

**ERA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ~ REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 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: Kylie Bowles Candice Murrell

VISITORS PRESENT: Hope Proffer Hailey Adams Ava Yosten Abigail Thompson
Jared Groce Brandon Westlake Bill Malone Joe Rauschuber
Cindy Bowles Mali Hanley Paula Roberts Jennifer Fuller
Brad Mitchell Nancy Endres

I. Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Jeffrey Stevens.

II. Certification that a quorum was present.

III. Recognize Guests or Committees Calling on the Board

- A.** New NHS Sponsors Candice Murrell and Kylie Bowles introduced the 2019-20 NHS Officers (Hope Proffer, Abigail Thompson, Ava Yosten, and Hailey Adams) who each presented information on their office and plans for the organization for the coming school year.

IV. Public Hearing

- A.** Board President Jeffrey Stevens publicly reported on the training hours for each of the Era ISD Board members for the past year.
Superintendent Jeremy Thompson opened the hearing in regards to the BT Cooke Solar Reinvestment Zone #1, and the Chapter 313 Application for BT Cooke Solar, LLC.
There were several members of the public who spoke in this hearing as follows:
- **Jared Groce** - pro-solar but opposed to tax abatements (that don't provide jobs)
 - **Joe Rauschuber** – not opposed to green energy but opposed to abatements
 - **Cindy Bowles** – same as previous speakers
 - **Paula Roberts** – read from an article from the TPPF; opposed to abatement
 - **Jennifer Fuller** – not opposed to solar, but opposed to abatements
 - **Brad Mitchell** – not opposed to solar, but principally opposed to abatements that don't provided jobs
 - **Brandon Westlake (representing Belltown Power)** – explained “value limitation” as compared to “tax abatement”; acknowledged low job creation, but explained that this application was more of an incentive to propel renewable energy
 - **Mali Hanley (attorney representing EISD with O’Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo)** – further explained the overall Chapter 313 application process and answered questions; noted the potential for up to 150 construction jobs up front and 1 job at 110% of County average salary as required
- The public hearing ended at 6:48 p.m.**

V. Consent Agenda

Motion by: James Eaton Second by: Todd Reiter to approve:

- A.** Minutes of the September 16, 2019, Meeting.
B. Bill Register, checks **Activity:** 2616-2622, **Budget:** 050360-050458, **WC:** 3
Review Investment and Financial Summary Reports

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

VI. New Business

- A. Campus Principals presented reports detailing enrollments, passing and attendance rates, and upcoming events, and answered questions.
- B. The Board entered into closed session at 7:05 p.m. under **TGC §551.087** to discuss commercial or financial information received from **BT Cooke Solar LLC**, with whom the District may be commencing economic development negotiations. The Board returned to open session at 7:56 p.m.
- M. Motion by: Chad Greer Second by: Jeff Brown
to not create BT Cooke Reinvestment Zone #1, as presented.
Motion passed: 6 For 0 Against 1 Abstain (Todd Reiter)
- E. Motion by: Jeff Brown Second by: K.D. Weaver
to not accept BT Cooke Solar, LLC's Application for an Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property on Qualified Property for School District Maintenance and Operations Taxes.
Motion passed: 6 For 0 Against 1 Abstain (Todd Reiter)
- M. 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.
- B. No action was taken on these agenda items with the BT Cooke Solar, LLC Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property, as per the action taken on Agenda Items M & E.
- D.
- F. Motion by: KD Weaver Second by: Jennifer Hunter
to approve the 2019-20 School Bus Routes as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- G. Motion by: Jennifer Hunter Second by: James Eaton
to approve the 2019-20 SHAC Members as presented, with Samantha Gerngross as chairperson, Kim Stahl as co-chairperson, and Jennifer Hunter as a School Board representative.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- H. Motion by: James Eaton Second by: Todd Reiter
to approve the proposal from Parsons Roofing for a replacement roof on the new gymnasium at a total cost of \$53,518, as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- I. Motion by: Todd Reiter Second by: Chad Greer
to approve budget amendments, as presented.
Motion passed: 7 For 0 Against 0 Abstain
- J. Superintendent, Jeremy Thompson, reported on the following:
1. District Construction/Maintenance Report
 2. Report: ESCXI Executive Summary Report – October 2019
 3. SB 944 – Public Information on Personal Devices
 4. Legal Updates
 5. Chapter 313 Updates
 6. Update on the last month of professional development attended by the Superintendent and Board
- K. No student issues were presented or discussed.
- L. The Board entered into closed session at 8:36 p.m. under **TGC §551.074** to discuss personnel matters. The Board returned to open session at 8:49 p.m.
No further formal action was taken.

VII.

Motion by: Chad Greer Second by: Jeff Brown
to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

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

Jeffrey Stevens, Board President

Date

Jeff Brown, Board Secretary

Date