

Minutes
Monday, February 20, 2023
Special Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
Location of Meeting: GISD Administrative Board Room, 1615 St Lawrence St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

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

Board Member Absent: Sue Gottwald

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Tuesday, February 20, 2023, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 6 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: There were no public comments.

Item #3 New Business/Action Items:

3A. Discuss and Consider Action to Accept Resignation of GISD Board Member, Sue Gottwald.

Dr. Elmer Avellaneda explained to the board that a resignation was received from Ms. Sue Gottwald, GISD Board Member. The vacancy would occur on the earlier of (a) the 8th day after receipt or (b) the date of acceptance by the board. It was recommended by the district attorney that the board take action to accept the resignation to ensure there is no confusion on whether or when the resignation would be effective.

There were no comments or questions.

Glenn Menking made the motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to accept the resignation of GISD Board Member Sue Gottwald, as presented. The motion carried 6/0.

3B. Discuss and Consider Action to Fill Officer Vacancy.

Dr. Elmer Avellaneda explained to the board that there were no requirements for the board to fill the seat; however, the option to fill a vacancy is either by special election or appointment. It was mentioned that it was in the district's best interest that the board fill the position by appointment.

Mr. Hendershot made a motion with a second from Glenn Menking to approve the officer vacancy with Ms. Josie Smith-Wright as board secretary. The motion carried 6/0.

Item #4: 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 went into a closed session at 5: 36 P.M.

- 4A. Deliberation and Consultation with legal counsel regarding Board Member resignation and Board vacancy, pursuant to Tex. Gov't code 551.074 and 551.071.

Item #5 Reconvene to Open Meeting:

The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in the Closed Session. The board returned to an open session at 6:16 P.M.

- 5A. Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with the second from Glenn Menking, with the administration recommending Dr. Kimberly Strozier, as the appointment for filling the open vacancy for District 6 until the May 6, 2023 elections, as presented. The motion carried 6/0.

Item #5 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 6:17 P.M.



Ross Hendershot, III, President
Board of Trustees



Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees