

ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
801 NORTH FIRST STREET
ROBSTOWN, TEXAS 78380

REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JULY 19, 2021

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President
Larry Cantu, Vice-President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Ismael Gonzalez, Trustee
Bertha Roldan, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Hector Lopez, Trustee

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. José H. Moreno, Superintendent
Mrs. Diana L. Silvas, Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS: Richard Gonzalez Lisa Spivey Benito Portillo
Anisa Chavera Adan Botello Maribel Trevino
Candace Rodriguez Delma Salinas Lisa Persyn
Laura Cueva Patricia Evebie Chris Teague
Hector Gomez

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

At 6:00 p.m., President Lori Ann Garza called this meeting of the Robstown Independent School District Board of Trustees to order.

ROLL CALL: Lori Ann Garza – Present, Larry Cantu – Present, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Ismael Gonzalez – Present, Hector Lopez– Absent, and Bertha Roldan – Present

Present – 6

Absent – 1

Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members are present, that this meeting has been called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER

Trustee Bertha Roldan led the board members and the public in a prayer.

3.0

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE

President Lori Ann Garza led the board members and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag Pledge.

4.0

VISION – INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING BY PROVIDING LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

Trustee Larry Cantu read the following vision statement: “Inspiring Life-Long Learning by Providing Limitless Opportunities for Success.”

MISSION – EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TODAY TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following mission statement: “Empowering Individuals Today to Prepare for Tomorrow.”

5.0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Jose Moreno informed the public that they had included the following item under public participation: “Robstown ISD request for Public Comments on the use of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III) Funds for any comments from the public.” There were no comments from the public.

6.0

INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)

6A

TASA/TASB CONVENTION ON SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2021, DALLAS, TEXAS

Dr. Jose Moreno announced that the TASA/TASB Convention would be held on September 24-26, 2021, in Dallas, Texas. Also, he presented a calendar of events for July and August to the Board.

6B

DISTRIBUTION OF TASB POLICY UPDATE 117

Dr. Jose Moreno presented the TASB Policy Update 117 to the Board. The policy included the following three local policies: 1) CH (LOCAL) - Purchasing and Acquisition, 2) CV (LOCAL) – Facilities Construction, and 3) DEC (LOCAL) - Compensation and Benefits: Leaves and Absences. The policies will be brought to the Board for approval at a future board meeting.

6C

PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL HEALTH COUNCIL 2020-2021 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Mrs. Diana Silvas presented the School Health Council 2020-2021 Annual Progress Report to the Board. She shared the list of parents, community, and employee SHAC members, the four meeting dates (minimum of four meetings are required), SHAC requirements, topics of discussion during the SHAC meetings, and SHAC recommendations. The SHAC information can be found on the school district’s website, and they are recommending to the Board to consider adopting CATCH My Breath be adopted as the vape prevention program for Seale Jr. High School.

6D

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Jose Moreno announced that last week the administrative team met to align

themselves and the school district for the 2021-2022 school year. The theme of their gathering was Super Heroes to help everyone recognize what their Super Heroe power was. Once everyone identified their super power, they will be able to share and serve others. At Robstown ISD, they are committed to know every student by name and need. He presented a brief preview of their workshop. The school district will become a Google district on July 23, 2021. A special called board meeting will be held on July 26, 2021, new teacher orientation will be held on July 29-30, 2021, the convocation will be held on August 4, 2021, and the first day of school will be on August 11, 2021.

6E TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT-VIDEO CONFERENCE (ZOOM) BOARD MEETINGS

Dr. Jose Moreno informed the Board that after September 1, 2021, if a board member wanted to view a board meeting by video conference, there would have to be four members present at the meeting. Also, if the video happened to go off during the meeting, they were no longer in attendance.

Dr. Jose Moreno had each of the campus principals introduced themselves and their team to the board members.

6F ESSER III OVERVIEW, FUNDING PLAN AND GRANT APPLICATION

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the intent and purpose of the ESSER III funding is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. She reviewed the statutory requirements with the Board and the schedule of events over the last few months. The ESSER Grant was a one-time source of funding, and the document could change as the needs of the district changed. The total allocation was \$12,506,034, the initial allocation was for \$8337,356, and the remaining allocation was for \$4,168,678. The grant period is from March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2023. The following are the proposed expenditures: Technology – \$816,600, Facility Upgrades for \$2,305,000, Learning Loss, \$696,000, Other Proposed Expenditures for \$2,471,809; and Salaries for \$6,216,625. The next step was to submit the application and post the plan on the school district's website no later than 30 days.

6G PRELIMINARY BUDGET UPDATE

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the goal of the budget is to maintain a balanced budget, to work with campus/department administrators to prioritize needs and educate staff on how public finance works, and closely monitor all expenditures. She works with the superintendent, executive leadership, and board members to ensure the budget matches and prioritizes the academic mission and district goals, identify and implement cost saving measures, focus on staff and student safety, apply and seek any grant reimbursement opportunities available to the district and utilize ESSER II & III to greatest extent possible. She reviewed the budget challenge uncertainties, enrollments, average daily attendance, Peims Snapshot enrollment by grade level, proposed tax rates, current certified property values, historical tax rates for the last ten years, compensation plan/payroll, payroll expenditures, debt

service, and general fund. Also, she presented different case scenarios with different tax rates, and the best case scenario at this time was the tax rate at \$1.0362, ADA 2320 and a budget surplus of \$550,379.00.

6H **ROBSTOWN ISD FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs presented the Robstown ISD Food Service Department update to the Board. She reported that the vendor, Southwest Foodservice Excellence was awarded a contract via emergency procurement, and they started operations on July 1, 2021. Chris Teager was named the Food Service Director and a chef employee will start late in July, and they are waiting on approval of the application. They have applied for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. The RISD staff has inventoried the food and SFE inventoried the small equipment. The equipment from Ortiz will be dispersed to other kitchens to replace non-working items, and the freezer alarms will be reconnected to protect inventory. The Food Service Department was moved to the high school, employees will have a new dress code, managers will have monthly meetings, and district will implement strategies to improve morale. Campuses will start to operate breakfast in the classroom and lunch will be served in the cafeteria, and the school district will make their best effort to provide dinner meals to students staying for enrichment activities.

6I **LIST OF BILLS**
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs presented the list of bills for the month of August for a total of \$582,122.43. She asked if anyone had any questions on the list of bills.

6J **FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT/QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT**
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs presented the Financial Statement Report/Quarterly Investment Report to the Board. She reported that through the month of June in the General Fund revenues were at \$24,487,697, and the expenditures were at \$21,572,828. The Food Service Fund had total revenues of \$1,005,895 and total expenditures of \$1,263,933, and the Interest and Sinking Fund had \$4,341,742 in revenues and \$3,870,355 in expenditures. The school district has collected a total \$9,543,848,46 in taxes for a total of 95.15% collected. The school districts Lone Star Accounts totaled to \$14,580,182.69.

7.0 **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**
7A **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
7B **APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS**
7C **APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 ROBSTOWN ISD APPRAISAL CALENDAR**

Motion #6771 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve Consent Agenda Items 7A, 7B, & 7C at this time.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:11 p.m.

Motion #6772 A motion was made by President Lori Garza and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to move item No. 10A - Discuss and Consider Approval of Student Dress Code for the 2021-2022 School Year up.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:12 p.m.

10A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF STUDENT DRESS CODE FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR
Mrs. Diana Silvas presented the Student Dress Code for the 2021-2022 School Year for the Board’s review and approval. She stated that what they had in front of them was the original dress code and everything that was highlighted and had a strike through it was being recommended to be deleted and what was highlighted in green was being recommended to add. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the 2021-2022 Student Dress Code for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Motion #6773 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – No, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 1 Absent – 1
8:19 p.m.

8.0 GOVERNANCE

8A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REGARDING ESSER III AND POLICY (CB) LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that anytime a school district wants to apply for federal grants, they have to inform the community by posting it in the newspaper. This policy will allow the administration to post any type of public hearing on the school district’s website. The website would have a specific place where the community can see if there are any postings, and it would also save the school district money in advertising. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving a resolution regarding ESSER III and Policy CB Local, State, and Federal Revenue Sources as presented.

Motion #6774 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Hands and the Stepping Stone Company, 3) RFP#21-0006-Speech Therapy - The Stepping Stone Company, AMN Healthcare, and the Presence Learning, 4) RFP#21-0007-Student Evaluation Services to Maria Dolores "Garcia, 5) RFP#21-0009 BCBA/Applied Behavior Analysis – Therapy Connections and the Stepping Stone Group, and 6) RFP#21-0010 Translation Services – Language Translation Services, IDEA Translations, and CIT Interpreting. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended awarding the RFP's as presented.

Motion #6777 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:32 p.m.

9C DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPERTY LOCATED AT CASA BLANCA-RBST 1.2 ACS OUT OF EPOR BLK 2A (PARK) AND GRIFFEN WR-RBST BLK 6 LOT 9 ETAL
Dr. Jose Moreno stated that this was a follow up to the last conversation that they had on this item. He read a letter from the City of Robstown to the Board on the different options that they were recommending. He was looking for further direction from the Board to take the next step. The letter mentioned a long term lease at no costs and or an MOU would also work fine. After discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion #6778 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee L. Cantu to direct the superintendent to move forward on negotiating with the City of Robstown for fifty years.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:35 p.m.

10.0 **INSTRUCTION**
10B DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM (CSHS) VAPE PREVENTION PROGRAM
Dr. Jose Moreno stated that this item was being recommended by the RISD School Health Council for the Seale Jr. High School. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the CATCH My Breath be adopted as the Vape prevention Program for the Seale Jr. High School.

Motion #6779 A motion was made by Trustee L. Cantu and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:36 p.m.

11.0 **CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**
11A **DISCUSSION OF RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMINATIONS**

Motion #6780 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to go into Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Yes, C. Martinez – Yes B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:37 p.m.

President L. Garza announced that Trustee L. Cantu had excused himself from from the board meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Motion #6781 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to reconvene back from executive session.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
9:27 p.m.

12.0 **OPEN SESSION**
12A **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMINATIONS**

Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the resignations, appointments, and terminations as presented in executive session.

Motion #6782 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Roldan to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Absent and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 5 No - 0 Absent – 2
9:28 p.m.

ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
701 NORTH FIRST STREET
ROBSTOWN, TEXAS 78380

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JULY 26, 2021

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Hector Lopez, Trustee (Video Conference)
Ismael Gonzalez, Trustee
Bertha Roldan, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Cantu, Vice-President

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. José H. Moreno, Superintendent
Mrs. Diana L. Silvas, Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS: Richard Gonzalez

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

At 6:00 p.m., President Lori Ann Garza called this meeting of the Robstown Independent School District Board of Trustees to order.

ROLL CALL: Lori Ann Garza – Present, Larry Cantu – Absent, Cezar Martinez - Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Ismael Gonzalez – Present, Hector Lopez – Present, and Bertha Roldan – Present

Present – 6

Absent – 1

Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members are present, that this meeting has been called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAAYER

Trustee Bertha Roldan led the board members and the public in a prayer.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE

President Lori Ann Garza led the board members and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag Pledge.

4.0 **VISION – INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING BY PROVIDING LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS**

Trustee Cezar Martinez read the following vision statement: “Inspiring Life-Long Learning Providing Limitless Opportunities for Success.”

MISSION – EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TODAY TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW

Trustee Bobby Marroquin read the following mission statement: “Empowering Individuals Today to Prepare for Tomorrow.”

5.0 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no comments from the audience.

6.0 **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

6A APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs presented the following two budget amendments for the Board’s review and approval: 1) Budget Amendment for \$6,025,208.55 to budget for bond refunding, and 2) Budget Amendment for \$1500 for advertisement. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the Consent Agenda Items.

Motion #6785 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Roldan to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
6:05 p.m.

7.0 **INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)**

7A SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Dr. Jose Moreno announced that August 9, 2021, would be a special called board meeting where they will be presenting the full budget. On August 23, 2021, they will set the tax rate and approve the budget. He would like to meet with the Finance Committee after the meeting to set a time to meet on Friday. He announced that as part of the Texas School Framework Grant, the school district will be receiving \$675,000 for San Pedro, Lotspeich, Crossroads, and Seale Jr. High School for the Effective School’s Framework.

7B ATHLETIC UPDATES

Coach Cage Perry presented an athletic update to the Board on what they have accomplished so far and the direction that they are going. He explained the new branding for the athletic department which needed to be unique and easily recognized. The students are being kept busy and are playing multiple sports. The boy’s and girl’s summer reconditioning program was a great success. They averaged around thirty-five and with the girls around fifty.

The fields were to be used only by students from Robstown. He shared videos of the students practicing in the summer. Also, the academics would be a part of the program.

7C

ESSER II AND III UPDATES

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs reported that the intent of ESSER II was to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health and academic needs of students. The school district has been allocated \$5,568,488. The grant period is from March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2022. The application deadline is September 2, 2021. She reviewed the program deadlines, the key change from ESSER III, additional changes, and district allocation. The next steps are to start meeting to discuss use of funds for \$3.6 million, public notice will be advertised on the website starting the week of August 2, 2021, with the district requesting public comments. The application will be submitted after the August 9th board meeting.

7D

2021-2022 BUDGET UPDATES

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs presented the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget to the Board. The budget goals are to maintain a balanced budget, work closely with the superintendent and administrators to ensure that the budget matches and and prioritizes with the district's mission and district goals, focus on staff and student safety, apply and seek any grants, and utilize ESSER II & III to the greatest extent possible. She reviewed the budget challenge uncertainties, historical attendance for the last ten years, PEIMS Snapshot enrollment by grade level-5 years, marketing initiatives, current and proposed tax rates, historical and current certified property values, historical tax rates, savings by closing Ortiz, historical tax rates, payroll expenditures, maintenance tax notes, and drafts of different scenarios on balancing the budget.

8.0

BUSINESS AND SUPPORT

8A

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT UNLIMITED TAX REFUNDING BONDS, TAXABLE SERIES 2021B, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, A PURCHASE CONTRACT AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AND PROCEDURES RELATED THERETO, DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND/OR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO SELECT OUTSTANDING BONDS TO BE REFUNDED AND APPROVE ALL FINAL TERMS OF THE BONDSS, APPROVING AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND CALLING CERTAIN BONDS FOR REDEMPTION

Ms. Esther Young from Tijerina, Galvan & Lawrence Financial Consulting, informed the Board that they could realize a considerable annual debt service savings of \$59,911 per year by refunding the school district's bonds. This will be the 4th refunding that they have done for the school district. The goal is to lower the interest which reduces the bond payment. The school district would be

refunding a total of \$7,385,000 for a savings of \$920,514 at 12.465% of savings of refunded bonds for an average annual savings of \$59,911. The negative arbitrage would be around \$446,366. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the Order authorizing the issuance of Robstown Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Taxable Series 2021B, approving and authorizing the execution of an Escrow Agreement, a purchase contract and other instruments and procedures related thereto, delegating authority to the President of the Board of Trustees and/or the Superintendent to select outstanding bonds to be refunded and approve all final terms of the Bonds, approving an official statement, and calling certain bonds for redemption

Motion #6786 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:28 p.m.

9.0 INSTRUCTION

9A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2021-2022 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Mrs. Diana L. Silvas presented the 2021-2022 Student Code of Conduct for the Board’s review and approval. She reported that the changes are based on legislative updates and are highlighted in yellow for their review, and the changes are very minor. After discussion, Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the 2021-2022 Student Code of Conduct as presented.

Motion #6787 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee I. Gonzalez to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez –Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:30 p.m.

10.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE

10A DISCUSSION OF RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND TERMINATIONS

Motion #6788 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to go into Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
8:30 p.m.

Motion #6789 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to reconvene back from executive session.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
9:00 p.m.

11.0 **OPEN SESSION**

11A DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMINATIONS

Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the resignations, appointments, and terminations as discussed in executive session

Motion #6790 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent’s recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
9:01 p.m.

For the record, Trustee C. Martinez abstained on an appointment discussed during executive session because they were related to him.

12.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #6791 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Yes, H. Lopez – Yes, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 6 No - 0 Absent – 1
9:02 p.m.

(The details of this meeting are recorded on tape dated, 07-26-21, except for the executive session.)

ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
801 NORTH FIRST STREET
ROBSTOWN, TEXAS 78380

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 9, 2021

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lori Ann Garza, President
Cezar Martinez, Secretary
Bobby Marroquin, Assistant Secretary
Bertha Roldan, Trustee

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Cantu, Vice-President
Ismael Gonzalez, Trustee
Hector Lopez, Trustee

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. José H. Moreno, Superintendent
Mrs. Diana L. Silvas, Deputy Superintendent
Mrs. Vanessa Riggs, Chief Financial Officer

VISITORS: Richard Gonzalez Kelsey Cook Lorena Ceballos

1.0 GENERAL FUNCTIONS

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM

At 6:00 p.m., President Lori Ann Garza called this meeting of the Robstown Independent School District Board of Trustees to order.

ROLL CALL: Lori Ann Garza – Present, Larry Cantu – Absent, Cezar Martinez – Present, Bobby Marroquin – Present, Ismael Gonzalez – Absent, Hector Lopez– Absent, and Bertha Roldan – Present

Present – 4

Absent – 3

Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members are present, that this meeting has been called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

2.0 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER

Trustee Bertha Roldan led the board members and the public in a prayer.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/TEXAS FLAG PLEDGE

President Lori Ann Garza led the board members and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag Pledge.

4.0 **VISION – INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING BY PROVIDING LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS**

Trustee Bertha Roldan read the following vision statement: “Inspiring Life-Long Learning by Providing Limitless Opportunities for Success.”

MISSION – EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS TODAY TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW

Trustee Bobby Marroquin read the following mission statement: “Empowering Individuals Today to Prepare for Tomorrow.”

5.0 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no comments from the public.

6.0 **INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)**
6A **SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES**

Dr. Jose Moreno reported that the first day of school would be on August 11, 2021, and meet the teacher was scheduled for this evening.

6B **RISD SAFETY PLAN – RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES**

Dr. Jose Moreno informed the board members that the school district could not mandate for everyone to wear masks; however, they could only recommend it. He reviewed the COVID-19 Health Response Protocols with the Board. The school district would still continue the practice that was initiated last school year. The practice was to wear a mask (optional; however highly recommended), consider spacing 3-6th ft. when possible, always wash hands for 20 seconds, regularly sanitize in and out sanitize, and enhanced cleaning and scheduled ventilation disinfection. The custodians will continue to disinfect daily, the ventilation system has been sanitized, and it is good for three months. The school district will continue to inform people if they have been in contact with someone. The state says that the school district cannot require anyone to quarantine, and the state will not be able to offer any funds for being out sick with the Covid-19.

7.0 **GOVERNANCE**

7A **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS TO EIC (LOCAL)**

Mrs. Diana Silvas informed the Board that Pre-Ap is a registered trademark of College Board and can only be used in relation to the official College Board Pre-AP Courses. The Pre-AP courses are now available for purchase nationally, and Pre-AP label may not be used in conjunction with courses that have not been designated as Pre-AP Courses by College Board. The use of Pre-AP courses must cease during the 2021-22 Academic year. The school district’s local EIC Policy has been reviewed to remove Pre-Ap and replace with locally designated as honor classes/honors. After discussion,

Dr. Jose Moreno recommended approving the modifications/revisions to EIC (LOCAL) as presented.

Motion #6792 A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent C. Martinez – Yes B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Absent, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 3
6:39 p.m.

7B DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING EXECUTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF ROBSTOWN REGARDING REAL PROPERTY LOCATED CASA BLANCA-RBST 1.2 ACS OUT OF E POR BLK 2A (PARK) AND GRIFFEN W R-RBST BLK 6 LOT ETAL, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS BEATRICE TAGLE PARK OR "TURTLE PARK"
Dr. Jose Moreno presented a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Robstown to see if the Board wanted to make any modifications to it. If there are no changes, he will forward it to the City of Robstown for their review. If the City of Robstown approves the MOU at their meeting, the MOU is approved. After discussion, Dr. Moreno recommended approving the MOU with the City of Robstown as presented.

A motion was made by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation. The motion died for a lack of a second.

8.0 BUSINESS AND SUPPORT

8A 2021-2022 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs conducted the 2021-2022 Budget Workshop with the Board. She reported that the goal was to pass the budget on August 23, 2021, and set the tax rate, maintain a balanced budget, identify and implement cost savings measures, focus on staff and student safety, apply and seek any grants and utilize the ESSER II & III to the greatest extent possible. She reported that the budget was over in the following three funds: General Fund, Food Service and Debt Service Fund. The school district's total refined ADA is at 2.089.683. This was the ADA that she used to create this 2021-2021 Budget. The snapshot enrollment has decreased by 5.8% districtwide in FY 2021, and the elementary schools have experienced a decrease of 10.9% while the intermediate enrollment has decreased by 12%. The 2021 total net taxable value for the school district was \$672,226,759 with an increase in value of 2.58%. She reviewed the M & O Tax rate, the I & S, the total tax rate for the past 10 years, payroll expenditures for the past ten years, salary increases for the past eight years, updated teacher scale, TRS Active Care Insurance rate changes, and recommended changes to substitute compensation.

On June 25, 2021, the Board of Trustees approved retention stipends to be paid to employees for the next three years. Employees will receive \$2500 for the next three years, and they will be paid as follows: \$1500 at the beginning of the year, \$400 in December, and \$600 at the end of the school year. An additional retention stipend of \$1000 in lieu of a raise will be given for one year and would be funded through ESSER II. A total of \$600 will be given before the Thanksgiving Holidays and \$400 at the end of the year. The school district will be partnering with TASB to review the school district's pay system and staffing. The school district will pay of the buses in July of 2022, the HVAC/Lighting Retro from February 2014, will be paid off on August 20, 2028, and HVAC/Lighting retro from August 20, 2013, will be paid of on August 20, 2028. The total debt summary – General Fund for the 2022 is \$885,684,76. Also, she reviewed the campus allocations, the department budgets, and other special requests. By reducing the supply accounts by 5% and employee travel by 10% they will save \$100,000.00. Before the ESSER II adjustment, the budget had a deficit of \$1,643,364 and after the ESSER II adjustment they had a balanced budget. If they were to stay with the same tax rate, they would have to transfer \$264,448 from the General Fund. If they increase the tax rate to .5423 it would allow the district to collect all necessary funds to make the debt service payments or if they increase the tax rate to .5212 it would allow the district to recover more taxes and reduce the transfer from General Fund. Also, the Food Service Fund as of August 8, 2021, the expense exceed revenues by \$396,544.74. The school district has until January 21, 2021 to pay the funds.

8B

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE SALE OF DISTRICT REAL ESTATE

Mrs. Vanessa Riggs informed the Board that she has been in communication with the school district' attorney to sale some of the district's real estate. The Board and administration will get together to identify the properties that they are considering selling. The properties that they can sell are the ones that are no longer providing an educational setting. The next step would be to go out for an RFP in order for the property to be sold and get a third party appraisal to make sure that they are getting the market value or look at the appraisal value. She will let them know as soon as they can come up with a date to look at the school district's properties that can be sold.

8C

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE REQUEST FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR POSSIBLE DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION PROJECTS

Dr. Jose Moreno informed the Board that they have money set aside for renovations, and he would like to request for qualifications for design purposes. All of the applicants that apply will be qualified as long as they meet the standards, and then the school district could pick one from the list.

8D **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AWARD OF RFP:21-001 STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERVICES**

Dr. Jose Moreno reported that on July 21, 2021, the school district issued a request for proposal (RFP) for staff development and professional learning services, with the option to extend the agreement for up to two additional one-year terms. The school district received a total of eight proposals by the established deadline on August 4, 2021. After discussion, Dr. Moreno recommended approving the selected vendors for the RFP and delegate the authority to the superintendent to negotiate a contract with each vendor.

Motion #6793 A motion was made by Trustee B. Marroquin and seconded by Trustee C. Martinez to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Absent, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 3
8:27 p.m.

9.0 INSTRUCTION

9A **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN – ON RAMPS PROGRAM**

Dr. Jose Moreno reported that this interlocal agreement with the University of Texas at Austin-On Ramps Program was a yearly renewal. After discussion, he recommended approving the Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin – On Ramps Program as presented.

Motion #6794 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to approve the superintendent's recommendation.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Absent, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

Motion carried Yes – 4 No - 0 Absent – 3
8:28 p.m.

10.0 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 551.074 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE

10A **DISCUSSION OF RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMINATIONS**

Motion #6795 A motion was made by Trustee B. Roldan and seconded by Trustee B. Marroquin to go into Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

Roll Call L. Garza – Yes, L. Cantu – Absent, C. Martinez – Yes, B. Marroquin – Yes, I. Gonzalez – Absent, H. Lopez – Absent, and B. Roldan – Yes

