



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

9E. **Action** **Date: September 25, 2006**

SUBJECT: **CONTRACT FOR GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES**

BOARD GOAL: **All systems in the Keller Independent School District will be effective, efficient, and accountable in support of the district's mission.**

FISCAL NOTE: **Budgeted in General Fund**

Background Information:

- The Keller Independent School District contracts with the firm of Brackett and Ellis for general legal services.
- The current contract with Brackett and Ellis was approved on December 17, 2001.

Administrative Considerations:

- The proposed contract calls for an increase in hourly rate from \$150 to \$175. This would include any litigation matters. The current school rate is \$175 per hour which is significantly less than standard rates.
- Attendance at each regular Board meeting would increase from \$550 to \$650.
- Other expenses would include photocopies at 20 cents per page, long distance phone calls, courier fees, mileage at the IRS rate of 44.5 cents per mile, postage, facsimile transmissions at 50 cents per page, filing fees, court costs, discovery costs, mediation fees, title reports and investigations, and computerized legal research.
- A provision has been added to the contract that requires the firm to give 30 days written notice of any increase in the rate.
- A copy of the contract is attached for your review.
- The contract was presented as a preview on September 11, 2006.

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The administration recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the contract for legal services with Brackett and Ellis as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Veitenheimer
Superintendent