

**1. GENERAL FUNCTIONS-OTHER**

**1.A. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at **6:00 PM**

**1.B. Roll Call**

Trustees Present: Barnes, Borrego, Maldonado, Martinez, Ortega, Rodriguez, Zuniga

**2. OPEN FORUM-OTHER**

**Any person wishing to address the Board during the period reserved for public comment at a Board meeting must sign up to be heard, in accordance with District policy BED(LOCAL):**

**Each participant will be limited to THREE MINUTES to make comments to the Board.**

**The Board is NOT permitted to discuss or act upon any issues that are not posted on the agenda for tonight's meeting.**

**For further information on those policies, contact the Superintendent's Administrative Assistant.**

No Community members signed up to be heard.

**3. BOARD OF TRUSTEE BUSINESS**

**3.A. Consideration and Appropriate Action on an Order Authorizing the Defeasance and Calling for Redemption of Certain Currently Outstanding Debt Obligations of the District; Directing that Authorized District Officials Effectuate The Redemption of Such Obligations; Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement; and Resolving Other Matters in Connection Therewith.**

Mr. Arnold Cantu addressed the board regarding how the defeasance works as well as how it would benefit the district.

Trustee Ortega asked what happens to savings from defeasance.

Trustee Barnes would like a report on savings over the years.

Trustee Borrego asked for administration to have reports and information readily available before the board meetings in anticipation of questions that board members might have.

Trustee Martinez mentioned having trouble disseminating the information given on board packets and he thinks it would help them to have information given to the board with ample time for them to go over and prepare questions.

Trustee Ortega clarified that for the record that she will be abstaining as she doesn't feel like she received enough information to make a good enough decision for the district. She mentioned that defeasance information should had been received ahead of time in packet given to the board.

Trustee Borrego motioned to approve, and it was seconded by trustee Zuniga Barnes-Yes, Borrego-Yes, Maldonado-Yes, Martinez-Yes, Ortega-Abstained, Rodriguez-Yes, Zuniga-Yes  
Motion Passes.

**3.B. Consideration and Appropriate Action on an Order Authorizing the Issuance of “Canutillo Independent School District Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2025”; Levying a Direct Annual Ad Valorem Tax for the Payment of the Bonds; Delegating the Authority to Certain Members of the Board of Trustees and District Staff to Execute Certain Documents Relating to the Sale of the Bonds; and Resolving Other Matters Incident and Related to the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of the Bonds.**

Trustee Ortega correlated the refinancing to a mortgage and mentioned that when re-financing it not always equate to savings.

Mr. Catu explained to Mrs. Ortega the parameters that would allow for debt to be refinanced. He clarified that in case of market changes if there is not a savings of at least 3% they would not be able to complete the refinance.

Mr. Cantu also explained the difference between the refunding bonds and the defeasance.

Trustee Borrego motioned to approve with a second by trustee Martinez. Barnes-Yes, Borrego-Yes, Maldonado-Yes, Martinez-Yes, Ortega-Yes, Rodriguez-Yes, Zuniga-Yes  
Motion Passes.

**3.C. PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing Will be Held Regarding the 2025-2026 Property Tax Rate. The Public is Invited to Attend and Provide Public Comment.

Trustee Borrego asked what would happen to the tax payers if this added additional taxes.

Mrs. Pulley mentioned that this is not an increase in our current tax rate. And that an increase would require the district goes to the voters. She also mentioned that if taxpayers see an increase on the amount of their property taxes it would be due to an increase on their property evaluation.

Trustee Ortega expressed her comment on the community being burdened with over taxation. She believes that to her, the district is overtaxing the community. She thinks that being able to make an extra payment is an indicator of the district taking more than it should.

Mrs. Pulley mentioned that the district has been authorized to have an increase however it has not been needed at this time.

3.C.1.

3.D. Consider approval of Tax Rate for the FY 2026 School Year.

3.D.1. Consider approval of the 2025-2026 Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate.

Trustee Borrego motioned to approve with a second by trustee Barnes.  
Barnes-Yes, Borrego-Yes, Maldonado-Yes, Martinez-Yes, Ortega-Yes,  
Rodriguez-Yes, Zuniga-Yes  
Motion Passes.

3.D.2. Consider approval of the 2025-2026 Interest and Sinking fund Tax Rate.

Trustee Maldonado motioned to approve with a second by trustee Barnes.  
Barnes-Yes, Borrego-Yes, Maldonado-Yes, Martinez-Yes, Ortega-No, Rodriguez-  
Yes, Zuniga-Yes  
Motion Passes.

3.D.3. Approval of Resolution Which Officially Levies the Tax Rate for the FY2026 School Year.

Trustee Barnes motioned to approve with a second by trustee Martinez.  
Barnes-Yes, Borrego-Yes, Maldonado-Yes, Martinez-Yes, Ortega-Yes,  
Rodriguez-Yes, Zuniga-Yes  
Motion Passes.

3.E. The Board of Trustees Will Conduct Interviews and Take Action Regarding Firm Being Considered for RFP 26-013 Consulting Firms for Superintendent Search and Other Matters Related and Incident Thereto.

Trustee Borrego stepped out at **6:49 PM** due to a possible conflict of interest.

The following 5 firms presented to the board:

HYA, JG Consulting, Powell Law Group, Ray and Associates, TASB

Each firm was allotted the same amount of time to present and answer board questions.

Mrs. Veronica Campbell reminded the board members about the code of silence.  
Trustee Martinez asked if ESC 19 had applied to the superintendent search and  
Mrs. Campbell explained that they did not apply.

Board took a 3 minute break at **8:03 PM**

Board had a deliberation session followed by board score sheet tabulations.

The top candidates were as follows:

- #1 TASB with 133 points
- #2 Powell Law Group with 129
- #3 JG Consulting with 112

Board gave direction to go with #1 and proceed to have background check as well as negotiations. If there are any discrepancies or it doesn't work with #1 then they would go to the second option.

#### 4. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **9:21 PM** under unanimous consent.

Presented to the Board of Trustees for approval on **November 18, 2025**. The minutes reflect all agenda items in the order as originally posted and do not necessarily reflect the order in which they were discussed.