The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 14, 2024, 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. Additionally, there were no remote requests 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 Tommy Comeaux called the meeting to order as he welcomed the visitors and guests, followed by the presentation of colors by Richwood High JROTC, Pledge of Allegiance by Virgie Mott, and the Invocation offered by Richwood High School student Denim Boyd.

Jerry Hicks made the motion, seconded by Dabo Graves, to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 regular meeting and the February 22, 2024 Special Called Meeting as written. Motion carried without opposition.

Shere May made the motion to approve the Agenda, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried by all members.

Shere May made a motion to approve the amended Agenda, to include the addition of Business item #1, Special Recognitions. Greg Manley seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

During the Personnel Report, Superintendent Guice stated there was nothing to report.

Mr. Comeaux introduced Aline Smead with the first item of business, Special Recognitions. Aiden Solley, a sophomore at West Monroe High School is being recognized for placing 1st place in the 2023 LSBA conference artwork contest.

Aline Smead presented the second item of business, Approval of the 2024-2025 School Calendar, in the place of Jason Thompson, who is out due to a Job Fair. Shere May made the motion to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

The 3rd item of business, Financial Report for period ending January 31, 2024 was presented by Regina Mekus. The report includes 3 years of data for comparison. She announced the distribution of the ESSER stipend and the State Stipend for the end of next week. Ms. Mekus also reported that budget revisions would be coming up soon.

Tommy Comeaux introduced Item # 4, Consider and select Engineer for Kiroli Elementary parking lot. Mike Batey made a motion for Lazenby and Associates to be selected as Engineer, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried unanimously.

Item #5, Consider and select Architect for Greenhouse at Calhoun Middle School, was introduced by Mike Batey making a motion to select TBA Studio as the Architect, seconded by Jerry Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Jared Peters made a recommendation to approve purchase on TIPS contract the Pivot Non-infill turf with shock pad from Geosurfaces for Item # 6. Dabo Graves made the motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried without opposition.

Jared Peters made a recommendation to the Board to approve the purchase of auditorium seating through Insight Incorporated for Item #7. Dabo Graves made the motion to accept this recommendation, seconded by Harold McCoy. Motion carried without opposition.

Steven Hemphill introduced Item # 8, Recommendation of approval of change order to Bid 46-23 Sterlington Elementary Additions and Renovations to include alternates 2 and 3. Greg Manley made the motion to approve this recommendation, seconded by Dabo Graves. <otion carried unanimously.

Item #9, Bid change request 39-24 Playground Equipment to 41-24 Playground Equipment, was presented by Jared Peters. He is requesting to change the bid from Public Works to Material & Supplies. Jerry Hicks made the motion to approve the change, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

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

Purchasing Agent, Jared Peters, presented the Evaluation of Bids beginning with item #1, Access Control Doors. The recommendation to the Board was United Automation at a cost of $485,012. Shere May made the motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried without opposition.

Mann's Construction was recommended for Item #2, Lenwil Elementary Additions and Renovations, as the lowest responsive bidder. Jerry Hicks made the motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mike Batey. Motion carried unanimously.

The recommendation to approve Motorola Solutions as the lowest responsive bidder for Item # 3, Radio/Base Stations was presented as a motion by Jerry Hicks, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried without opposition.

Item #4, Playground Equipment-Special Ed. Jared Peters recommended Bliss Products and Services as the lowest responsive bid. Mike Batey made the motion to approve this bid, seconded by Jerry Hicks. Motion carried without opposition.

Jared Peters asked permission to Bid on two line items:

1. Scoreboards – RHS, SMS.

2. Kiroli Elementary Parking Lot
   Harold McCoy made the motion to grant permission to bid on these two items, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried unanimously.

In the President's Report, Mr. Comeaux announced Bobby Jones' retirement reception and commended him for the great job he has done over the years and how much he will be missed.

In the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Guice gave the Board an update on classroom camera installations and the School Bus ac installations. He also commended the Ms. Mekus and the Business Department on the GFOA Certificate of Excellence Financial Report they received for 2022. He reminded us of our two Student of the Year State Finalist that will be competing and announced at the April 10, 2024 reception.

There being no further business, Jerry Hicks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Greg Manley. Motion carried and adjourned at 12:31p.m.

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Tommy Comeaux, President

ATTEST:

Todd Guice, Secretary

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