

# **Minutes of Called Board Meeting on April 2, 2012**

## **The Board of Trustees West Orange-Cove CISD**

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A Called of the Board of Trustees of West Orange-Cove CISD was held Monday, April 2, 2012, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 505 N. 15th St. Orange, Texas 77630.

### **I. Routine Business**

- A. Call To Order – Ricky Jacobs
- B. Invocation – Pete Amy
- C. Pledge of Allegiance – All
- D. Certification of Notice - Ricky Jacobs

**Board Members Present: Ricky Jacobs, Harry Barclay, Eric Mitchell, Andrew Hayes, Hardy O’Neal & Pete Amy**

**Board Members Absent: Tony Dallas**

**Board Attorneys Present: George Barron & David B. Hodgins**

**School Personnel Present: James Colbert, Ramona Burgess, Benny Smith, Hutcherson Hill, Bettie Curtis, Rachel Stephens and Bonnie Tegge**

### **II. Consider Level Four Complaint Hearing by Linda Watkins and Related Actions.**

**Ricky Jacobs, Board President, stated that the Board was taking up the agenda item related to the Level Four complaint brought by Ms. Linda Watkins. That the meeting tonight to hear a complaint from Ms. Linda Watkins who has filed a Level Four complaint under the policies of the District, in particular DGBA (Local). At this hearing, Ms. Watkins is appealing a Level Three decision made by Superintendent James Colbert related to these issues. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Jacobs asked the school attorney, Mr. George Barron, to assist in facilitating this hearing and to serve as legal counsel to the Board of Trustees.**

**George Barron stated that Ms. Watkins asked that the hearing be held in open session and both Ms. Watkins and the Administration agreed to an open session hearing.**

**Ms. Watkins will have 25 minutes to make her presentation then the Administration will have their 25 minutes. After the presentation each will have 5 minutes to make whatever rebuttal or closing statement they wish to the**

**Board.**

**Each Board member introduced themselves and stated that they could render a fair and impartial decision.**

**Ms. Watkins proceeded with her presentation based on the Level Three record. Once Ms. Watkins finished the Administration proceeded with their presentation based on the Level Three record.**

**Harry Barclay asked for the 2010/2011 evaluation. Ramona Burgess had a copy of the 2010/2011 Food Service Appraisal Record. George Barron asked both sides if they would allow it to be entered as evidence and both sides agreed. The 2010/2011 Food Service Appraisal Record was entered as pages 65 & 66 of the Level 4 packet.**

**Ms. Watkins and Administration have completed their presentations and both have agreed to allow the Board to deliberate in closed session.**

**Ricky Jacobs stated that the Board will convene to closed session at 6:55 p.m. The Board has reconvened to open session at 7:10 p.m.**

- III. The open session of the meeting will adjourn. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in closed session for the following purposes.
- A. Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's Attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.(Tex.Govt.Code 551.071)
    - 1. Consider Legal Advice Regarding Level Four Complaint Hearing by Linda Watkins and Related Actions
    - 2. Consider Legal Advice Regarding Renewals, Non-renewals and Terminations of Contracts for Professional and Non-professional Personnel and Related Actions.
  - B. Teachers and Administrators (Tex.Gov't Code 551.074)
    - 1. Discussion of Selection/Employment
    - 2. Discussion of Evaluation
    - 3. Reassignment and Resignations
    - 4. Duties
    - 5. Discipline
    - 6. Discussion of Termination
    - 7. Consider renewals, non-renewals and terminations of contracts for professional and non-professional personnel and related actions.
      - a. Consider Level Four Complaint Hearing by Linda Watkins and Related Actions.
      - b. Consider Proposed Non-renewal of the Professional Term Contract of

James Acker and Related Actions.

- c. Consider Decision to Terminate the Professional Probationary Contract of James Comeaux and Related Actions.

C. Discipline of Students and or Employee Complaint (Tex.Govt. Code 551.082)

- 1. Consider Level Four Complaint Hearing by Linda Watkins and Related Actions.

D. Discuss other matters as authorized by (Tex.Govt.Code 551.071-551.084)

IV. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on items discussed in closed session and open session items.

V. Personnel - Actions Items

- A. Consider Action Regarding Level Four Complaint Hearing by Linda Watkins.

**Pete Amy Motioned to deny the Level IV appeal and to uphold the Level III decision**

**Harry Barclay seconded the motion**

**Motion passes unanimously**

**Ricky Jacobs stated that the Board will convene to closed session at 7:12 p.m.**

**Ricky Jacobs stated that the Board reconvened to open session at 7:26 p.m.**

- B. Consider and Approve Proposed Non-Renewal of the Professional Term Contract of James Acker and Related Actions.

**No Action Taken**

- C. Consider and Approve Decision to Terminate the Professional Probationary Contract of James Comeaux and Related Actions.

**Attorney David Hodgins on behalf of the Administration stated that the Administration recommends that the Board decide to terminate the professional probationary contract of James Comeaux and that the Superintendent be authorized to provide official notice of the Board's action.**

**Harry Barclay motioned to terminate the professional probationary contract of James Comeaux**

**Andrew Hayes seconded the motion**

**Motion passes unanimously**

VI. Adjourn: **7:30 p.m.**

