

Special Board Meeting
MINUTES
08/12/2025
6:00 p.m.

Present: Aslone Foy, Jim Longbotham, Sindra McLean (6:02), Jason Milstead, Stephen Bradley, Angela Crane (6:01), Bridgett Jackson-Tatum (6:26).

Others: Scott Cummings, Teresa Battrick, Melissa Smith, Deana Rand, Cindy Ensminger, Alex Montoya, Evan Ditmore, Lora Sims, Kelley Copeland, Nelson Kortis, Shirley Richardson, Justin Bell, Tiffany Burleson, Carli Parker, David Hoedebeck.

Aslone Foy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Jim Longbotham gave the Invocation.

Stephen Bradley led the Pledges to the Flags.

Jason Milstead read the District Mission Statement.

There were no public comments.

Dr. Shirley Richardson presented the facility committee's recommendations, top five priorities, two options, and critical needs. Option A: \$54,066,842 with no tax increase, and Option B: \$67,615,089 with an increase of six cents. Scott Cummings presented counsel recommendations for putting athletics as a separate proposition. Ballot language is mandated to include 'This is a property tax increase' on the proposition. Discussed the Legislature and the control they are taking over. Discussed having two propositions and feedback. (Bridgett Jackson-Tatum entered) Discussed the bond. Motion by Stephen Bradley, second by Jim Longbotham, to move that we approve and adopt an order authorizing the Board of Trustees of the Groesbeck Independent School District to call a bond election to be held within said District; making provisions for the conduct and the giving of notice of the election; and providing for any other provisions related thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

Carli Parker with WRA provided a team of eight with training on bond ethics and communications. Training included the ethics code, political advertising, advocacy, and that electioneering is prohibited. What can't be said, for example, 'vote for GISD', 'defeat GISD', 'every child deserves a good education', 'the mayor has voiced support', measure supported by the Chamber'. You can say factual statements.

Motion by Jason Milstead, seconded by Sindra McLean, to move that we adopt and approve the resolution engaging bond counsel and executing an engagement agreement with bond counsel for the Projects. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jason Milstead, seconded by Stephen Bradley, to approve Scott Cummings and Teresa Battrick as the Board Secretary's Appointment as Agents for Election. Motion carried unanimously.

Scott Cummings presented the 2025-2026 Budget. The proposed budget presented included a comparison with the 2024-2025 budget. 2025-2026 is a balanced budget. Discussed salary pay, state raises. Motion by Stephen Bradley, seconded by Jim Longbotham, to approve the proposed budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jason Milstead, seconded by Stephan Bradley, to approve August 25, 2025, as the date for the Public Hearing and Board Meeting to approve the 2025-2026 tax rate and the 2025-2026 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jason Milstead, seconded by Stephan Bradley, to move to recommend approval for publication of a proposed tax rate of \$0.7122/\$100 for M&O and 0.20750 cents/\$100 for I&S tax, equaling a total proposed tax rate of \$0.9197.

Scott Cummings presented changes to the 2025-2026 Student Handbook. Angela Crane asked about cell phone and student violation if the phone is taken up and the parent is not able to pick up the phone. Concerns about students not having a phone when they get home and safety issues. (Jason Milstead left the meeting.)

Consent Agenda: Motion by Jim Longbotham, seconded by Stephen Bradley, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- A. 2025-2026 Teacher Appraisers
- B. Donations

There was no Executive Session.

Superintendent Comments: School starts tomorrow, experienced teachers, great guest speaker at convocation, A-F ratings out tomorrow.

Board President Comments and Reports: There were no comments.

Motion by Bridgett Jackson-Tatum, seconded by Angela Crane, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned: 7:34 p.m.

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Aslone Foy, Board President	Bridgett Jackson-Tatum, Secretary	Date Approved