The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Monday, June 9, 2025, 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.

The presence of the following members was verified through roll call: Tommy Comeaux, Shere May, Mike Batey, Harold McCoy, Dabo Graves, and Greg Manley. Jerry Hicks was not in attendance.

President Tommy Comeaux called the meeting to order as he welcomed the visitors and guests, followed by the Invocation offered by Harold McCoy and the Pledge of Allegiance by Tommy Comeaux.

Shere May made the motion, seconded by Mike Batey, to approve the minutes of May 13, 2025, regular meeting as written. Motion carried without opposition.

Shere May made a motion to approve a revision to the Agenda, seconded by Greg Manley, motion carried without opposition.

Mike Batey made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended, seconded by Sherri May. Motion carried without opposition.

During the Personnel Report, Superintendent Guice announced the newly filled positions of Principal at Richwood High School, Alvin Fields, Principal at Swartz Lower, Hollie Daniel, and Assistant Principal at George Welch, Meredith Brown. He also announced the opening of the positions of Assistant Principal at Richwood High School and Curriculum Coordinator at Swartz Lower.

President Tommy Comeaux introduced Aline Smead with the first Item of Business, Special Recognitions. Colton Brasher from West Monroe High School was recognized as the District's High School Student of the Year and a state finalist for Louisiana High School Student of the Year. Greg Manley also made a Special Recognition by announcing the Sterlington High School Baseball Team winning the State Championship.

Kevin Woods, from Gallagher Insurance presented the second item of business, Consider Insurance Renewal. He recommended Affiliated FM Insurance renewal with a small rate increase. After discussion, Greg Manley made the motion to accept this recommendation with the exclusion of uninsured motorists, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Comeaux introduced Jason Thompson with the third item of business, Finance Committee Report. Mr. Thompson presented the three Agenda items and actions of the Finance Committee.

1. Consider Annual Operating Budget Revision No. 1 for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, Regina Mekus, Chief Financial Officer.
   Brent May recommended submitting to the board for approval at the next board meeting, seconded by Mike Batey; motion carried.
2. Consider increasing the allotment for Band equipment for High Schools, Regina Mekus, Chief Financial Officer.
   Anthony Killian recommended tabling this until the next Finance meeting in August, seconded by Mike Batey; motion carried.
3. Consider increase in AT-COST meal charges, JoLynne Correro, Director of Child Nutrition Services
   Regina Mekus recommended submitting to the board for approval at the next board meeting, seconded by Mike Batey; motion carried.

The Board discussed and accepted the report as given.

Regina Mekus presented the fourth Item of Business, Consider and Approve Annual Operating Budget Amendment No. 1 for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. After discussion, Harold McCoy made the motion to accept this recommendation, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried unanimously.

JoLynne Correro presented the fifth item of business, Consider and Approve, an increase in At-Cost meal charges for visitors. After discussion, Greg Manley made the motion to accept the recommendation to increase the breakfast cost to $4.00 and lunch cost to $6.00 for visitors, seconded by Mike Batey. Mation carried without opposition.

Carrie Ferguson presented the sixth item of business. Policy EDD, School Bus Scheduling and Routing, for consideration. This policy will be presented for consideration and approval at the June 30, 2025, policy meeting.

Tommy Comeaux presented Item #7, Consideration and Approval of Purchase of property at 404 Register Street, WM. Dabo Graves made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Shere May. Motion carried without opposition.

Stevn Hemphill presented the eighth Item of Business, Consideration and Approval of naming Architect of Record for the 2025 East Side Bond. Mike Batey made the motion to accept the recommendation to name TBA Studios as the Lead Architect pf Record for the East Side Bond, seconded by Greg Manley. The motion carried without opposition with Shere May abstaining due to a conflict.

Regina Mekus presented the ninth Item of Business, Adopt Ad Valorem Tax Millage for 2025. Harold McCoy made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Ad Valorem Tax Millage with no changes from the prior year, seconded by Mike Batey. The motion carried with all voting yea, except Jerry Hicks, due to his absence.

Regina Mekus presented the Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2025. The report includes 3 years of data for comparison. The report includes 3 years of data for comparison. The current ending balance for the General Fund is $37,049,972;

District 1 M&O balance is $32,055,475; balance of the1968 Sales Tax is $9,322,423; 1995 Sales Tax is $6,618,651; and West Ouachita Sales Tax is $21,967,410. The Board accepted the report as presented.

Jared Peters, Purchasing Agent, presented Item # 11, 2025-2026 Official Journal for Ouachita Parish School System RFQ. He explained he received three quotes with The Ouachita Citizen being the best quote. Greg Manley made the motion to accept the recommendation to approve The Ouachita Citizen as the official journal for the 2025-2026 school year, seconded by Dabo Graves. Motion carried without opposition.

Steven Hemphill presented the next agenda Item #12, Construction/Renovation Projects Report. The Board discussed and accepted the report as presented.

There were no Evaluation of Bids.

JoLynne Correro asked Permission to Bid on one line item:

1. FS6-26 Large Cafeteria Equipment Funding Source CN Equipment Budget Amount $100,000.

Mike Batey made a motion to grant permission to bid on this item, seconded by Greg Manley, the motion carried unanimously.

In the President's Report, Mr. Comeaux announced the next meeting would be July 8, 2025, at noon.

In the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Guice stated he and over 100 employees from Ouachita Parish were leaving after the meeting to attend the Teacher Leader Conference in New Orleans, with many other training sessions and conferences scheduled throughout the summer.

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

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Tommy Comeaux, President

ATTEST:

Todd Guice, Secretary

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