

**ERA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ~ REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Brown James Eaton Chad Greer Jennifer Hunter
Todd Reiter Jeffrey Stevens K.D. Weaver

SCHOOL OFFICIALS PRESENT: Supt – Jeremy Thompson Finance Director – Suzette Henderson
Sec Principal – Todd Jones Elem Principal – Courtney Stevens

OTHER SCHOOL PERSONNEL: Caitlyn Huddleston Shelby Huddleston Jorge Ramirez Jessica Taber

VISITORS PRESENT: Many guests from community, EDPR, local news media, and attorneys (see attached sign-in list)

I. Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Jeffrey Stevens.

II. Certification that a quorum was present.

III. Recognize Guests or Committees Calling on the Board

- A.** Superintendent Jeremy Thompson introduced teachers new to Era ISD this school year to the Board and audience: Caitlyn Huddleston, Shelby Huddleston, Jorge Ramirez, and Jessica Taber).

IV. Public Hearing

- A.** Superintendent Jeremy Thompson presented the proposed tax rates for 2019-20 of \$0.97 for Maintenance & Operations (M&O) and \$0.17 for Interest & Sinking (I&S).
There were several members of the public attending this hearing. (see attached sign-in sheets)

V. Consent Agenda

Motion by: Todd Reiter Second by: Chad Greer to approve:

- A.** Minutes of the July 15, 2019, Meeting.

- B.** Bill Register, checks **Activity:** none, **Budget:** 050148-050211, **WC:** 1
Review Investment and Financial Summary Reports

Motion passed: 7 **For** 0 **Against** 0 **Abstain**

VI. New Business

- A.** Jared Groce, David Sampson, and Rex Addison shared presentations representing the Cooke County Coalition for Property Rights, and others in opposition to a proposed wind farm within the boundaries of Era ISD. A number of community members (as listed below) also addressed the board verbally to express their opposition to the Board's consideration of a Chapter 313 Agreement. No formal action was taken.

1	Meredith Ellis	2	Rex Corey	3	Brad Mitchell	4	Cindy Bowles
5	Jerry Puckett	6	Parker Yarbrough	7	Nancy Bonilla	8	Robert Fuller

- B.** Representatives from EDP Renewables shared a presentation representing Wildcat Creek Windfarm, LLC, who is proposing to locate a wind farm partially within the boundaries of Era ISD, and is requesting approval of an Application for an Appraised Value Limitation on this property. A number of community members (as listed below) also addressed the board verbally to express their support of the Board's consideration of a Chapter 313 Agreement with Wildcat Creek.

1	Leo Lutkenhaus	2	Jeanne Gifford	3	Donna Bailey	4	Susan Schumacher
5	Robert Klement	6	Patrick Lutkenhaus	7	Rudy Schumacher	8	Kenneth Sicking
9	Werner Becker						

VII. Closed Session

- A. The Board entered into closed session at 9:11 p.m. under **TGC §551.087** to discuss commercial or financial information received from **Wildcat Creek Windfarm LLC** and from **BT Cooke Solar LLC**, both of whom the District may be commencing economic development negotiations. The Board returned to open session at 9:59 p.m.
- B. Motion by: James Eaton Second by: Chad Greer
to not accept Wildcat Creek Windfarm, LLC's Application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property and to authorize the Superintendent to review the Application for completeness and submit to the Comptroller, as presented.
Motion passed: 6 For 0 Against 1 Abstain (Todd Reiter)
- B. All voting members verbally affirmed by individual statements that they had no personal or professional conflict with the ability to vote on this agenda item, with one exception who abstained from the vote due to conflict.
- C. No action was taken to retain the services of Moak, Casey & Associates, as financial consultants and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo as legal counsel to assist Era ISD in processing the Wildcat Creek Windfarm, LLC Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property.
- D. Motion by: Chad Greer Second by: Jeff Brown
to adopt a tax rate of \$0.97 for Maintenance and Operations (M&O) for 2019-20 according to Ordinance 081919-1.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- E. Motion by: Jeff Brown Second by: K.D. Weaver
to adopt a tax rate of \$0.17 for Interest and Sinking (I&S) for 2019-20 according to Ordinance 081919-2.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- F. Campus Principals presented reports detailing start-of-school enrollments and upcoming events, and answered questions.
- G. The Board discussed and reviewed TASB Localized Policy Update 113 in a First Reading. No formal action was taken.
- H. Motion by: K.D. Weaver Second by: Jennifer Hunter
to approve OR deny the contract with CCAD for Appraisal and Collection Services from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021, as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- I. Motion by: Jennifer Hunter Second by: James Eaton
to approve the quote for property/casualty insurance coverage for Era ISD for 2019-20 with TREA-RMC at a total cost of \$61,928, as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- J. Motion by: James Eaton Second by: Todd Reiter
to approve the 2019-20 Student Code of Conduct, as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- K. No formal action was taken on either the 2019-20 Board Goals or Superintendent Objectives.

L. No formal action was taken in regards to the 2019 CCAD Budget.

M. No formal action was taken in regards to nominations for the DCAD Board of Directors.

N. Motion by: Todd Reiter Second by: Chad Greer
to endorse the candidacy of Barbara Burns, nominated to fill a position on the TASB Board of Directors for Region 11.

Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain

O. Superintendent, Jeremy Thompson, reported on the following:

1. District Construction/Maintenance Report
2. Report: 2019-20 Student Transfers
3. 2019-20 Student Handbook
4. 2019-20 Employee Handbook (not available yet)
5. Update on the last month of professional development attended by the Superintendent and Board

P. No student issues were presented or discussed.

Q. No student issues were presented or discussed.

VII. Motion by: Chad Greer Second by: K.D. Weaver
to adjourn at 10:24 p.m.

Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain

Jeffrey Stevens, Board President

Date

Chad Greer, Board Secretary

Date