

Terrell County Independent School District

Sanderson, Texas 79848

Meeting Minutes from December 20, 2023, Board Meeting

The Terrell County Independent School District convened for the regular meeting on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 7:00 P.M., in the conference room at the Sanderson High School, 302 North Second Street, Sanderson, Texas.

**Trustees Present:**

Mr. Jon Tom Lowrance

Mrs. Lali Ortiz

Mr. Enrique Rivera

Mr. Clay Houston

Mr. Marco Fuentes (arrived at 7:24)

**Administration and TCISD Staff Present:** Tanna Lowrance, Interim Superintendent, Justin Hilliard, Athletic Director, Blain Chriesman, Chief Financial Officer, Jessica Harkins; Elementary Teacher, Tami Carrasco; Elementary Teacher

**Community Members:**

**Regular Meeting**

A quorum was established with Mrs. Ortiz presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. The pledges were said, and a moment of silence was observed.

**There were no public comments.**

Board training hours will be completed during Summer Learning Institute. Mr. Lee will provide Mr. Case with all new board member training. Mr. Rivera and Mr. Lowrance received all needed training as new board members during their SLI '23.

**District Reports:**

- a. **Athletic Report:** - Coach Hilliard reported on the following:
  - i. Varsity Girls GPA was 94.2 and Varsity Boys was 84.5 for the 2nd grading period.
  - ii. The Sanderson Basketball Tournament was a success. All teams enjoyed the tournament and we broke even financially.
  - iii. We will begin district basketball against Comstock
  - iv. The coaches are working to clean the connex at the track and have expressed the need to purchase a new high jump bar
  - v. Football all Region team was announced
  
- b. **Counselor's Report:** - Mrs. Garza was unable to attend the meeting, Mrs. Lowrance presented her report:
  - i. There have been a few more college acceptances
  - ii. Counseling groups have continued
  - iii. Gearing up for Scholarships and FAFSA come January
  - iv. We did not have anyone STAAR or EOC test in the month of December
  
- c. **SHAC Report:** Postponed until January

d. Elementary and JH UIL District Report: Mrs. Harkins reported that the elementary UIL meet was a success as Sanderson hosted the event. The elementary won the district UIL meet with 578.3 points. The JH won 2nd place at the district UIL meet held in Rankin with a total of 869 points.

c. Financial Report- Mr. Chriesman reported on the following:

- i. Mr. Chriesman reported on the monthly financial report
- ii. he also explained the list of bills and checks in the board packet
- iii. Increase Budget Amendments include:  
Security & Monitoring Professional & Contracted Services for \$3,000.00  
Transfer Out - TEA for \$1571.00  
for a total of \$4571.00
- iv. Decrease Budget Amendments include:  
Instruction-Payroll Costs for \$4,571.00

d. Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Lowrance reported on the following:

- i. Maintenance and Transportation: Mr. Stegall will work to get our yellow bus running by the end of January. Apartment C will be rented out to a new Border Patrol Agent for \$500.00 per month plus utilities with a \$300.00 deposit. The maintenance department has changed the oil on all the vehicles and is making sure all inspections are up to date.
- ii. Preliminary Report for the Administrative / Procurement Cafeteria Audit - (see attached audit report)
- iii. Guardian Program Update - the following has been ordered or prices are being obtained for ordering: lockboxes, safety vests, signage. We had our second safety meeting and have finalized guidelines.
- iv. Hellas Track Update - Hellas has indicated they will be on site the last week of January to address the additional concerns of the district
- v. Safety Projects - We have been awarded \$127,000 in Safe Grant - Cycle 1 for: doors, fencing, door numbers, and additional needs as per the needs assessment. VGI has been on campus completing new keyless door knobs. A notice regarding the Guardian program went out via social media and Blackboard to all stakeholders.
- vi. Science Lab Update - PPG Furnishings (Conrad Ariolla) have been in communication with me regarding the over purchase of furniture for the science lab (desks), the purchase of bar height stools rather than counter height stools, and the delay in delivery of our second science lab table. We are working to exchange unneeded furniture for furniture that will better accommodate the science lab.
- vii. Honeywell Energy Awareness Report (HEAR) Year 12 (see attached)
- viii. 3rd 6-Weeks Celebrations and Events - We did have to close the school on 12-8-23 due to illness. We have had several holiday activities including a holiday ornament exchange and elementary literacy night. Semester exams will be the last week of the semester. The library is encouraging students to keep reading with a holiday reading bingo. Again, we are focusing on READING this year and EVERYONE has supported this effort.
- ix. TASB Policy Update 122 (LEGAL) rEVIEW

## **Consent Agenda:**

Approval of the minutes from the Regular and Special Board Meetings on November 15, 2023.

A motion was made by Mr. Houston to accept the minutes as presented and a second was made by Mr. Rivera. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Budget Amendments as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Houston to approve the budget amendments as presented and a second was made by Mr. Rivera. The motion passed 5-0.

**Action Items:** Presenter: Tanna Lowrance

- 1. Discussion and possible approval of allowing EMS personnel to utilize the weightroom**  
The motion was made by Mr. Houston with Mr. Lowrance seconding the motion to deny usage of the TCISD weightroom to EMS personnel. The motion carried 5-0.
- 2. Discussion and possible approval of the 588 Education Cooperative Agreement (specifically related to changes in 2.6 and 2.7)**  
The motion was made by Mr. Houston and Mr. Fuentez seconded the approval of the 588 Cooperative Agreement as presented. The motion carried 5-0.
- 3. Discussion and possible Approval of the employment of chaplains or to accept chaplains as volunteers for providing students support, services, and programs assigned by the board (House Bill 763)**  
The motion was made by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Rivera to approve option #3 as stated 'does not permit a district campus to employ or accept as a volunteer a chaplain to provide support services, and programs for students at this time'. The motion carried 5-0.
- 4. Discussion and possible Approval of TASB Policy Update 122 (LOCAL)**  
**CQB(LOCAL): TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES - CYBERSECURITY**  
**CSA(LOCAL): FACILITY STANDARDS - SAFETY AND SECURITY**  
**DC(LOCAL): EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES**  
**EHB(LOCAL): CURRICULUM DESIGN - SPECIAL PROGRAMS**  
**EHBC(LOCAL): SPECIAL PROGRAMS - COMPENSATORY SERVICES AND INTENSIVE PROGRAMS**  
**EHBCA(LOCAL): COMPENSATORY SERVICES AND INTENSIVE PROGRAMS - ACCELERATED INSTRUCTION**  
**FEA(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**  
**FFAC(LOCAL): WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES - MEDICAL TREATMENT**  
**FFB(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - CRISIS INTERVENTION**  
**FL(LOCAL): STUDENT RECORDS**  
The motion was made by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Fuentez to approve (LOCAL) TASB Policy updates as offered by TASB Policy Service for consideration and according to the Instruction Sheet for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 122 with no changes. The motion carried 5-0.
- 5. Consideration of approval of Appraisal Services Contract for the 2024-2025 Tax Years**  
The motion was made by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Houston to approve the Appraisal Services Contract for the 2024-2025 Tax Years. The motion carried 5-0.

**6. Consideration of approval of Interlocal Contract between school district and appraisal district for performance of appraisal duties by the school district for the 2024 Tax Year**

The motion was made by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Houston to approve the Interlocal Contract between school district and appraisal district for performance of appraisal duties by the school district for the 2024 Tax Year. The motion carried 5-0.

**7. Consideration of of appointing 2 individuals from the board of trustees membership to serve on the Terrell County Appraisal District Board of Directors for a two (2) year term beginning January 1, 2024**

The motion was made by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Fuentez to appoint Mr. Enrique Rivera and Mr. Clay Houston as members of the board of trustees to serve on the Terrell County Appraisal District Board of Directors for a two (2) year term beginning January 1, 2024. The motion carried 5-0.

**8. Consideration of nominating one individual to serve in the at-large position on the Terrell County Appraisal District Board of Directors for a two (2) year term beginning on January 1, 2024. Nomination is subject to ratification by Terrell County Commissioners Court**

No action was taken at this time.

**9. Executive Session: Pursuant of Texas Governmental Code §551, the board may retire to closed session for discussion of items listed below:**

- a. Personnel
- b. Cafeteria
- c. Guardian Program Guidelines
- d. Superintendent Appraisal

At 8:35 the board took a break and went into executive session at 8:40. The board returned to open meeting at 8:55.

**10. Return to Open Meeting for Consideration/Adoption of Closed Meeting Items:**

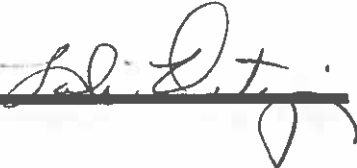
The motion was made by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Fuentez to approve the Superintendent Appraisal of Mrs. Lowrance as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Lowrance abstaining.

The motion was made by Mr. Lowrance and seconded by Mr. Houston to approve the Guardian Program Guidelines as presented. The motion carried 5-0

**11. Adjourn**

The motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Rivera. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ortiz adjourned the board meeting at 10:12 p.m.

X 

Mrs. Lali Ortiz  
President

X 

Mr. Fernando Sanchez  
Secretary