

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting on May 21, 2012

The Board of Trustees West Orange-Cove CISD

A Regular of the Board of Trustees of West Orange-Cove CISD was held Monday, May 21, 2012, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 505 N. 15th St. Orange, Texas 77630.

I. Public Hearing – 6:00 p.m.

A. Discussion of Budget and Proposed Tax Rate (Melinda James)

Melinda James gave a presentation on the budget and proposed tax rate.
Mrs. James asked for any questions concerning the budget and proposed tax rate.
No questions were asked.

B. Adjourn: 6:04 p.m.

II. Oath of Office & Certification Notice (George Barron)

George Barron issued the Oath of Office & Certification Notice to Pete Amy & Eric Mitchell

III. Reorganization of Board of Trustees (Ricky Jacobs)

Andrew Hayes motioned to nominate Ricky Jacobs to remain as President
Ricky Jacobs rejected the nomination

Andrew Hayes amended his motioned for Pete Amy to be nominated for President
Tony Dallas seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously – 6/1 (Pete Amy abstained)

Tony Dallas motioned for Harry Barclay to be nominated for Vice President
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously – 6/1 (Harry Barclay abstained)

Harry Barclay motioned for Tony Dallas to be nominated as Secretary
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously – 6/1 (Tony Dallas abstained)

IV. Routine Business

- A. Call To Order – Pete Amy
- B. Invocation- Pete Amy
- C. Pledge of Allegiance – All
- D. Certification of Notice – Pete Amy

Board Members Present: Ricky Jacobs, Pete Amy, Harry Barclay, Tony Dallas, Andrew Hayes, Eric Mitchell & Rev. O’Neal.

Board Members Absent: None

Board Attorney Present: George Barron

- V. Audience with Patrons (limited to 5 minutes per patron)
Persons wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting reserved for that purpose were required to sign up as they arrive and to indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

Essie Stevenson stated she thinks the schools are using excessive punishment and are going overboard; she doesn’t want students to get so discouraged that they quit school. Ms. Stevenson also thinks the students who don’t pass the TAKS and don’t get to walk at graduation is also excessive and doesn’t feel that this is right either. Ms. Stevenson would like a copy of the policy on discipline rules.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- 1. We had the Retirement and Teacher of the Year banquet at The Brown Center last week. There were 19 teachers to retire. Principals did an exceptional job recognizing those teachers and sharing their stories.
- 2. Starting next week there will be Student Focus Groups at each campus. The focus is to sit down with the principal and students to find out how they prefer to be thought. This information will be imbedded in the professional development at the beginning of the year.
- 3. Hosted a Pastor Luncheon, 65 Pastors were invited and 14 actually attended. We are plan another meeting again in July. The plan is for the Pastors to adopt a classroom and run a small pilot program.
- 4. May 25 is student early release day.
- 5. Graduation is Saturday, June 2nd at 10:00 a.m.

VII. Action Items:

A. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:

- 1. Board Minutes (Bonnie Tegge)
 - a. Called Board Meeting on 4/2/12
- 2. Budget Amendments (Melinda James)

Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the consent agenda items

Andrew Hayes seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

VIII. Finance (Melinda James)

A. Information/Discussion Items

1. Financial Statements
 - a. General Operating Funds
 - b. Student Nutrition Fund
 - c. Debt Service
 - d. Check Register
 - e. Tax Collection

B. Action Items:

1. Approval consideration of Budget Option A and Budget Option B for 2012/2013 (Melinda James)

Harry Barclay motioned that the Board adopt Budget Option A contingent on voter ratification of the tax rate adopted by the Board tonight; alternatively, I move that the Board adopt Budget Option B in the event that the voters do not ratify the tax rate adopted by the Board.

Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

2. Approval of Proposed Tax Rate (Melinda James)

Harry Barclay motioned that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.4566, which is effectively a 9% increase in the tax rate. This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax. The tax rate will effectively be raised by 12% and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$104.

Ricky Jacobs seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

3. Approval of Homestead Exemption (Melinda James)

Harry Barclay motioned that the Board approve a 20% homestead exemption contingent on voter approval of the tax rate adopted by the Board at this meeting. In the event that the tax rate adopted by the Board is not ratified by the voters, I move that the homestead exemption be repealed.

Andrew Hayes seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

4. Approval of Bid Properties (Melinda James)

Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the bid properties as presented
Tony Dallas seconded the motion
Motion Passes unanimously

5. Approval of Auction of Surplus Items (Greg Willis)

Tony Dallas motioned to approve the auction of surplus items
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

C. Policy

1. Action Item:

a. Approval of Order for Special Election for Tax Ratification (Melinda James)

Harry Barclay motioned because the Board has adopted a tax rate which exceeds the district's rollback tax rate, I move that the Board call an election to be held on June 30, 2012, to ratify the tax rate adopted by the Board tonight in accordance with State law. I further move that before any formal vote on this motion, the Board Secretary read the order calling for a tax rate ratification election into the record and the minutes of this meeting.

Tony Dallas read out loud the following:

WEST ORANGE – COVE CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF ORANGE §

**ORDER FOR SPECIAL ELECTION,
WEST ORANGE-COVE CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District ("District") has adopted a tax rate that exceeds the District's rollback rate.

Whereas, in accordance with Section 26.08 of the Texas Tax Code, the registered voters of the District must determine whether to approve the tax rate adopted by the Board.

**THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE WEST ORANGE-COVE CONSOLIDATED
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

1. An election shall be held in the West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District on June 30, 2012 for the purpose of voting for or against the adopted tax rate.
2. The polling places for the election shall be open for voting from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on election day, and the following persons are hereby appointed officers of the election at the designated polling places:

Precinct Nos.	Polling Location and Address	Presiding Judge
1, 2	WO-S Middle School 1402 W. Green Ave	Jerry Hammett
3, 4, 5	North Early Learning Center 801 Cordrey	Helen Brown
8, 13, 14, 15	Salvation Army 1950 N. MLK Drive	Steve Menard
11, 12, 24	West Orange City Hall 2700 Western Avenue	Fran Crow

3. The official ballot for the election shall permit voters to vote for or against the following proposition:

"Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.17
per \$100 valuation in West Orange-Cove
Consolidated Independent School District
for the current year, a rate that is \$.13
higher per \$100 valuation than the school
district rollback tax rate."

4. (See #5 Below) is hereby designated as the main early voting place, and Bonnie Tegge is hereby appointed clerk for early voting in the election. Requests for ballots by mail should be directed in writing to Tina Leverett, Elections Administrator, 123 S. 6th Street, Orange, Texas 77630. Requests for ballots by mail must be received no later than June 22, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. and received no earlier May 23, 2012. Early voting by personal appearance will be held at the main early voting place from Wednesday, June 13, 2012, through Tuesday, June 26,

2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on each day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal state holiday, with the exception that early voting by personal appearance will be conducted on Tuesday, June 19, 2012, and Tuesday, June 26, 2012, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

5. Early voting by personal appearance also will be conducted at the following locations, which are designated as branch early voting locations pursuant to Chapter 85 of the Texas Election Code:

Location	Dates and Hours of Early Voting
Orange Public Library 220 N. Fifth Street Orange, Texas 77630	June 13, 2012 – June 25, 2012 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) June 19, 2012, June 26, 2012 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
West Orange-Stark High School 1400 Newton Street Orange, Texas 77630	June 13, 2012 – June 25, 2012 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) June 19, 2012, June 26, 2012 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
West Orange-Stark Elementary School 2605 MLK Drive Orange, Texas 77630	June 13, 2012 – June 25, 2012 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) June 19, 2012, June 26, 2012 (8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

6. The presiding judge for each election polling site shall appoint an alternate judge and two clerks and as many additional clerks as he/she may deem necessary for the proper conduct of the election, provided that not more than five clerks be appointed for any election polling site.
7. Early voting mail ballots shall be processed by the Early Voting Ballot Board ("EVBB"). The EVBB shall consist of a presiding judge and at least two other members. Upon recommendation by the presiding judge, the Early Voting Clerk shall appoint any additional EVBB members needed. The following individuals are hereby appointed to serve on the EVBB:

TBA

TBA

TBA

8. The Temporary Deputy Early Voting Clerks, Precinct

Election Judges and Alternate Judges shall be compensated at the rate of \$9.00 dollars per hour and the election clerks shall be compensated at the rate of \$8.00 dollars per hour. The judge or clerk who delivers the election returns may be paid an additional sum of \$25.00 dollars as provided in accordance with Sections 32.091 and 32.092 of the Texas Election Code.

9. Notice of said election shall be published at least one time not less than thirty (30) days before the day of the election in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and posted not later than the 21st day before the election and remain posted continuously through election day on the bulletin board used for the notices of meetings of the Board of Trustees of the District. The Elections Administrator shall also deliver notice of this election to the Orange County Clerk as soon as practicable after entry of this Order.
10. The Elections Administrator and Early Voting Clerk, in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. James Colbert, are hereby authorized to make all necessary arrangements for the holding of said election and to serve as a representative to coordinate with the Orange County Elections Officer in conducting the election in accordance with and subject to the laws of this State. The Early Voting Clerk shall furnish all necessary election equipment, ballots and other election supplies necessary for the election
11. All election materials including the notice of election, ballots, instruction cards, affidavits, and other forms which a voter may be requested to sign, and all early voting materials, shall be printed in all languages required by law, or translations thereof shall be made available in the circumstances permitted and the manner required by law.
12. The results of the election shall be canvassed by the Board of Trustees not earlier than the eighth day or later than the eleventh day after the election, at a meeting called by the Board in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act.
13. Said election shall be held in accordance with the Texas Election, Tax and Education Codes, and only resident qualified voters of the West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District shall be eligible to vote at said

election.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 21 day of May, 2012.

Pete Amy
President, Board of
Trustees
West Orange-Cove
Consolidated
Independent School
District

ATTEST:

Tony Dallas
Secretary, Board of Trustees
West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District

IX. Instruction

A. Action Items:

1. Approval of Head Start Integrated Plans & Training and Technical Assistance Plan for 2011/2012 (hard copy of binder w/info will be given at board meeting) (Shannon Larson)

Harry Barclay motioned to approve the Head Start Integrated Plans & Training & Technical Assistance Plan for the 2011/2012 School Year
Andrew Hayes seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

2. Approval of Amendment to 2011/2012 School Calendar (Silvia Martinez)

Harry Barclay motioned to approve the proposed changes to the 2011/2012 School Calendar
Tony Dallas seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

3. Approval of Amendment to 2012/2013 School Calendar (Silvia Martinez)

Harry Barclay motioned to make the following changes to the 2012/2013

School Calendar: move the teacher prep day on Sat. June 8th to Monday, June 10th and change the bad weather day from June 11 to Jan. 3rd, there will be no symbol on June 11th and the note on the bottom of the calendar will be deleted.

Ricky Jacobs seconded the motion

Motion passes unanimously

Board convened to closed session at 7:04 p.m.

Board reconvened to open session at 7:43 p.m.

X. The open session of the meeting will adjourn. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in closed session for the following purposes.

A. Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's Attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.(Tex.Govt.Code 551.071)

1. Consider legal advice regarding renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.

B. Teachers and Administrators (Tex.Gov't Code 551.074)

1. Discussion of Selection/Employment

2. Discussion of Evaluation

3. Reassignment and Resignations

4. Duties

5. Discipline

6. Discussion of Termination

7. Consider renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.

C. Discussion of Discipline of Students (Tex.Govt. Code 551.082)

D. Discuss other matters as authorized by (Tex.Govt.Code 551.071-551.084)

E. Paraprofessional, Support Staff, and Personnel (Tex. Govt. Code 551.074)

XI. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on items discussed in closed session and open session items.

XII. Personnel

A. Action Item:

1. Approval of Contractual Staff (Anitrea Goodwin)

Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the contractual staff as presented

Rev. Hardy O'Neal seconded the motion

Motion passes unanimously

XIII. Adjourn: 7:44 p.m.

