

**Minutes**  
**Monday, December 6, 2021**  
**Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.**  
**Location of Meeting: Administrative Board Room. Gonzales, Texas 78629**

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

**Board Member Absent:**

**Item #1. Call to Order**

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, December 6, 2021, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 7 members present.

**Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement**

Sue Gottwald gave the Invocation, Sandra Gorden led the Pledge to the Flag, and Glenn Menking read the Mission Statement.

**Item #2: Public Comments:** Public comments were provided by Jesse Elizondo regarding the proposal of a Soccer Readiness program at Gonzales Junior High School and Savanna Bland who provided comments regarding the Starling Solar project.

**Item#3: Recognitions:** There were No Recognitions.

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

A. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda

1. Minutes: 11-8-2021 Regular Board Meeting
2. Budget Amendments:

Mr. John Schumacher, the Superintendent, shared information regarding the Budget Amendments that were presented.

There were no comments and questions that were addressed

Glenn Menking, made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried 7/0

B. Discuss and Consider Action to approve the Annual Financial & Compliance Report for the Fiscal year ending August 31, 2021.

Amanda Smith, CFO, introduced Preston Singleton of Singleton Clark & Company, who discussed the audit report with the Board.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to approve the Annual Financial report, as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

C. Report from Long Range Facility Planning Committee

Gene Kridler, Director of Maintenance & Operations, introduced three spokespersons from the committee, Isaac Anzaldua, Joseph Kridler, and Wayne Baker. Other committee members were also present in the audience. Each

spokesperson provided information to the Board regarding the committee membership, as well as the happenings at each meeting. Information on recommendations from the committee, along with the proposed cost was also shared.

A PowerPoint presentation was shared.

- D. Acknowledgment of conflict of Interest policy BBFA (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) in connection with the Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operations Taxes from Cannon Solar, LLC.

Superintendent John Schumacher discussed the conflict of interest policy and shared that Attorney Sarah Leon would review the information, if necessary. Sarah Leon shared that the district does have a policy in place. The Board members were asked to initial the document stating that there is no conflict of interest. The policy was reviewed by each member and noted on the document.

- E. Discuss and Possible Action to approve Board Findings under the Texas Economic Development Act related to the Application for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Cannon Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1597.

Superintendent John Schumacher introduced Sara Leon, who shared information regarding the application. She provided details of tax benefits and maintenance and operations tax benefits and recommended that the Board approve the findings.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the findings under the Texas Economic Development Act related to the Application for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Cannon Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1597. The motion carried 6/0 with 1 abstention. Mr. Ross Hendershot abstained from voting.

- F. Discuss and Possible Action to approve Agreement for a Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Cannon Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1597.

Superintendent John Schumacher introduced Sara Leon, who shared information regarding the agreement. She stated that the agreement had to have Comptroller approval, which was obtained.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to approve the Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Cannon Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1597. The motion carried 6/0 with 1 abstention. Mr. Ross Hendershot abstained from voting.

- G. Acknowledgment of Conflict of Interest policy BBFA (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) in connection with the agreement for limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586.

Sarah Leon shared that this document is the same as discussed earlier for Cannon Solar. The Board members were asked to initial the document stating no conflict of interest. The policy was reviewed by each member and noted on the document.

- H. Discuss and Possible Action to approve Board Findings under the Texas Economic Development Act related to the Application for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586.

Sara Leon shared information regarding the Board findings, as well as, gave information regarding the project.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Sarah Gorden, to approve the findings, as presented, under the Texas Economic Development Act related to the Application for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586. The motion carried 6/0 with 1 abstention. Mr. Ross Hendershot abstained from voting.

I. Discussion and Possible Action to approve Resolution of the Board of Trustees designating the Starling Solar Reinvestment Zone

Sarah Leon discussed the reinvestment zone and findings.

There were no questions or comments.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres, to approve the Resolution of the Board of Trustees designating the Starling Solar Reinvestment zone. The motion carried 6/0 with 1 abstention. Mr. Ross Hendershot abstained from voting.

J. Discuss and Possible Action to approve an Agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586.

Sara Leon shared that the agreement is very similar to the Cannon Solar agreement. The agreement has been reviewed by the Comptroller.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to approve the agreement for Limitation on Appraised Value of Property for School District Maintenance and Operation Taxes from Starling Solar, LLC, Comptroller Application #1586. The motion carried 6/0 with 1 abstention. Mr. Ross Hendershot abstained from voting.

K. Discuss and Consider Action to Accept the Annual Investment Report and Approve a Resolution Related to Review of Investment Policy and Investment Strategies.

Amanda Smith, CFO, shared information and highlights on the Annual Investment Report. Mrs. Smith did not recommend any changes at this time.

There were no questions or comments.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to accept the Annual Investment report as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

L. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Representatives for Lone Star Investment Pool.

Amanda Smith, CFO, gave information regarding the sharing of financial reports with the approved representatives.

There were no questions or comments.

Glenn Menking made a motion, with a second by Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the Resolution to authorize representatives as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

M. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Findings of Fact Regarding Political Boundaries of Gonzales ISD – following the publication of 2020 CENSUS Data and order for Redistricting of Political Boundaries.

Superintendent John Schumacher shared that GISD had previously retained the firm of Allison Bass and Magee LLP of Austin, giving details of the initial assessment of existing political boundaries for Gonzales ISD. After receiving the results of the CENSUS data, GISD has a constitutional duty to redistrict political boundaries. Ross Hendershot explained the process of redistricting as well as the timelines for the process.

There were no questions or comments.

Glenn Menking made a motion, with a second by Josie Smith-Wright, to approve the Findings of Fact regarding Political Boundaries of Gonzales ISD following the publication of 2020 CENSUS Date and order for Redistricting of Political Boundaries. The motion carried 7/0.

N. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Revision to the District Compensation Plan.

Haley Ratliff, Chief Human Resources Officer, shared a revision to the compensation plan for the ACE program teachers, while TCLASS funds are available.

There were some questions and comments made.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second by Gloria Torres, to approve the revised District Compensation Plan. The motion carried 7/0.

O. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve an Interlocal Contract with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and State Energy Conservation Office for an Interior LED Lighting Retrofit Schools Program.

Gene Kridler, Director of Operations, shared the process of the Interlocal contract and recommended the Board approve and accept the program.

There were no questions or comments.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second by Sue Gottwald, to approve the Interlocal Contract as presented. The motion carried 7/0.

P. Discuss and Consider Action to Adopt the TASB Board Policy Update 118, affecting GISD local policies.

John Schumacher, the Superintendent, shared that TASB has provided information regarding policy Update 118.

There were some questions and comments.

Sue Gottwald made a motion, with a second by Glenn Menking, to add, revise or delete local policy as recommended by TASB Board Service Update 118. The motion carried 7/0.

**Item#5 Reports:**

A. Texas FCCLA Region

John Schumacher, the Superintendent, introduced Lizbeth Alvarez, senior at GHS and FCCLA President, who shared details and opportunities of the FCCLA program.

B. CTE Update Report

John Schumacher, the Superintendent, introduced Jennifer Ervin, CTE Coordinator, who shared updates and happenings at Gonzales High School and the CTE program. Program enrollment numbers were shared. Photos of students participating in activities were shared.

C. Financial Report

Amanda Smith, CFO, shared with the Board the financial Report and spoke to the Board. Updated financials have been prepared and show a projection of under-received revenue as compared to budget.

D. Superintendent Report

1. Long-Range Facility Planning Committee Update - This update was shared with the Board earlier in tonight's meeting.
2. District of Innovation Report – Amanda Fullilove gave details of the District of Innovation plan that was developed in 2017 and will expire in 2022. Renewal plans and timelines were also shared.

There were some comments and questions that were addressed.

- 3. Student Enrollment and Attendance Update - Superintendent Schumacher reported the student enrollment and attendance rate to the Board. The superintendent reported that enrollment was down slightly by 11 students. The attendance rate is at 91.23% slightly lower than the November rate in 2020.
- 4. Junior High Soccer – Coach Joey Carrizales gave a brief overview of a plan for a soccer program to be implemented at Gonzales Junior High.

There were some questions and comments that were addressed.

- 5. Campus Improvement Plan Formative Reviews – Campus Principals shared campus goals and strategies, as well as progress on implementation of these goals and strategies.

There were some questions and comments that were addressed.

- 6. District Improvement Plan Formative Review- Amanda Fullilove shared the timelines and process for developing the District Improvement Plan. Goals and strategies were shared, as well as progress towards the implementation was shared.

There were some questions and comments made.

**Item#6 Board Business**

Board Correspondent: No Correspondence was shared.

Dates of Interest

December 6, 2021	Regular Board meeting (moved up a week)
December 17, 2021	Early Release
December 20-31, 2021	Christmas Holiday
January 3, 2022	Student Holiday/Staff Development
January 4, 2022	Semester Begins

Superintendent reported on Board Business dates. On Dec. 14, 2021, there will be another Long-Range Strategic Plan Meeting at 5:00 P.M. The next Redistricting Committee meeting will be held on December 16, 2021, at 6:30 P.M.

**Item #7 Adjourn to Closed Session:**

Under Texas Government Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) Code Section 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.73 Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift, Texas Government Code Section 551.074, (Personnel, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee), Texas Government Code Section 551.076 (Deliberation regarding implementation of Security, personnel or devices) and Section 551.082: School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matter or Complaint, Section 551.083: Certain School Boards; Meeting Regarding Consultation with Representative of Employee Group Section 551.084: Investigation; Exclusion of witnesses from a hearing.

The Board adjourned into a closed session at 8:02 P.M. to discuss items on the agenda. The Board returned to the open session at 9:15 P.M.

**Item #8 Adjourn**

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

Ross Hendershot, III President  
Board of Trustees

Sue Gottwald, Secretary  
Board of Trustees