

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2022

Como-Pickton School Board met in regular session, with the following members present: D J Carr, Clif Carpenter, Brittney Smith, Jim Murray, Keith Monk, and Cole Boseman. Shiloh Childress was absent.

D J Carr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Students of the Month were recognized:

Elementary – Dallyn Morgan

Jr. High – Saylor Smith

High School – Chelsea Osborne

Osvaldo Torres was recognized as Teacher of the Month.

Mr. Baird and Mr. Baxley presented the board members with tokens of appreciation from each campus for School Board Appreciation Month.

Terry Bolton offered remarks during public forum.

Motion by Jim Murray, seconded by Cole Boseman, to approve the consent agenda items, which included:

1. Approval of minutes from December 2021 meeting
2. Approval of expenditures for January 2022

The motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Keith Monk, seconded by Brittney Smith, to approve the 2020-2021 audit report, as presented by Steve Davis. The motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Jim Murray, seconded by Clif Carpenter, to retain attorneys from Powell Law Group to assist Como-Pickton CISD in the review and processing of an Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property from Pine Forest Solar I, LLC, pursuant to Texas Tax Code 313. The motion carried 5-0 with Brittney Smith abstaining.

Acknowledge by each individual Trustees of the Como-Pickton CISD Board of Trustees Conflict of Interest Policies BBFA (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) in connection with an Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property from Pine Forest Solar I, LLC.

Brittney Smith noted a conflict and did not vote.

D J Carr, Cole Boseman, Clif Carpenter, Keith Monk, and Jim Murray noted no conflict.

Motion by Clif Carpenter, seconded by Keith Monk, to accept an Application for Appraised Value Limitation on Qualified Property from Pine Forest Solar I, LLC, pursuant to Texas Tax Code 313, authorize the Superintendent of Schools to review the Application for completeness and submit the Application to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts; and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve any request for extension of the deadline for Board Action beyond the 150-day Board review period, as may be required.

The motion carried 5-0 with Brittney Smith abstaining.

Motion by Jim Murray, seconded by Keith Monk, to authorize purchases exceeding \$10,000 from ESSER, Rural and Low Income (Title V, Part B), ESSA, and COVID 19 School Health grants and to amend Board Policy CH, changing the limit for purchases to \$40,000 before requiring board approval. The motion carried 6-0.

Monthly financial and tax collection reports were reviewed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

1. Dr. Bower reported on active COVID cases (4 active students, 5 active staff), and that several schools across Region VIII were preparing to close due to the amount of absences and sickness.
2. Midwinter Superintendent Conference is January 30 to February 1.
3. Reminded the board of Visioning Portion of the Leadership Academy in San Antonio February 17 available for board members.
4. Dr. Thompson asked Dr. Bower to present to his Graduate students at Texas A & M Commerce.
5. January 18 – Training for new board members at Region VIII.

The board entered into executive session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at 7:36 p.m. The open meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

Motion by Keith Monk, seconded by Cole Boseman, to accept the resignations of Chanda Orren, effective immediately, and Jim Solomon, effective the end of the school year. The motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Jim Murray, seconded by Cole Boseman, to raise Greg Bower's salary as Superintendent by 4%, bringing his salary to \$130,000, and to add the "Golden Handcuff" incentive of \$10,000 per year for 10 years, being fully vested at Year 5. The motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Jim Murray, seconded by Cole Boseman, to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.