

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC _____ Board Minutes

SUBMITTED BY: _____ Karen Winch **OF:** _____ Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____ August 18, 2010

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

Regular Board Meeting – June 16, 2010
Special Called Meeting – June 23, 2010
Regular Board Meeting – July 21, 2010
Budget Workshop – July 29, 2010
Special Called Meeting – July 29, 2010

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting.

Govt. Code §551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

June 16, 2010

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin – Member – arrived 6:37 p.m.
William "Bill" Johnson – Member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, June 16, 2010, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President Pat Campos made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:30 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

Item V – Recognitions was considered before Public Comments

IV. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance

policy.

No one signed up for participation in Public Comments.

V. Recognitions

The Board recognized the following organizations, students and employees for outstanding accomplishments:

- A. Annual Texas Land Commission's Children's Art Contest – Clark Middle School
- B. Perez Elementary School – Top Elementary School in Region 1 in the netTrekker Usage Contest
- C. United South High School – Child Find Art Contest – 1st Place winner
- D. J. B. Alexander High School – Region One High School Principal of the Year
- E. J. B. Alexander High School – Texas A & M University 2010 "Very Important Counselor"
- F. Washington Middle School – Region One Middle School Principal of the Year

VI. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:45 p. m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 – Consultation with the Board's Attorney

551.072 Discussion on the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property

- 1. Report on status of negotiations and consideration of terms and possible execution of Agreement for Conveyance pertaining to the purchase of approximately 110 acres to be acquired as four contiguous or non-contiguous separate tracts from Verde Corporation as Trustee of the N.D. Hachar Trust located off of FM-1472 (Mines Road) East of Pico Road of Mines Road north approximately 900 lineal feet Southwest of IH-35 identified as T-Q by Verde Corporation.
- 2. Report on status of reconsideration of Conveyance and possible negotiations pertaining to approximately 60 acres of land at *La Bota* Ranch located north of Laredo just off Mines road (F.M. 1472) to be conveyed by A.F. Muller Company
- 3. Consideration of Conveyance and possible negotiations pertaining to 80 acres of unplatted and undeveloped property, for a high school and a middle school with such property located on *Las Tiendas* Road, west of IH-35 off Farm 1472 to Market Road. The property to be conveyed by *Las Tiendas* Development, Ltd.
- 4. Consideration of acquisition and possible negotiations pertaining to 14 acres of unplatted property, for school sites in the *Cielito Lindo* Subdivision located on the south side of St. Luke Boulevard

approximately 200 feet east of the intersection of St. Luke Boulevard and *Ejido* Avenue to be conveyed by *Cielito Lindo, Ltd.*

**B. 551.071 – Consultation with the Board’s Attorney
551.074 -Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel**

1. Discussion re: Chief of Police Duties/Responsibilities

**C. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel
551.076 Considering the Deployment, specific Occasions for, or
Implementation Of Security Personnel or Devices**

- 1. Employee Drug Testing**
- 2. Teacher Retire/Rehire**
- 3. Custodial Operations**
- 4. POA, HOST, Grandparent Admission Procedures**
- 5. Delinquent Tax Attorney Contract**
- 6. Status of on-going Audits**

VII. The Board returned from Closed Session at 8:03 p.m. Mr. J. Molina chaired the meeting in the absence of Ms. Campos who returned at 8:08 p.m. The Board took appropriate action on the following items as discussed in Closed Session.

A. Discussion and possible action concerning the execution of a Purchase Agreement and possible purchase of approximately 110 acres to be acquired as four contiguous or non-contiguous tracts from Verde Corporation as Trustee of the N.D. Hachar Trust located off of FM-1472 (Mines Road) East of Pico Road of Mines Road north approximately 900 lineal feet Southwest of IH-35 identified as T-Q by Verde Corporation.

Mr. Juan Cruz, UISD General Counsel, advised the Board that the recommendation was to authorize legal counsel to continue negotiations on the possible purchase of approximately 110 acres to be acquired as four contiguous or non-contiguous tracts from Verde Corporation as Trustee of the N.D. Hachar Trust located off of FM-1472 (Mines Road) East of Pico Road of Mines Road north approximately 900 lineal feet Southwest of IH-35 identified as T-Q by Verde Corporation.

Motion:	So move.
Moved by:	Ramirez
Seconded by:	Gilpin
Discussion:	None
In Favor:	Unanimous (Ms. Campos was not present for the vote.)

B. Discussion and possible action to enter into negotiations and possible execution of a Purchase Agreement and possible purchase of approximately 60 acres of land at *La Bota* Ranch located north of Laredo just off Mines road (F.M. 1472) to be conveyed by A.F. Muller Company

Mr. Juan Cruz, UISD General Counsel, advised the Board that the recommendation was to authorize legal counsel to continue negotiations on the execution of a Purchase Agreement and possible purchase of approximately 60 acres of land at *La Bota* Ranch located north of Laredo just off Mines road (F.M. 1472) to be conveyed by A.F. Muller Company

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: Gilpin
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous (Ms. Campos was not present for the vote.)

C. Discussion and possible action to enter into negotiations and possible execution of a Purchase Agreement and possible purchase of 80 acres of unplatted and undeveloped property, for a high school and a middle school located on *Las Tiendas* Road, west of IH-35 off Farm 1472 to Market Road. The property to be conveyed by *Las Tiendas* Development, Ltd.

Mr. Cruz advised the Board that the recommendation was to authorize legal counsel to continue negotiations on the execution of a Purchase Agreement and possible purchase of approximately 80 acres of unplatted and undeveloped property, for a high school and a middle school located on *Las Tiendas* Road, west of IH-35 off Farm 1472 Market Road. The property to be conveyed by *Las Tiendas* Development, Ltd.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: Gilpin
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Discussion and possible action to enter into negotiations and possible purchase of 14 acres of unplatted property, for school sites in the *Cielito Lindo* Subdivision located on the south side of St. Luke Boulevard approximately 200 feet east of the intersection of St. Luke Boulevard and *Ejido* Avenue to be conveyed by *Cielito Lindo*, Ltd.

Mr. Cruz advised the Board that the recommendation was to authorize legal counsel to continue negotiations on the possible purchase of approximately 14 acres of unplatted property, for school sites in the *Cielito Lindo* Subdivision located on the south side of St. Luke Boulevard approximately 200 feet east of the intersection of St. Luke Boulevard and *Ejido* Avenue to be conveyed by *Cielito Lindo*, Ltd.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Gilpin
Seconded by: Ramirez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

VIII. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. J. Molina called for a motion on Consent Agenda Items as presented. Mr. Johnson advised the Board that the Business and Finance Committee had met the previous week and was recommending approval of the following items.

Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: Campos
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements**
- B. Approval of Budget Amendments**
- C. Approval of Tax Refunds**
- D. Approval to Designate Norma Farabough to Calculate 2010 Tax Rate**
- E. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications**
- F. Approval to Fund the Installation of New Scoreboard from Coca-cola Sponsorship Funds**
- G. Approval of Requests from Pat Campos, Juan Roberto Ramirez, and Ricardo Rodriguez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds Clark Middle School for \$12,080 and J. B. Alexander High School for \$12,997.**
- H. Approval of Request from Ricardo Rodriguez and Juan A. Molina for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for United South High School for \$37,442.**
- I. Approval of Request from Ricardo Rodriguez for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Octavio Salinas Elementary for \$2,349.10.**
- J. Approval of Request from William Johnson and Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for J. B. Alexander High School for \$21,120.**

Mr. Johnson asked that **Item VIII-J** be moved for individual consideration.

K. Approval of Request from Ricardo Molina, Sr. for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for John W. Arndt Elementary for \$14,966.50.

L. Second Reading of DHE (Local) – Employee Standards of Conduct – Searches and Alcohol/Drug Testing

M. Second Reading of Local Policies in TASB Update 87

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: Campos
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

IX. Items for Individual Consideration

Item J. was moved to individual Consideration

J. Approval of Request from William Johnson and Pat Campos for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for J. B. Alexander High School for \$21,120.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: Campos
Discussion:

Mr. Gilpin requested that monies from his discretionary funds account be added to this amount (\$21,1200) to increase the total to \$36,000. Mr. Gilpin emphasized that the monies he was providing were specifically for the J. B. Alexander batting cage.

In Favor: Unanimous

A. Board Minutes

1. Regular Meeting May 19, 2010

2. Special Called June 8, 2010

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Campos
Seconded by: Ramirez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the list of donations totaling \$10,307.00 into the record and thanked all for their gracious donations.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

C. Approval of Problems and Solutions as a new CTE Weighted Program Offering

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Rodriguez
Seconded by: Ramirez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Approval of Sale of Salvage Equipment

Mr. Mike Garza, Executive Director of Support Services, advised the Board that they purchased new equipment recently, and they were making room for that equipment. Mr. Garza added that they were projecting a \$70,000 return on the sale of the computer equipment that had been brought to the Board earlier.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Gilpin
Seconded by: Rodriguez
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

E. Discussion and Possible Action on Award of District Health Insurance Plan

Mr. Robert Chapa advised the Board that there would be an increase in premiums of 3% for the coming year.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Campos
Seconded by: Rodriguez
Discussion:

Mr. Ramirez asked about the increase in premiums. Mr. Chapa responded that 3% for Health Insurance is really a good rate as others were seeing from 7%-12% increase. He added that our sister district would be having a 10% increase.

In Favor: Unanimous

Mr. Cruz advised the Board that on the first reading of Policy BE (LOCAL) there were two possible changes on this item for next month. He said that they were considering changing the start time to 5:30 p.m. instead of the current 6:00 p.m. and putting the Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

On Item G and Public Comments, Mr. Cruz said they might want to have some guidelines such as 1) it is restrictive in that no names are allowed to be mentioned (public officials, etc.) , 2) the agenda item must be identified, and, 3) Board members would have to turn in their agenda items one week prior.

No action was required on this item.

F. First Reading of Policy BE (LOCAL) – Board Meetings

No action was required on this item.

G. First Reading of Policy BED (LOCAL) Board Meetings – Public Participation

No action was required on this item.

H. First Reading of Policy DEC (LOCAL) – Compensation and Benefits – Leaves And Absences

No action was required on this item.

I. First Reading of GE (LOCAL) – Relations with Parent Organizations

No action was required on this item.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting of June 16, 2010 was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Pat Campos – President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Special Called Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

June 23, 2010

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan Molina – Vice President - absent
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson – Member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. The Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, June 23, 2010 , in the U.I.S.D. Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, Room #2 – 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:01 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Action Items

A. Appointment of Principal for Borchers Elementary

Mr. Roberto Santos, Superintendent of Schools, advised the Board that the recommendation for the principal at Borchers Elementary was Ms. Lucia Flores.

Motion:	So move.
Moved by:	Ramirez
Seconded by:	Rodriguez
Discussion:	None
In Favor:	Unanimous

B. Approval of 2010-2011 Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook (bus Rider Handbook & technology Use Guidelines)

Ms. Sandra Cavazos, Executive Director of Student Services, advised the Board that they were seeking the Board's approval for both the 2010-2011 Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook. She said the documents had been included in the Board's packets.

Mr. R. Molina said he wanted to be sure that principals understood that the Board wanted the campuses to enforce the policies and procedures. Mr. Santos said they would be talking to the campus principals to ensure that they do so.

Mr. Johnson asked for an explanation of the first slide in the documents provided for them (regarding students turning in illegal substances/items). Ms. Annette Perez responded that students were expected to voluntarily turn in any illegal substance or item if they found it. She said, in this way, the student would not be found to be "in possession." She said if an administrator receives information that a student is in possession, they would move forward with disciplinary action. She added that two to three years from now the Legislature will be putting zero tolerance aside with regard to administrative action. Ms. Perez said they needed to look at the total situation and take into account such things as mitigating circumstances, whether or not the student was capable of making the appropriate decision, what was the intent, was there a matter of self-defense, and was there a disability that hindered the student's ability to take appropriate steps.

Mr. Ricardo Molina asked what happened to "zero tolerance?" He commented that he believed if anyone brought an illegal drug to the campus, it should not be tolerated. Mr. Ramirez asked about the process when a child is in possession. Ms. Perez said that if a student is in possession, they would be arrested. She clarified that this portion being presented was to describe the procedures for students who have a controlled substance or item and want to turn it in to the appropriate personnel. Mr. Molina emphasized that if the student brings drugs to school then our policy should be that no one bring anything illegal to campus. Mr. Gilpin stated that it would be very unlikely for someone to knowingly bring drugs to school and then to turn them in. He said he believed this was more to describe what would happen, for example, if a student were under peer pressure to take possession of a drug but wanted to turn it in.

Ms. Campos asked what would happen if a student came in at the end of the day or at second period, then he had a drug all day or one period. He could have already sold some earlier, but was afraid of being caught so he turned it in.

Mr. Johnson commented that the way it reads, if a student makes a report on drugs or weapons he/she will not be disciplined. He said if a student reports that someone in his class had a gun, then it is a third-party report and he/she should not be disciplined at all. Mr. Johnson said the policy should say something different such as, "if the student reports himself, maybe, or if he is in violation." Mr. Johnson said the wording is too general. Ms. Perez clarified that the intent was to address the student who held an illegal item and did not want possession of it.

Ms. Sonya Garcia, UISD counsel, responded that the Legislature has considered doing away with "zero tolerance" with what is called Amy's Law which mandates looking at mitigating circumstances. Ms. Garcia described an incident the previous year where a young girl brought her brother's car to school. The brother was in martial arts and had a sword on the back seat of the car. Ms. Garcia said security walked by the car and saw the sword, so the girl was disciplined. Ms. Garcia said that was why the Legislature was looking at mitigating circumstance. She said she and administration would look at the wording.

Mr. Santos said they were getting close to working with the County and JJAEP and that this is one of the issues they would be looking at. Ms. Campos asked if they could please review and present the revisions for the coming week. Mr. Santos said they could do that and present to the judges the coming month.

Mr. Ramirez asked if the Police Department was aware of the Code of Conduct? Mr. Santos said they were. Mr. Ramirez described an incident where a student spent the night in jail after going to use a restroom after hours and activating a silent alarm. Mr. Ramirez said the officers should have asked the student more about what had happened. Mr. Santos clarified that the student was asked, but he refused to answer. That was the reason he ended up being arrested. The Superintendent said that Chief Garner had been meeting with Ms. Cavazos and Ms. Perez.

Ms. Perez said they would work on the revisions and present to the Board the next week. Mr. Ramirez stressed the importance of being careful as if the student is arrested, it could affect them the rest of their life.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Special Called Meeting of June 23, 2010 was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Pat Campos, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

July 21, 2010

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin – Member
William "Bill" Johnson – Member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

Before the meeting began, Mr. Ricardo Molina thanked everyone who assisted the people in *Rio Bravo* and *El Cenizo* as a result of the flooding in that area. He said, as usual, United came through. Mr. Molina thanked Mr. Santos, the United staff, the custodians, the Police Department and all who helped.

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, July 21, 2010, in the Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President Pat Campos made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:31 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

IV. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain

from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy.

No one registered for participation in Public Comments.

VI. Closed Session: Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:32 p. m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 – Consultation with the Board's Attorney

B. 551.076 – Specific Locations for, or implementation of, security personnel or devices.

1. Salvador Garcia Middle School Student Activity Fund

1. Roosevelt Elementary Student Activity Fund

2. Prada Elementary Student Activity Fund

3. Cuellar Elementary Student Activity Fund

4. Muller Elementary Student Activity Fund

5. Borchers Elementary Student Activity Fund

6. Muller Elementary Student Activity Fund

7. Attendance Accounting

8. Status of on-going Audits

Mr. Ramirez made an announcement that there would be a fundraiser for the Food Bank the next day at the Embassy Suites.

VII. The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:17 p.m. The Board took appropriate action on the following items as discussed in Closed Session.

VIII. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Johnson advised the Board that the Business and Finance Committee had met the previous week and was recommending approval of the following items.

A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements

B. Approval of Budget Amendments

C. Approval of Tax Refunds

D. Approval of Submission of Certified Estimated 2010 Debt Collections

E. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications

- F. Approval for Request from Juan A. Molina for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Los Obispos Middle School for \$8,000.**
- G. Approval of Request from William Johnson for Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for UISD Swimming Pool for \$14,015.65.**
- H. Approval of Sale of Salvage Equipment**
- I. Approval of Interlocal Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding Between Webb County Juvenile Board and United ISD for the 2010-2011 School Year**
- J. Approval of interlocal Agreement between Webb County and United ISD for Juvenile J.P. Court Coordinators**
- K. Approval of PDAS Appraisers for the 2010-2011 School Year**
- L. Approval of Appraisal Calendar for the 2010-2011 School Year**
- M. Approval of District Goals for the 2010-2011 School Year**
- N. Approval of Revision to Dress Code for Student Code of Conduct 2010-2011**
- O. Second Reading of Policy BE (LOCAL) Board Meetings**
- P. Second Reading of Policy BED (LOCAL) Board Meetings – Public Participation**
- Q. Second Reading of Policy DEC (LOCAL) – Relations with Parent Organizations**
- R. Second Reading of Policy GE (LOCAL) – Relations with Parent Organizations**

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Johnson

Seconded by: R. Molina

Discussion:

Mr. Ramirez asked that the entire school district focus on the dress code and to have the principals keep an eye on the Code. Mr. Santos responded that they would ensure that the schools are following the guidelines.

In Favor: Unanimous

VIII. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Consideration for the Board of Trustees to decide on the public meeting date, time and place to discuss the 2010-2011 Budget and Proposed 2010 Tax Rate

Ms. Laida Benavides, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, advised the Board that there had been an error on the published date of the public meeting. Ms. Benavides said they were recommending that the Board approve the meeting date, time and place which would be Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Student Activity Center. Ms. Benavides commented that there was another action item that would require the Board meetings to begin at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Cruz responded, however, that the proposed scheduled time of 6:30 p.m. would be fine.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

B. Consideration for the Board of Trustees to vote on the 2010 Proposed Tax Rate that will be published in the notice for the Pubic Hearing

Ms. Benavides advised the Board that they were proposing the \$1.04 for Maintenance and Operation and a current Debt Service rate of \$0.15486 for a total proposed tax rate of \$1.194860 which is the current tax rate. She said that will be published in the *Laredo Morning Times* on Sunday, August 8, 2010.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

C. Consideration for Approval to Contract with the Webb County Elections Administrator to Conduct November 2, 2010 Election

Ms. Norma Farabough, UISD Tax Assessor Collector, addressed the Board requesting approval to contract with the Webb County Elections Administrator to conduct the November 2nd elections for Districts three (3), five (5), and six (6). She said the estimated cost for the election would be approximately \$15,332.39.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

D. Consideration for Approval of the Order of Election for Districts three (3), Five (5) and Six (6).

Consideracion para la aprobacion de la orden de eleccion de los distritos tres (3), cinco (5) y seis (6).

Ms. Farabough advised the Board they were requesting their approval of the Order of Elections. She read the order of elections into the record.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting of July 21, 2010 was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Pat Campos – President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Budget Workshop
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

July 29, 2010

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – Vice President - absent
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson - Member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. A Budget Workshop of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Thursday, July 29, 2010 , in the U.I.S.D. Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043., Laredo, TX 78045. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:05 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Board Workshop

A. Discussion of Proposed 2010-2011 School Year Budget

Mr. Santos advised the Board that the budget they were presenting was a balanced budget. He said they had met with the consultant, Lynn Moke. Mr. Santos said the budget included raises for administrators of 1 ½%, principals 2%, and 2% for everyone else. However, he said the hourly personnel would receive a minimum of a \$500 increase. The Superintendent commented that Ms. Laida Benavides, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, would present an overview of the budget. He said they would seek Board approval for the budget in August.

Ms. Benavides began her presentation by saying they were bringing a balanced budget with the same tax rate. She noted that as per the Texas Education Agency, the budget had to be prepared by August 20th and approved by August 31st. She said there were three funds General Operating, Debt Service and Food Service and the Board would also have to adopt a tax rate.

She said the ten-day notice of the public hearing would be published on August 8th and the public hearing/budget adoption would be held on August 18th. On Sept. 1, 2010 the budget would come into effect.

In describing the preliminary operating budget for 2010-2011, she said they were conservative projecting revenues of \$304 million and revenues over expenditures would be \$4,071, 393.

Ms. Benavides said that Human Resources had worked with consultant Lynn Moke. She said staff was recommending a minimum of \$900 and maximum of \$1800 for teacher pay raises for a total of \$1,095,652. She said they were also recommending beginning teacher pay of \$43,000. Ms. Benavides added that the proposed budget included the reclassification of the current Dropout Recovery Coordinator to Director of Student Services.

Mr. Johnson commented that with the ruling from the Attorney General, he felt we should not go with automatic steps which would lock us into a particular range. . He said he felt it would be better to offer a set amount. Ms. Benavides responded that they would have to get with Human Resources and Mr. Santos on the issue. Mr. Johnson said it was just another unfunded mandate from the state. Mr. Santos said they could look at it and phase it in.

Ms. Benavides offered a comparison of raises at other districts. She said we are fairly comparable to what the other districts are. She noted that Round Rock is growing and is basically the same as we are. Ms. Benavides said most of the districts are feeling the pinch of the economy and we see that 2% has been a typical raise.

Mr. Johnson asked if we don't have a tax increase what will we have to take out of the general fund? If it's the next biennium, would we have to be taking out around another \$10 million? Ms. Benavides said they would research the issue and get back to the Board. She said historically, we peaked in 2005 and told the public we thought we would have to go up to 31 cents. However, with assistance she said we were able to give some relief to our taxpayers.

Ms. Benavides noted that what they see in 2011 would probably be repeated for 2012 and 2013. She said we have some student growth and get about \$7 million from the state. She added that if our values grow, that would help us. She then described the rest of the budget process. 1) recalculate tax revenue based on certified values, 2) publish tax rate and budget notices on August 8th, 3) Agenda item for August Business Committee meeting on August 11th, 4) Hold budget hearing on August 18th, and 5) Adopt the budget and tax rate on August 18th.

Mr. Ramirez as that, in light of what was happening across the river, did we anticipate more students. Mr. Santos responded that we wait until the students come in and the project. He said once school starts, they begin to balance classes. He added that last year, we were able to make ends meet by shuffling the staff around.

Mr. Gilpin commented on the comparison chart saying he would like to see what it would be if offering the mid-point for most of the teachers' salaries. Ms. Benavides responded that they had figured it out by putting in the teachers with the high number of years. She said it resulted in approximately 1.3 percent. Mr. Gilpin asked that they determine what it would be with the mid-point is on all of them.

Mr. Ramirez asked for a copy of the Attorney General's decision for the next presentation. Mr. Santos said they would put that as an agenda item at the next meeting.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Budget Workshop of July 29, 2010 was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Pat Campos, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary

Special Called Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

July 29, 2010

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Pat Campos – President
Juan Molina – Vice President - absent
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Judd Gilpin - Member
William "Bill" Johnson - member
Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez – Member

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. A Special Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Thursday, July 29, 2010, in the U.I.S.D. Student Activity Complex at 5208 Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:35 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Closed Session:

The Board entered into Closed Session at 6:43 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act as there were no action items to be considered in Closed Session:

- A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney**
- 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel**

The Board returned from Closed Session at 8:47 p.m. No action was taken during Closed Session.

IV. Action Items

A. Action regarding Termination/Appeal Hearings for:

- 1. Gerardo Barrera**
- 2. Celinda Vasquez**

Motion: I move to defer the decision, as discussed in Closed Session.

Moved by: Ramirez
Seconded by: Gilpin
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

3. Jose F. Macias

Motion: I move to defer the decision, as discussed in Closed Session.

Moved by: Rodriguez
Seconded by: Gilpin
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

Mr. Cruz, UISD General Counsel, clarified for the record that the action did not affirm or deny the termination appeal, but the decision would be made at the next board meeting.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Special Called Meeting of July 29, 2010 was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Pat Campos, President

Juan Roberto Ramirez - Secretary