The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at twelve (12:00) o'clock p.m. at its regular meeting place, the Ouachita Parish School Board office.

Note: There were no comment cards completed for any agenda business item addressed in this meeting.

Presence of the following members was verified through roll call: Tommy Comeaux, Shere May, Mike Batey, Jerry R. Hicks, Harold McCoy, Dabo Graves, and Greg Manley.

President Comeaux called the meeting to order as he welcomed visitors and guests, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Shere May and the Invocation offered by West Monroe High School student Briley Brothers.

Jerry Hicks made the motion, seconded by Mike Batey, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting as written. After much discussion, motion carried.

Jerry Hicks made the motion to amend the Agenda to include item # 7 under Business, seconded by Shere May, motion carried without opposition. Upon motion made by Shere May, seconded by Jerry Hicks, the board approved the amended agenda. Motion carried by all members.

During the Personnel Report made by Superintendent Guice, the following newly appointed positions were reported; Richwood High, Sam Andrews, Interim Assistant Principal, Dean Smith, Interim Assistant Principal at Richwood Middle, and Garrah Rankin, Title II Coordinator.

President Comeaux introduced the first item of business – Presentation of the Annual Report on the 4-H Program by Tara Garlington, Elementary Focus, and new to Ouachita Parish, Bethany Corona, Secondary Focus. They reported growth for the year with 870 enrollment, 134 in shooting clubs, 23 school clubs. They plan to focus on growing school clubs.

The 2nd item of business was introduced by Elmer Noah, the Cooperative Agreement By and Between the Ouachita Parish School Board and Innovative Network of Knowledge ("INK") regarding the Ransom Elementary School Property. The Initial term of the contract will be for one year at $3000.00 per month, Grantee will then have the right to convert the Agreement to a term of four years or through 2028, whichever occurs last. In lieu of Rent, the Grantee agrees to perform any and all renovations, maintenance, upkeep and repairs. Ouachita Parish School System will pay property insurance with the Grantee insuring the contents and carrying liability insurance. The Grantee will have the option to renew after the four years with five, 1-year successive terms. Greg Manley made the motion to accept the terms of the Endeavor Agreement and seconded by Shere May. The motion carried unanimously.

The 3rd item of business, Policy Introduction and Review was presented by Carrie Ferguson. She stated the policies would go before the Policy Review Committee on August 22, 2023 and be brought back to the School Board in September for approval.

The Financial Report for June 30, 2023, the 4th item of business, was presented by Regina Mekus. The General Fund is showing a $19,576,002 balance with M & O showing $31,003,010 ending balance. These figures for the end of the year will not be final until the end of August after all Grant Reimbursements are in. We should end with a balanced budget. A motion was made to accept the Financial Report by Shere May and seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

The 5th item of business, Consider Approval of the LA Compliance Questionnaire, was presented by Regina Mekus. This questionnaire is a required part of the financial audit of LA state and local agencies. Greg Manley made the motion to approve the adoption of the Questionnaire, seconded by Dabo Graves and carried unanimously.

Reverend McCoy presented # 6, Consider naming Architect for RHS Freshman Academy Pavilion. He stated he would like to select TBA for the project; the motion was made by Jerry Hicks to approve this selection, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Hicks made the motion to name Tim Brandon and Associates for Item # 7, Consider naming Architect for Additions and Renovations at Lenwil Elementary. Dabo Graves seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item #8, Consider Correction to Bid Designation to Bids 10-24 and 15-24. Bobby Jones stated these should have been RFP 10-24 and RFP 15-24. Jerry Hicks made a motion to approve this designation correction, seconded by Dabo Graves, motion carried without opposition.

Bobby Jones presented Item # 9, Approve Bids for RFP-15-24 Air Filters and 13-24 Ouachita Junior Roof Replacement. Greg Manley made the motion to approve these bids, from lowest Responsive Bidder, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried without opposition.

Steven Hemphill presented the next Agenda item # 10, Construction and Renovation Projects Report. The Board discussed and accepted the report as presented.

Purchasing Agent, Bobby Jones, presented the Evaluation of Bid item, FS 6-24 Fresh Produce and Eggs. There was one responsive bid from Roberson Produce for $778,014.75. Greg Manley made the motion to accept this bid, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion passed unanimously.

Bobby Jones asked permission to Bid on 7 line items; Additions and Renovations to WOHS, Additions and Renovations to WMHS, Athletic Equipment, Musical

Instruments, Interactive Flat Panels, Large Cafeteria Equipment, and Access Control Doors at WMHS. A motion for permission Bid these items was made by Reverend McCoy, seconded by Greg Manley, motion carried without opposition.

In his report, President Comeaux requested the Board Members to see the Meeting Schedule for the year provided in their folders, with the next meeting scheduled for September 12, 2023 at noon.

In the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Guice stated the TIP Academy was a success last week with about 150 new employees attending. He also reported that the Preliminary testing scores are in with encouraging Data for our District.

There being no further business, Greg Manley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried and adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Tommy Comeaux, President

ATTEST:

Todd Guice, Secretary

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