the abolishment of the Cook County Regional Superintendent's office, those duties have been assumed either by the Illinois State Board of Education or the Attorney General's Office. He further stated that this Resolution provides for the matter to be sent to the appropriate authorities for a hearing on removal of a Board member. Mr. Williams stated he did not receive notice of the charges to be able to prepare his defense. Mrs. Williams stated that she was not involved in any discussions regarding this matter. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson and T. Williams voted nay; Mr. Williams removed himself from the voting process due to the conflict; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
RESOLUTION NO.
2011-2

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Toni Williams (Board Member) asked Dr. Lyke about an employee termination surrounding a sensitive situation concerning the United Nations Summer Leadership Academy. Dr. Lyke responded a communication will be forwarded to the Board.
- Peggy Taylor (Dolton): 1) asked for the status on the search for a permanent Superintendent, and 2) wants to be on the interview committee for the Superintendent. Mr. Williams responded: 1) The IASB representative has cancelled the last two scheduled presentations and the position has been posted nationally.
- Rose Taylor (Dolton) stated she filed a lawsuit against District 205 for violation of the Open Meetings Act.
- Jeanita Eaves (Harvey) stated she does not want to be videotaped and had no knowledge it was occurring. She asked for the policy to be posted.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) stated: 1) she does not want to be videotaped; 2) Mr. Burton was absent on May 26, 2011 so there was not a 7-0 vote as stated by Mr. Williams; 3) the 1-2-3 vote campaign was to save Thornridge High School started by the Dolton Youth Commission; 4) the Board has violated the Roberts Rules of Order; 5) the signing of Dr. McJunkins contract was not documented in any of the minutes; 6) the District is in the state it is in because Mr. Williams put a freeze on spending.
- Bernadette Lawrence (Board member) stated the policy regarding videotaping should be reviewed by the Board.
- Jackie Franklin (South Holland) asked: 1) who is the acting Superintendent at this time; 2) stated the District is paying Dr. McJunkins and Dr. Lyke; Mrs. Lawrence responded: 1) Dr. Betheny Lyke; 2) Yes, until August 8, 2011.
- Vivienne Williams (Dolton) asked: 1) asked the protocol for student accident claims; 2) she, Evelyn Sorrell, Mertis Brown and Melinda Vernon request to be on the panel to select the Superintendent, and 3) it is legal to photograph at Board meetings. 1) Dr. Lyke stated personal insurance is primary; District 205 insurance is secondary.

- Anita Graham (South Holland) requested to be on the committee to interview for the new Superintendent.
- Jeff Coleman stated this situation is not right and nothing is about the children.
- Willie Richardson (South Holland) stated he believes there are Board members who have allegiance to the political establishment not geared toward the school and trusts the community will act accordingly to remove those members.
- A. P. Johnson stated adults need to be respectful to students and asked who is signing off on checks for legal counsel.
- Michael Smith (Dixmoor) asked: 1) A certain village trustee cannot sit on a school board, and 2) is it true the Board cannot vote on issues during a special meeting. 1) Mr. Burton responded that he resides in South Holland, and 2) Mr. Bass responded no.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION
Con't.

At 10:50 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary

rp(spec brd mins 7-21-11)
REGULAR SESSION