

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees Sweetwater Independent School District

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sweetwater Independent School District was held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the J P Cowen Cafeteria, 400 W. 4th St., Sweetwater, Texas.

Members Present: Jeff Allen, Domingo Castillo, Dennis Cumbie, Mark Garcia, Kelly Sheridan, Tasha Soto, Bremda Valdez, Reggy Spencer

Others Present: Casey Bills, Krystal Woolard, Ann Allen, Sonya Davison, Jake Lawrence, Savannah DeLeon, Community members

1. Call to Order

Board President Mark Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and announced that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance stood and recited the pledges to the American and Texas Flags.

A. Board Social Contract – Mark Garcia read the Board Social Contract.

2. Public Forum

Several community members and parents of children attending the SISD Child Care Center spoke in support of the center. Lauren Hendrix read a letter from parent, Kathleen Cox. Ms Hendrix also expressed her concerns should the Child Care have to be closed. Becca Locke said the Child Care Center had been a God-send for her family and asked we explore all options. Early Childcare Interventionist, Christie Shaw, spoke on the many positive things she observes when making visits to the Child Care Center

3. Action Items

A. Consider and act on reorganizing the Board of Trustees

Tasha Soto nominated Mark for Board President. No other nominations were received. Mark was unanimously re-elected as Board President. Brenda Valdez nominated Tasha to remain as Board Secretary, no other nominations were received, Tasha was unanimously re-elected as Board Secretary. Mark nominated Dennis Cumbie as Vice-President. Dennis was unanimously elected as Vice-President.

- B. Consider and possible action to approve Request for Proposal to select a Food Service Management Company to provide child nutrition services for Sweetwater ISD beginning in 2025-2026.

Casey Bills reported on the process required in selecting our Food Service Management Company. Mrs. Bills recommended we continue with Southwest Foodservice Excellence (SFE) with a 5 year contract. Domingo Castillo made the motions to approve SFE as a child nutrition provider, seconded by Tasha Soto, motion passed 7-0.

- C. Consider and take action to adopt an Order Authorizing the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of Sweetwater Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025; and Containing Other Related Matters.

Jake Lawrence, representative from Government Capital presented information and results from today's Bond Sale. Jake praised Mr. Spencer and Casey Bills for their assistance in getting all the information ready for the Bond sale. Dennis Cumbie made the motion to adopt the Order for the Bond Sale, seconded by Domingo Castillo, motion passed 7-0.

- D. Discuss and possible action on the SISD Day Care program.

Mr. Spencer praised Savannah DeLeon, Child Care Center director for all her hard work with the Child Care Center. Savannah gave an overview to the Board and answered questions. Mrs. Bills reported on the Data we received from SEED and where we are financially. This year we had 55 staff member's children and 23 from the community. We expect 43 staff member kids next year.

- E. Discuss/reject/approve additional Bond-related construction projects.

Mr. Spencer discussed with the Board some additional projects needed at various campuses. Mrs. Mullican has requested some painting projects at Southeast. There is also a need for a new roof at Southeast. Mrs. Elliott has requested some addition fencing at East Ridge. For security purposes, additional fencing is needed at high school at the Science building.

4. Superintendent Reports

A. SHAC Report 2024-25

Krystal Woolard reported that the SHAC committee had 4 meetings this year and presented Board members with the required yearly progress report.

B. Bond Update

Mr. Spencer gave an update on the Bond projects. He also reported that he and Mrs. Bills have recently met with a representative from Indeco Sales to order furniture for the CTE building at a cost savings.

C. Roof repairs discussion

Mr. Spencer described to the board the conditions and the need for new roofs at campuses.

D. Campus Configurations

Mr. Spencer reported having recently met with the 3rd grade teachers and talked about the benefits of moving the 3rd graders back to the East Ridge campus. The teachers were in agreement to do whatever is needed to help the kids. Peggy Elliott, East Ridge principal, and Amy Nixon, Intermediate School principal, were present and expressed their willingness to do what ever is needed for the kids. Mr. Spencer made the recommendation to the Board that the 3rd grade be moved back to the East Ridge.

E. Armed Security Personnel

Mr. Spencer outlined that everyone wanted to be considered to be an armed security personnel will need to re-apply this year. They must fill out a new application, go through psychological testing and training required.

5. Closed Session: Closed Session will be held for purposes permitted by the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Section 551 Subchapters D and E.

A. 551.074 Discuss Personnel Matters

*****Board went into Closed Session at— 5:43 pm

*****Board returned to Open Session at – 6:38 pm

6. Discuss/reject/approve contracts

Mr. Spencer recommended offering contracts to Marina Wilcox to become the CTE Director and Carmen Crane to be the TIA Lead. Domingo Castillo made to motion to offer these contract as recommended, seconded by Brenda Valdez, motion passed 7-0.

7. Consent Agenda

- A. Act on Monthly Minutes
- B. Act on Financials
- C. Act on Student Accident Insurance 2025-26

Domingo Castillo made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Dennis Cumbie, motion passed 7-0.

8. Announcements

- A. SISD Awards Assembly Friday, May 23, 8:30 am Auditorium
- B. SHS Graduation Friday, May 23 8:00 pm Mustang Bowl
- C. June Board meeting Monday, June 23, 5:30
- D. SLI San Antonio June 11-14
- E. June 9 SEED Board meeting

9. Adjourn

Domingo Castillo mad eth motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm

School Board President

Date Approved

School Board Secretary