

**Minutes**  
**Monday, April 12, 2021**  
**Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.**  
**Location of Meeting: North Ave Intermediate Campus, Band Hall Gonzales Texas 78629**

**Board Members Present:** Glenn Menking, President  
Gloria Torres, Vice President  
Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary,  
Sandra Gorden  
Sue Gottwald  
Ross Hendershot, III  
Justin Schwausch

**Board Member Absent:**

**Item #1. Call to Order**

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, April 12, 2021, at the North Ave. Intermediate Campus, Band Hall, Gonzales, Texas. President, Glenn Menking called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with seven board members present

**Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement**

Josie Smith-Wright gave the Invocation, Sandra Gorden led the Pledge to the Flag, and Gloria Torres read the Mission Statement.

**Item #2 Public Comments:** None

**Item #3: Recognitions.**

Superintendent John Schumacher asked Ms. Robin Trojcak to present the recognitions for the month. Ms. Trojcak informed the board that this week was National Assistant Principal Week and the district would like to recognize the Asst. Principals from GISD. Ms. Trojcak recognized the Asst. Principals with a certificate of appreciation. Also mentioned were the Twisted Guardians. The group was recognized for supplying Easter baskets to GISD students in need during the Easter Holiday. Ms. Trojcak also informed the board of an anonymous donation that provided funds for a de-choking device. This donation made it possible to furnish each campus with a de-choking device.

**Item #4: New Business/Action Items**

A. Discuss and Consider action to approve the Consent Agenda

1. Minutes: March 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting and March 29, 2021, Special Board Meeting
2. Budget Amendments:

Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO, shared information regarding the Budget Amendments presented.

There were no comments or questions.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second by Ross Hendershot, III, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

B. **Discuss and Consider action to approve an update to Board Policy CCGB (Local)**

The policy sets how the district's economic development opportunities would be handled including any fees involved. The board was required to adopt the policy CCGB (Local) before any action on the related 313 application could take place. A copy of the policy was provided to the board members.

Sue Gottwald made a motion with a second by Gloria Torres for the board to approve an update to Board Policy CCGB (Local) as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

C. **Acknowledgment of Conflict of Interest Policy in connection with the application for agreement for limitation on the appraised value of the property for school district maintenance and operations taxes from Starling Solar LLC.**

Superintendent informed the board that Ms. Michelle Alcala was available for any questions regarding the Conflict of Interest Information.

Mr. Menking read the Acknowledgement of Individual Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District Board of Trustees of Conflict of Interest Policy relating to Starling Solar LLC. The board president then asked for acknowledgment and confirmation from each board member confirming they had reviewed the policy and had complied with all Conflicts of Interests. There was no conflict of interest regarding Starling Solar, LLC.

D. **Discuss and Consider action to accept an Application for Value Limitation Agreement from Starling Solar LLC pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code; authorize the Superintendent of Schools to review the application for completeness and submit the application to the Comptroller of Public Accounts and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve any request for extension of the deadline for action by the board of trustees beyond the 150 day review period, as may be required.**

Mr. Schumacher, Superintendent of Schools informed the board that Ms. Sheryl Moore Executive Director of Economic Development from the office of Sara Leon & Associates was available to share a short PowerPoint and to explain to the board what a 313 agreement was and how it worked. She would also be available for any questions from the board. Ms. Moore shared the information that would benefit the applicants, the school district, and the state.

Ross Hendershot, III made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to approve the Application for Value Limitation Agreement from Starling Solar LLC pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code; authorize the Superintendent of Schools to review the application for completeness and submit the application to the Comptroller of Public Accounts and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve any request for extension of the deadline for action by the board of trustees beyond the 150 day review period, as may be required. The motion carried 7/0.

E. **Acknowledgment of Conflict of Interest Policy in connection with the application for agreement for limitation on the appraised value of the property for school district maintenance and operations taxes from Duke Energy Renewables Solar LLC.**

Mr. Schumacher reminded the board that Ms. Michelle Alcala was available for any questions regarding the Conflict of Interest Information.

Mr. Menking read out the Acknowledgement of Individual Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District Board of Trustees of Conflict of Interest Policy relating to Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC. Before the board president was able to ask for acknowledgment and confirmation from each board member confirming they had reviewed the policy and had complied with all Conflicts of Interests. There were a few questions regarding the conflict of interest for Duke Energy. Once the questions were addressed, the board president asked each member to confirm whether there was a conflict of interest or not. There was one conflict of interest regarding Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC. (Ross Hendershot, III had a conflict of interest which required him to complete the conflict of interest form)

F. **Discussion and Possible Action to accept an Application for Value Limitation Agreement from Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code; authorize the Superintendent of Schools to review the application for completeness and submit the Application to the Comptroller of Public Accounts; and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve any request for extension of the deadline for action by the board of trustees beyond the 150 day review period, as may be required.**

Mr. Schumacher, Superintendent of Schools reminded the board that Ms. Sheryl Moore Executive Director of Economic Development from the office of Sara Leon & Associates was there to answer any questions relating to the Agreement from Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, to accept an Application for Value Limitation Agreement from Duke Energy Renewables Solar, LLC pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax

Code; authorize the Superintendent of Schools to review the application for completeness and submit the Application to the Comptroller of Public Accounts; and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve any request for extension of the deadline for action by the board of trustees beyond the 150 day review period, as may be required.  
The motion carried 6/0/1 with Mr. Hendershot, III abstaining.

**G. Discuss and Consider action to Appoint and Charge the additional Members to the TASB Long Range Facilities Committee.**

Mr. Kridler, Director of Operations, and Ms. Robin Trojcek, Public Relations Officer explained to the board that there had been some additions to the list of Long-Range Facilities Committee since last month's board meeting. They also shared information regarding the first meeting to take place.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to appoint the recommended additional members to the facilities committee as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**H. Discuss and Consider Action to offer Expansion of Pre-kindergarten Program Offerings**

Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO shared with the board that the administration was asking for approval of expanding the pre-kindergarten program to offer a tuition base enrollment option. CFO explained to the board the plans and reason behind the Offer to the Expansion of the Pre-Kindergarten Program. Administration asked that due to the space availability as well as the benefits for the district, it is being asked to approve the Pre-K expansion and allow the administration to move forward with implementing the program. A few questions and comments were addressed.

A motion was made by Ross Hendershot, III and a second from Josie Smith-Wright to authorize the expansion of the District's Pre-K program to include a tuition-based enrollment option for students not otherwise eligible for tuition-free Pre-K and to authorize the administration to take those steps necessary to fulfill the proposed plan as presented to the Board. The motion carried 7/0.

**I. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Charge Policy for the Child Nutrition Program**

Mr. Edward Wayner, Director of Child Nutrition explained the reason for the charge policy request. After some questions and comments, a motion was made with an amendment to the motion.

Sue Gottwald made a motion with a second from Justin Schwausch to approve the charge policy as amended with the years being excluded from the former policy. The motion carried 7/0.

**J. Discuss and Consider Action to approve the Ranking of Offerors for the Gonzales High School Fire Suppression Replacement Project and the Delegation of Contract Negotiations.**

Ms. Amanda Smith, CFO explained to the board that the district had solicited and received only one proposal from Ranger Builders, LLC for the high school fire suppression system replacement project. The evaluation team met to evaluate the proposal from Ranger Builders, LLC. An update will be provided at next month's board meeting. It was requested that the board approve the ranking of Ranger Builder, LLC as offerer number one and authorize the district to begin to discuss contract negotiations. Once Negotiations are discussed, the district would either come back to the board with a request for contract approval or share that they will back up and try it again.

A motion was made by Sue Gottwald with a second from Sandra Gorden to approve the ranking and selection of the highest ranked offeror and delegate to the superintendent or his designee the ability to negotiate the contract as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

**K. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve IMA & TEKS Certification for the 2021-2022 School Year**

Amanda Fullilove explained to the board that each year the district approves the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills Certification form for the Instructional Materials Allotment. Ms. Fullilove explains the changes per TEA for the IMA & TEKS Certification. Ms. Fullilove explained to the board that with the TEA changes the process would be that once the board approved the submission of the digital form would be submitted to TEA.

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion with a second from Sue Gottwald to approve the 2021-2022 Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification form as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

Before going to the reports section the board went back to the recognitions as the group from Twisted Guardians showed up. Ms. Trojcek recognized the group for the donations made to our at needs students during the Easter holidays.

**Item#5 Reports:**

A. Board Member Continuing Education Credits/SBOE Framework for School Board Development Report.

As required by the State Board of Education Rule the board president read the required annual announcement that provided consistent public transparency and accountability. The board president announced the name of each board member that completed, exceeded, or was deficient in the required continuing education. All board members exceeded their hours of Continuing Education.

B. Financial Report & Quarterly Investment Report

Amanda Smith, CFO, shared the financial report and Quarterly Investment Report with the board. Ms. Smith spoke on several items consisting of (1) Updated charts with enrollment and attendance data (2) Tax Collection Status Report as of February 28, 2021 (3) 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Investment Report which included year-to-date information. CFO also explained the legislative senate bills that affect the district. Update on property value was also shared with the board.

CFO also shared a copy of the financial report.

There were no questions or comments.

C. Superintendent Reports.

1. Enrollment-Attendance

The Superintendent shared the enrollment information with the board.

2. STAAR/EOC Report

Ms. Needham gave a brief report regarding the STAAR and EOC Report. There were no questions or comments.

**Item#6 Board Business**

Board Correspondence: Thank you card, from Gene Kridler.

Dates of Interest

Month of April	School Library Month
April 6-9, 2021	STAAR/EOC Testing
April 9, 2021	End of Fifth Six Weeks
April 12, 2021	Beginning of Sixth Six Weeks
April 12, 2021	School Board Meeting
May 4-7, 2021	STAAR/EOC Testing
May 10, 201	Board Meeting

**Item #7 Personnel Matters, Section 551.074, and Property Matters: Section 551.072, Attorney Matters Section 551.071 & Security Matters: Section 551.076 and Texas Government Code 551.002-Consultation with legal counsel regarding Application for Value Limitation Agreements pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Property Tax Code.**

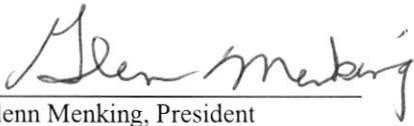
The Board adjourned into a closed session Monday, April 12, 2021, at 6:37 P.M. for personnel matters and returned to the open session at 8:12 P.M.

Josie Smith Wright made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, to approve the Teacher contracts as presented by the HR Dept. and the Superintendent. The motion carried 7/0 with Mr. Menking abstaining from the contracts of Sarah Menking, Rachel Menking, and Mary Liz Menking.

Josie Smith Wright made a motion, with a second from Ross Hendershot, III, to approve the FTE for Director of HR as presented by the HR Dept. and the Superintendent. The motion carried 7/0.

**Item #8 Adjourn**

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Ross Hendershot, III, to adjourn. The motion carried 7/0. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.



Glenn Menking, President  
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary  
Board of Trustees