

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees

La Vernia Independent School District

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of La Vernia ISD was held Monday, August 19, 2024, beginning at 6:30 PM in the High School Cafeteria, 225 Bluebonnet Road, La Vernia, TX 78121.

Attendance:

Stewart Krisch:	Absent
Jimmy McFadin:	Absent
Ryan Doege:	Present
Joel Goode:	Present
Drew Herley:	Present
Shawn Strey:	Present
Jeff Towns:	Present

I. Call to Order, Quorum, Pledge, and Invocation

As Stated on the Notice of Regular Meeting, the Board may convene into Closed Session at any time they deem necessary, under any applicable provision of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including the provision permitting closed session consultation with legal counsel.

The Board President may elect to address any items listed on the Agenda in any sequence.

President Shawn Strey called the meeting to order at 6:30PM, declared a quorum present and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Joel Goode led the Invocation.

II. Board Member Welcome and Remarks

Trustee Jeff Towns made the following remarks.

- I want to say welcome. I hope everyone's doing well. We've got an exciting agenda planned for this evening.
- I certainly want to say thank you to those who are in attendance tonight, to our presenters, to the friends of LVISD. I appreciate you taking the time to be here. I can't believe school has just started, and how busy are we already up until this point?
- There's so much more to come. A lot of UIL events are going on, staff recognition is already taking place. Of course, you've got the bond project, it's continuing. So exciting to see the progress there.
- I certainly want to say thank you to everybody. I look forward to hearing all the positive stories as we move into the school year. I know there's going to be a lot going on. So with that being said, let's go ahead and get the meeting started.
- Thank you everybody. God bless.

III. Superintendent Remarks

Dr. Cone made the following remarks.

- We have had two great weeks. Student parking, cell phone enforcement in the classroom, Bartlet Cocke Portables moved on site. 100-degree weather - working on a few AC problems with one looking like it might finally need to be replaced. However, again, overall, great start.
- We are proud to have outstanding students, dedicated parents, exceptional teachers, committed board members, and supportive community members. Our students excel academically and thrive in all our extracurricular programs. People choose to stay in La Vernia, return to La Vernia, or move to La Vernia for a reason-a small, welcoming, and conservative town with a fantastic school system. We cherish our school and our community. Together, we embody the spirit of "We are La Vernia."
- Navigating school human resources and school law can be challenging, even for attorneys who do not specialize in this area. La Vernia ISD is one of the largest employers in our community, which means we handle a significant number of hiring and termination processes. As an at-will state, Texas allows for employment at the discretion of the employer. However, the majority of our employees are under contract as specified in Chapter 21 of the Texas Education Code. This provides them with substantial property rights and due process protections. Due process hearings, combined with attorney fees, can sometimes exceed an employee's annual salary, all while continuing to pay the employee during the process. We adhere to these rules carefully and consult with our attorneys to ensure the protection of our administration, board, and district.
- We are committed to safeguarding the rights and confidentiality of both current and former employees within the limits set by rulings from the Texas Attorney General. Releasing certain information could expose the district to potential slander and significant liability, which is why we are cautious about disclosure. Our goal is to act ethically and legally, striving to make the right decisions even when they are not the most popular.
- Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

IV. Public Comment

Joel Bellinger signed up to speak.

V. Recognition

(1) La Vernia FFA State Convention - Sr. AFNR Quiz Bowl Champions

Ms. Aerin Suarez, Agricultural Science Teacher

VI. Discussion and REPORT Items

(1) Monthly Financial Report

(2) Bond 2023 Monthly Update

Mr. Jacobo Morales, Senior Project Manager, AG|CM

(3) First Reading - Emergency Operation Protocols

Mr. Cliff Hill, Director of Safety & Security

VII. Discussion and ACTION Items

(1) Consent Agenda: Items to be approved in one all encompassing motion. If discussion is desired on a particular item, it will be removed from the consent agenda

A. Minutes of the July 15, 2024 Meeting

B. Minutes of the August 5, 2024 Meeting

C. Autism Treatment Center Contract 2024-2025

Ryan Doege moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Jeff Towns seconded. This motion, made by Ryan Doege and seconded by Jeff Towns, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(2) Campus Improvement Plans

LVISD Campus Principals: Jeffrey Clouse, Bryan Caughlin, Brandi Hanselka and Shelley Keck

Ryan Doege moved to approve the 2024-2025 campus improvement plans as presented. Jeff Towns seconded. This motion, made by Ryan Doege and seconded by Jeff Towns, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(3) Amendment to Pay Structures

Mr. Paul Goetzke, Executive Director of Human Resources

Jeff Towns moved to approve the amended La Vernia ISD Compensation Plan as presented. Joel Goode seconded. This motion, made by Jeff Towns and seconded by Joel Goode, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(4) Approval of the District's Defeasance Resolution

Ms. Lauren Ferrero, McCall, Parkhurst & Horton

Ryan Doege moved to approve the district's Defeasance Resolution. Drew Herley seconded. This motion, made by Ryan Doege and seconded by Drew Herley, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(5) Approval of the 2024-25 Tax Rate

Ms. Belinda Raindl, Chief Financial Officer

Drew Herley moved to approve the tax rate as presented. Ryan Doege seconded. This motion, made by Drew Herley and seconded by Ryan Doege, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(6) Interlocal Agreement for Tax Collection Between Wilson County and La Vernia ISD

Ms. Belinda Raindl, Chief Financial Officer

Jeff Towns moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Tax Collection between Wilson County and La Vernia ISD. Joel Goode seconded. This motion, made by Jeff Towns and seconded by Joel Goode, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(7) Approval of Property and Casualty Insurance for the 2024-2025 year

Ms. Belinda Raindl, Chief Financial Officer

Ryan Doege moved to approve the renewal of the district's Property and Casualty Insurance through PCAT as presented. Jeff Towns seconded. This motion, made by Ryan Doege and seconded by Jeff Towns, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

(8) Approval of 2024-2025 Workers Compensation Insurance through Workers Comp Solutions.

Ms. Belinda Raindl, Chief Financial Officer

Joel Goode moved to approve the 2024-2025 workers' compensation for 1 year renewal as presented. Ryan Doege seconded. This motion, made by Joel Goode and seconded by Ryan Doege, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea

VIII. Executive Session

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.0821

The Board did not enter into Executive Session.

IX. Open Session

Reconvene in Open Session, and consider and take possible action on closed session agenda items:

X. Adjourn

8:16PM

Jeff Towns moved to adjourn the meeting. Ryan Doege seconded. This motion, made by Jeff Towns and seconded by Ryan Doege, Passed.

Ryan Doege: Yea, Joel Goode: Yea, Drew Herley: Yea, Shawn Strey: Yea, Jeff Towns: Yea