

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting

Board of Trustees
Fabens ISD



A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fabens ISD was held Wednesday, August 21, 2024 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Central Office, Board Room, 821 NE G Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838.

Members Present: Orlando Flores
Benjamin Morales
Adan Escobar
Luis "Charlie" Estrada
Sylvia Gonzales
Angel Ornelas Jr.
Julieta S. Ramirez

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Mr. Martin Torres
Ms. Marlene Bullard
Dr. Ana Galaviz
Mr. Richard Orozco
Ms. Aide Polanco
Dr. Rogelio Segovia
Ms. Maria Avalos Fernandez

Mr. Jesus Barba
Ms. Diane Flores
Ms. Sofia Maciel
Mr. Michael Perez
Ms. Corina Ruiz
Ms. Jessica Yildirim

Maria T. Rodriguez

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Mission and Vision Statements

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Board President, Mr. Orlando Flores. All members were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance, Mission and Vision statements were recited by all present.

2. Superintendent Updates / Recognitions – 6:31 PM

2.A. Maintenance Department Update

Mr. Jesus Barba, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, presented a Power Point presentation on the department. The presentation covered: Department Culture, Campus Crews, Work Order Update, and Facility Upgrades/Projects. He answered a few questions from the Board.

2.B. Convocation Update

Ms. Sofia Maciel, Media Specialist, presented the item had a short video of the activities from the Convocation for all present.

3. Communication and Visitors – 6:45 PM

Under this portion, Ms. Rosamaria Gallo Avitia addressed the Board and community present. She thanked the board for their service to the community and reminded them that with the upcoming election that she hoped there would be no mud slinging, and to preserve the integrity of the election. She thanked Mr. Torres for serving Fabens and currently doing two jobs. She stated that the members should embrace / promote each other. She challenged them to keep their focus on student achievement and supporting the staff. She asked that they involve parents and volunteers.

4. District Employees and Officers – 6:56 PM

4.A. Fabens ISD 2024 - 2025 New Hires

Ms. Aide Polanco, Director of Human Resources, presented the newest 2024 – 2025 new hires:

Francisco Alvarez
Andrea Bencomo
Alejandra Carrasco
Adriana Esparza
Melissa Meza
William Rambo III
Juan Rivera

Erika Avalos-Fernandez
Jason Blair
Jormayri Collazo
Kimberly Garcia
Marysbel Montez
Isaiah Regalado
Malene Salas

Carol Basil
Daniela Cano
Valeria Cruz
Maria Gutierrez
Andres Ontiveros
Angie Reynoso
Rogelio Segovia

all were welcomed by the Board and community.

5. Consent Agenda – 7 :00 PM

5.A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 17, 2024

5.B. Fabens ISD Monthly and Quarterly / Federal Expenditure Reports

5.C. Resolution Adopting a List of Qualified Brokers that are Qualified to Engage in Investment Transactions with Fabens ISD

5.D. Resolution of the Fabens ISD Board of Trustees Regarding Review of the Investment Program

5.E. 2024 - 2025 Interlocal Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of El Paso County Juvenile Alternative Education Programs Pursuant to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code

5.F. 2024 - 2025 Property & Casualty Renewal Proposal, General Liability, Automobile, Crime, Cyber Liability, and Educators Legal Liability

5.G. Approval of Fabens ISD 2024 - 2025 T-TESS Appraisal Calendar / Appraisers

5.H. El Paso Community College Agency Affiliation Agreement Health Career and Technical Education, Math and Science

Mr. Torres opened the item. Mr. Adan Escobar motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to approved the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion Carried: 7- 0

6. Board of Trustees Business – 7:01 – 7:51 PM

6.A. Discuss and Consider Board Approval of a Delegate and Alternate to the 2024 Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Delegate Assembly – 7:01 PM

Mr. Orlando Flores opened the item and Mr. Adan Escobar motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to have Mr. Luis “Charlie “ Estrada as Delegate and Mr. Angel Ornelas as the Alternate.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.B. Discussion and Adoption of Fabens ISD 2024 - 2025 Budget / Compensation Plan – 7:03 PM

Mr. Torres, Interim Superintendent, opened the item and highlighted some of the information that was presented at the Public Meeting earlier in the evening. This would be the year the district would go with a 10-month budget and opening the 2025 – 2026 school year budget on 7/1/2025. He was requesting a Final Retention Stipend to be paid in August 2024. After the presentation, Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to adopt the 2024 – 2025 Budget / Compensation Plan as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.C. Discussion and Approval of Fabens ISD 2024 - 2025 Tax Rate – 7:07 PM

Mr. Torres opened the item and presented the tax rate for 2024 – 2025; as the same as last year:

Maintenance and Operation - 0.7910 and Interest and Sinking – 0.3321 for a total tax rate of: \$1.1231.

Motion was made by Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded by Mr. Angel Ornelas to accept the tax rate as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.D. Selection and Approval of Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Date – 7:08 PM

Mr. Torres opened the item and in order to finalize the 2023 – 2024 budget year with as accurate as possible numbers, he requested a Special Board Meeting. After a short discussion amongst the board members, Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Ms. Julieta Sepulveda Ramirez seconded for August 28, 2024 at 6:00 PM as the selected date and time.

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

6.E. Fabens ISD 2024 - 2025 Public Meeting - Grant Updates – 7:12 PM

6.E.1. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

6.E.2. Special Education Consolidated Grant

As required; Dr. April Galaviz, Director of Federal Programs, presented a Power Point presentation on both the ESSA and Special Education grants for the Board and community present. Questions from the board were answered after the presentation.

6.F. Fabens ISD Security and Parameter Fencing Purchase in Excess of \$30,000

Mr. Miguel Perez, Director of Security and Technology, presented the item. He reviewed the current five (5) projects and stated that they would be paid with Grant Cycle 1. Mr. Adan Escobar motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded to approve Vendor A as presented for the security and parameter fencing purchase in excess of \$30,000.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.G. Discussion and Possible Action on Approving Region 19 Proposal to Conduct the Search for Superintendent – 7:33 PM

Mr. Orlando Flores opened the item, a short discussion was had and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales motioned and Mr. Benjamin Morales seconded to approve Region 19's proposal to conduct the search for Fabens ISD Superintendent.

Motion Carried: 7 - 0

6.H. Closed Session per Texas Government Code 551.074 to Review and Discuss Resignation Agreement and Release with Former Athletic Director

The item was taken into Executive Session per Texas Government Code at 7:37 PM.

6.I. Reconvene to Open Session for Possible Action Regarding Resignation Agreement and Release with Former Athletic Director – 7:49 PM

Item was reconvened at 7:49 PM. Mr. Benjamin Morales motioned and Ms. Sylvia Gonzales seconded that conditioned on Rolaura DeAnda's resignation of employment effective June 30, 2024, the prior Board action terminating her employment be rescinded and that the Resignation Agreement and Release be approved as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

Not voting: Mr. Orlando Flores

7. Adjourn – 7:51

There being no further business, Mr. Ben Morales motioned and Mr. Angel Ornelas seconded to adjourn at 7:51 PM

Motion Carried: 7 - 0