

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Brackett ISD

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Brackett ISD was held May 13, 2008, beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, 400 Ann Street, Brackettville.

Members Present: Sondra Meil, Tony Molinar, Henry Lutz, Mark Frerich, John Paul Schuster, Tony Ashley

Members Absent: Ronnie Hobbs

Administrators: Paula Renken, Frank Taylor

Guests: Brad Coe (elected 5/10/08), Dan Laws (elected 5/10/08), Bill Haenn, Allison Taylor, Ricky Alvarado, Melanie Jones, Tommy Clark, Marla Madrid, Susan Esparza

1. CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ

A. MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., with a quorum present. Following a moment of silence, Henry Lutz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members Henry Lutz and Ronnie Hobbs were recognized for their years of service to the students, staff, and community. Both served on the board for nine years. Ronnie Hobbs was not present to receive his plaque.

2. CANVASS RESULTS OF MAY 10, 2008 ELECTION

Presenter: HENRY LUTZ / RICKY ALVARADO, ELECTION JUDGE

The board conducted a canvass of election results, with Election Judge Ricky Alvarado reading the return sheet counts for the May 10, 2008, school board election.

Number of votes received per candidate, seeking the office of Board Trustee:

Steven G. Stafford	111
Gregory B. Stone	121
Brad Coe	206
Luis (Hershey) Gerardo Jr.	101
Dan Laws	155

Early Voting & Election Day voters:

Election Day 210

Early Voting 179
Mail in ballots 3
Total Voters 392

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to accept the results of the May 10, 2008, election as certified by the Election Judge Ricky Alvarado. Mark Frerich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. OATH OF OFFICE

Presenter: NOTARY PUBLIC SUSAN ESPARZA

The Oath of Office was administered by Notary Public Susan Esparza to elected board members Brad Coe and Dan Laws.

4. REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD OFFICERS

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

Henry Lutz opened the floor for nominations for President. Dan Laws nominated Sondra Meil. Mark Frerich nominated John Paul Schuster. A motion was made by Mark Frerich to cease nominations. Tony Ashley seconded. Votes cast were five to two with John Paul Schuster as President.

John Paul Schuster opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Mark Frerich nominated Sondra Meil. By acclamation, Dan Laws called for all nominations to cease. Sondra Meil is Vice President.

The floor was opened for nominations for Secretary. Dan Laws nominated Mark Frerich. Mark Frerich nominated Dan Laws. A motion was made by Tony Ashley to cease nominations. Sondra Meil seconded. Votes cast were four to one with Dan Laws as Secretary.

5. OPEN FORUM

Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT

No guests were present for open forum participation.

6. KCAD BUDGET FOR FY-2009

Presenter: CHIEF APPRAISER BILL HAENN

Chief Appraiser Bill Haenn delivered the 2009 Kinney County Appraisal District budget. The budget includes a 23% increase due to legal fees incurred by three law suits, costs for a computerized mapping system (GPA), and a three month overlap of the chief appraiser position. Of three law suits, only two went to trial with legal fees of \$25, 000, not budgeted. A loan was taken to pay these fees. As the school participates in the budget by 52% and is the largest unit, the school's share is \$13,000. Bill Haenn will retire next June. The budget will allow three months to train a new apprasier.

7. MINUTES

Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to approve minutes for the April 14, 2008, regular meeting and April 23, 2008, special meeting. Tony Molinar seconded. The motion carried with Tony Ashley and Brad Coe abstaining.

8. BUSINESS & FINANCE

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN / MARLA MADRID

A. BUDGET CALENDAR, 2008-2009

Presenter: MARLA MADRID

The fiscal year runs July 1–June 30. With no new money coming in the 2008-2009 budget is “tight.” A budget workshop has been recommended for June 16, 2008, at 6:30 p.m.

B. QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Presenter: MARLA MADRID

The investment report covers the 3rd quarter for the district physical year ending March 31. Interest is down \$20,000 on all investments for this quarter. Projections were set knowing interest rates might decrease, so the district remains in good shape.

C. RECAP OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

Presenter: MARLA MADRID

There were no changes to report with the April finance recap. The district did receive a state payment in May. According to our projections, CATE dollars will increase (due to an increase in CATE enrollment) so we will need to reallocate the budget to cover the required expenditures.

D. CHECK RUN

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

Noted and discussed checks for regional meets, Brooks Aerospace, Majestic Theatre, Fort Clark golf fees, new special ed. bus, election fees, GT conference, and third payment on the concession stand (a 4th payment was made today).

9. M.O.U. - COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTERS KINNEY COUNTY DETENTION CENTER AND B.I.S.D.

Memorandum of Understanding

Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT

A recommendation was made at the request of Warden Mickey Hubert, to partnership with the detention center for use of district buses to transport inmates in the event of an emergency. The center would use our drivers and be held liable for all damages, etc. At the request of the board, Mrs. Renken will notify the district’s counsel Walsh Anderson to modify the agreement/memorandum of understanding to include a statement on liability, and bring the agenda item back in June.

No action was taken at this time.

10. FLEX DAYS, 2008-2009

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

The district is completing its second year of “flex” participation. Compiled survey results showed parents and students were for flex days, and teachers were split. The Brackett District Advisory Committee recommends going back to the main reason for participation, to remediate at-risk students only using state criteria for the 08-09 school year, with five days at the end of the first semester in December and five at the end in May. Going back to at-risk only will allow teachers to be more creative and not TAKS regimented. Student attendance will be tracked with Region 20 through PEIMS. Each campus will set requirements and bring to BDAC. Training will start with leadership on down. All teachers need to participate in order to make it equal for all.

A motion was made by Mark Frerich to continue participation in the flex program using state guidelines with five days at the end of first semester and five at the last, with a report to be brought to the board in January and June. Tony Ashley seconded. The motion was revised as stated by Dan Laws and carried unanimously.

The 2008-2009 calendar will be revised to include flex days December 15th -19th, and May 25th -29th.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Enrollment, discipline reports, and current events.

Presenter: ALMA GUTIERREZ / FRANK TAYLOR

A. JONES ELEMENTARY / INTERMEDIATE

Presenter: ALMA GUTIERREZ

Enrollment: 325 Discipline: 14

Refer to written report. Administrator Alma Gutierrez was not present. Paula Renken to check on whether the three bullying referrals were separate or together. Noted were two days of minimal nutritional value set for Christmas and Easter. Both will be noted on the 08-09 calendar.

B. BJH / BHS / ACADEMY

Presenter: FRANK TAYLOR

Enrollment: 286 Discipline: 18

Refer to written report. There was only one referral in the fighting incident, since one student did not fight back. The ten skipping students were freshman. Tutorials may be moved to before last period next year. A review of UIL results was given to the board.

C. SPECIAL EDUCATION

Presenter: MELANIE JONES

The new special ed. bus is fabulous. Cluster V has hired a new speech pathologist for next year, Mrs. Metcalf. One senior will be participating in the graduation ceremony but has elected to remain in school. He is eligible until he turns 22. Two applicants were interviewed for the special ed. position.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Information & updates on projects and events.

Presenter: PAULA RENKEN

A. UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

We are looking at a maximum of three weeks to expand the elementary office. A portable phone is being used in the meantime. Letters are going home informing parents to dial 276. Next week the play court should go up. The concession stand is now enclosed and can be locked. The mortar on the bricks was not done well and needs to be cleaned up. The district does have money set aside for "retainage" which will be held until this is fixed. The lots have been cleared for parking. Buster Jamail has been a big help by letting us haul and dump on his property, and is currently working on getting the district another piece of property.

Board members were invited to attend graduation on Friday night and be introduced, also hand out diplomas. The Civic Center has been reserved in case of a storm.

Following discussion, the board agreed to discontinue the practice of having a meal before meetings due to the cost and burden to the district. Sondra Meil was thanked for supplying the board with meals for the last six years. Meetings will continue with the board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

B. REGISTRATION: SUMMER LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, JUNE 11-14, 2008

Paula Renken reviewed how to register for the summer leadership conference. Hotel rooms have already been held.

Sondra Meil represented Brackett at the Uvalde workshop on finances last week and gave a report to the board.

Going back to construction, a request was made by Mr. Schuster to look at people flow through the gates at the new concession stand, and to look at the welding which was not done well. As discussed at an earlier board meeting, everyone will enter on West side of the football field.

A short break was called for at 8:16 p.m., with the open meeting reconvening at 8:30 p.m. A closed session was called for at 8:31 p.m, pursuant to 551.074, personnel matters.

13. *PERSONNEL

Pursuant to Gov't Code 551.074.

- Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT
- A. LETTER OF RESIGNATION
Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT
 - B. LETTER OF RETIREMENT
Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT
 - C. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIRE
Presenter: PAULA RENKEN
 - 1. ELEMENTARY TEACHER
Presenter: ALMA GUTIERREZ
 - 2. BAND DIRECTOR
Presenter: FRANK TAYLOR

The board reconvened into open session at 8:41 p.m., and took the following action:

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to accept a letter of resignation from Laurel Plunk as presented. Mark Freich seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tony Molinar to accept a letter of retirement from Pam Melancon as presented. Dan Laws seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tony Molinar to hire elementary teacher Catherine Kepler as recommended by the Superintendent. Dan Laws seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Sondra Meil to hire Band Director Jason Archer as recommended by the Superintendent. Tony Molinar seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

14. OPEN FORUM
Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT
No guests were present for open forum participation.

15. ADJOURN
Presenter: BOARD PRESIDENT
With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

John Paul Schuster, Board President

Dan Laws, Secretary

Date

Date