



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Board Minutes for the Month of June 2013

SUBMITTED BY: Delia C. Campos **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: July 17, 2013

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees take action to approve Board Meeting minutes:

- Special Called Meeting – June 11 2013
- Regular Board Meeting – June 19, 2013

RATIONALE:

State law requires the Board to prepare and keep minutes of its open meeting Govt. Code §551.021. The minutes are public records available for public inspection and copying upon request to the Superintendent or his designee. Govt. Code § 551.022.

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

No Budget Impact

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This is in compliance and in accordance with Board Policy BE and BE (LOCAL).

Special Called Meeting
June 11, 2013

The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb

In Attendance

Robert J. Santos
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian
Pat Campos – ABSENT
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – ABSENT
Ramiro Veliz, III - Member

The Board of Trustees of United ISD met in a Special Called meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, beginning at 7:04 PM in the United ISD – Boardroom, 201 Lindenwood Dr., Laredo, TX 78043.

- I. Announcement by the Board President calling this meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 7:04 pm. Let the record show that a quorum of Board Members is present, that this meeting has been duly called, and that notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible
- III. Action Items:
 - A. Presentations by Finalists for Financial Advisor Services in Response to RFP-012-13

Judd Gilpin – We will have two presentations from two of the firms for the finalist for Financial Advisor Services.

Cordy Flores-Jackson - For you tonight we have the two finalists for Financial Services. Four firms submitted and the two finalists that the committee has for your tonight is Southwest and Estrada Hinojosa. The first

company that will present is Southwest they will have twenty minutes. Only the firm that is presented will be here and after they are done they will go outside and the other firm will come in and present. Once they are done with their presentations we will open it up for question and answers.

Southwest – Honorable President, Members of the Board, Mr. Santos thank you for having us here this evening. For the record my name is Victor Quiroga, Senior Vice President for Southwest Securities and with me is Duncan M. Morrow. We are out of the San Antonio office. It is an honor to be part of the short list here to present our Financial Advisor credentials to you. We have had history with the district and we will share that with you. Out of courtesy for your time and maintain the limitations given to us we have prepared a presentation here for you and passed as to you as well. This will cover different sections here to introduce the district to Southwest securities and particularly talk about our school finance experience and how we could help the district more forward if selected.

Mr. Quiroga went on and presented his presentation that will be available for your review at the United ISD Purchasing Department.

Estrada Hinojosa & Co. – Good Evening my name is Noe Hinojosa, with Estrada Hinojosa & Co. for the record. First of all I want to thank the Board for giving us the opportunity almost 10 years ago. We came here aboard on or about on September 2003. Now that things have passed since then we can't wait to share that experience with you. In essence if you open your booklets to page 3 you will find pretty much the theme we have assigned for this district.

Mr. Noe Hinojosa went on with his presentation which will be available for your review at the United ISD Purchasing Department.

In closing Mr. Noe Hinojosa addressed the Board – I think if anything we are encouraged to be tested from time to time and we welcome that. I can't commend that you for the fact that you are doing it far in advance. Here we are in June 11th conceivable you were to call a Bond referendum it would be some time in November. I think the earliest you can get your consultants lined up the better. I mentioned earlier about regulatory issues, I think transparency is a key issue. I think whoever you are going to be talking to about bond finances you want to have someone to be on your side. Basically reflect what you are trying to reflect to your client base to your kids and important to your tax payers. I think that what our firm is about, our firm is about working in teams in this case both Roberto Tijerina and myself will probably be leading that group dealing with you and the public. I think one of the things I commend you is that having a efficient staff working for you. I think have been challenged by them time and time again. It's not an accident that we would be able to pull out 6 refinances in a matter of 3 weeks. I

wouldn't say three weeks all the time inside of 6 weeks. I will give you an example – A client just south along the railroad shall remain nameless took him three and half months to operate. It was a financing close to 100 million dollars we thought we could get him 12M, but got the deal done for 9M. The key here is to be able to cease in the opportunities the minute they present themselves. I like to say in a way that I don't want to embarrass our client down the south, but it is very easy to lose big dollars. I know how hard you work for credibility and transparency. I think some of the things I learn back in the Election of 2003 and maybe the Election of 2007 as you go an embarking in the referendum sometime this fall is the fact that you want to engage the public as quickly as you can. But you also want to prudent as to the size of the Bond issue you are going to be calling whether you want to call it in a one proposition or a cafeteria style. The fact that you are doing it today in June you are going to be better off talking to the public and talking to other colleagues in your position across the city and the various ETA's you have in here so you can build up momentum as you go on in calling the Bond referendum I guess it is 60 days prior to the referendum you will have the momentum already built up. So with that I commend you. In closing, I have been in this business 26 years on my own as a banker, 22 years as an owner and I will tell you this, whoever you were to hire this firm is not for sale and we are not in any regulatory fines environment. We have been very responsible 21 + years. I think when you have three young men I think I'm part of that young men. You want to have a financial advisor that is prudent, disciplined and that is focused. If you do so choose to give us the opportunity again we will welcome the challenge and I promise that when you start in embarking in this referendum it will be my duty to be more closely affiliated with you to ensure that Mr. Santos and his staff is well represented. So with that we close and thank you for the opportunity to have us before you.

B. Awards of RFP-012-13 Financial Advisor Services

Juan Roberto Ramirez – I make a motion to choose the firm of Estrada Hinojosa to represent United ISD

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

IV. Adjournment

Motion: So moved

Moved by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III
Discussion:
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed

There being no further business before the Board, the Special Called Meeting of June 11, 2013, was adjourned at 7:51 pm

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary

**Regular Meeting
The State of Texas
United Independent School District
The County of Webb**

June 19, 2013

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

Judd Gilpin – President
Juan Roberto Ramirez – Vice President
Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Sr. – Parliamentarian- Absent
Pat Campos – Absent
Ramiro Veliz, III – Member
Javier Montemayor, Jr. – Absent

Roll Call, Establish Quorum. Call to Order

I. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

II. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of United ISD was held Wednesday, June 19, 2013, in the Bill Johnson Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo TX 78043. President, Judd Gilpin made an announcement calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:08 p.m. The record showed that a quorum of Board members was present, that the meeting had been duly called, and that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

III. Public Comments: Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. The Board Parliamentarian will be the timekeeper and will inform the speaker when they have one (1) remaining minute. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select not more than three (3) representatives to speak for them. Comments must address items listed on the agenda. The presiding officer or designee shall determine whether a person who wishes to address the Board has attempted to solve a matter administratively. If not, the person shall be directed to the appropriate policy, as noted in BED (LOCAL), to seek resolution before bringing the matter to the Board at a subsequent meeting. Pursuant to 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, no Board Member or Administrator may respond to

a member of the public, unless such response is a recitation of District policy or a statement of specific factual information. When a speaker comes to the podium, please indicate what agenda item you will be addressing. Furthermore, please refrain from mentioning any employee's name and any complaint about any employee's duties or responsibilities should be channeled through the appropriate grievance policy.

Edna Olmida Flores – Good Evening School Board member, Mr. Santos and all present. My Name is Edna Olmeda Flores and I am a TSTA/AR employee and tax payer of UISD. I would like to address item V-A on the agenda in reference to the proposed Bond. On behalf of Texas State Teachers Association, I am here today to express my/or concern on the proposed Bond Election. I understand we need more school to alleviate the overcrowdings in our classroom. I am concerned on how this may affect us as taxpayers.. For the past two years we teachers, employees and staff of UISD have not seen a salary increase in the past two years. On the contrary as was said on May 15, 2013 by Alejandra Lightner, YSYA Vice President we have been asked to be grateful we have a job and have been told to do more for less. Why can't the district do more with less? Mr. Juan Cruz stated the UISD has been very pro employee in absorbing the cost of the insurance increases in 2009 to present. May I remind Mr. Cruz that while the district absorbed the additional cost of the insurance increase, the district has not given us a salary increase for the past two years? So I ask, who has paid for that additional cost of the insurance increase that you so rightfully claim the district has absorbed. I challenge Mr. Cruz to calculate how much the district has saved with each employee's salary freeze. Not only to calculate how much money the district has saved by teachers who buy their own supplies, student incentives and so much more.

Judd Gilpin – We will have this item every month if you want to print it out to make it easier.

Edna Olmida Flores – I will close because there was something addressed to you specifically. In closing we do enjoy teaching and we grow fond of each and every student that walks thru our classroom. However, we do have children of our own, bills of our own and all the bills don't stand still for us either. Our rent goes up, gas prices go up and now our health insurance premiums and maybe our taxes will go up too. Yet, again for the past 2 years our salary has not gone up. Not only affecting our ability to pay our bills, especially if you are a single parent. It affects our retirement as well. Is this what Mr. Cruz refers to as being pro employee institution. Thank you.

Alejandra Lightner - Good afternoon Board members, Mr. Santos and all guest present. My name is Alejandra Diaz Lightner for the record. I am a taxpayer at United ISD. My question is what kind of economic impact the possible Bond will have on class size, working conditions and salaries. In the near future my salary will be affected by the higher cost of health insurance. My salary has been stagnant for the past 3 years. But, if this coming year salaries do go up I am sure the positive

impact will never reformat in my pockets. Although I am in favor of developments that impact education, I am weary on how my income will have to be stretched to afford the tax increase. So, I leave you with my previous question, how will this possible bond impact/benefit class size, salaries, working conditions, etc.?

Charlie San Miguel – Good Evening Honorable Chairman, Honorable Board, Charlie San Miguel for the record. Thank you for your time and I would like to begin in congratulating all the students and teachers that will be recognized here tonight. I am in complete support of the Bond Election. I think it is very important that our children have a level of a fair playing field when they are out there competing. I know that our community can compete with the best out there. We just need to be afforded the technology, the classrooms and the environment to learn. I taught about 20 years ago high school, so I have seen my ex students grow up, have families, compete and have careers. I have seen first hand what a positive environment can have in our society, in our community. I have been to the school and seen where portable after portable is out there. It's not good; it's not a good learning environment that our children deserve. I am also concerned about security when we have all those portables out there. Now keeping in mind what these ladies just said I am totally and completely with them. I have seen in the last couple of years where the pay increase to the teacher and employees is not keep up hardly with the increase and insurance costs. And, so I beg the board to please consider when you are looking at that increase that these teachers so deserve that you consider the increase of the insurance cost. That this pay increase not only go to the insurance company but go to these families.

Judd Gilpin - in getting started this evening, I did not ask everybody to say the pledge so at this time please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, the Texas Pledge and a moment of silence.

IV. Recognitions

V. Superintendent's Report

Update on Citizens Bond Committee

Roberto J. Santos - Mr. Gilpin just to let the public know that we have had two meetings with the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. We will be meeting again this coming week. We had had very good participation. We have had over 100 members come to both of the different meetings that we have had. Next week we will have another meeting at United Middle School on Del Mar Blvd. Our next two meetings we will be able to break down into our 5 sub groups which are New Facilities, Additions/Renovations, Technology, Security/Safety and Finance. We will eventually create that sixth committee which will be Public Relations/Speakers Bureau which we will meet next week on Thursday.

Judd Gilpin – I know there is a lot of people in the audience that have been working overtime in that committee, so thank you all very much.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
- B. Approval to Designate Norma Farabough to calculate 2013 Tax Rate
- C. Annual Renewal of District Workers' Compensation Insurance Program
- D. Approval of Resolution Declaring Intention to Reimburse certain expenditures with borrowing proceeds in an amount not to exceed \$125,000,000
- E. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications
- F. Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) between Texas A & M University (TAMU) and United ISD
- G. Approval of a Utility Easement for AEP Texas Central Company for Science Wing at United South High School
- H. Action to Approve a Five (5) Year Lease Extension with Webb County concerning the Head Start Program located on UISD Property (Finley Elementary School)
- I. Action to Approve a Five (5) Year Lease with Webb County concerning the Head Start Program located on UISD Property (Prada Elementary School)
- J. Approval of Requests from Board Members re: Use of Board of Trustees Discretionary Funds for Various Projects/Campuses

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez advised the Board that the Business and Instructional Committee Members had met and were recommending the approval of items A-J.

Seconded by: Ricardo Molina
Discussion: Ramiro Veliz, III
In Favor: Unanimous
Opposed:

VII. Items for Individual Consideration

- A. Board Minutes for the Month of May and June 2013

Motion: So moved

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations into the minutes and requested that the Board accept the generous donations to UISD totaling \$8,686.

Motion: So move

Motion by: Ricardo "Rick" Rodriguez

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

C. Approval of Endorsement of Candidate to fill a Position on the TASB Board of Directors

Roberto J. Santos - I think we had one of our Board Members express an interest. It was Juan Roberto Ramirez to be a candidate. I'm not too sure if he decided not to run for office.

Motion: So move

Motion by: Rick Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed:

D. First Reading of Policy DFE (LOCAL): Termination of Employment – Resignation

NOACTION REQUIRED

E. First Reading of Policy FNCA (LOCAL): Student Conduct – Dress Code

NOACTION REQUIRED

VIII. Closed Session: Board will adjourn into closed session at **6:52** p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

- A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.072 Discussion on the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property
Discussion of Proposals for Sale and/or Acquisition of Real Property
 - 1. Report on entering into a Purchase and Sale agreement pertaining to property for sale by Juan M. Narvaez pertaining to 5.991 acres of tract out of Porcion 37, Abstract 410, Laredo, Webb County, Texas (the"Property"). The Property is owned by Juan M. Narvaez is located on the east side of U.S. Highway 83 (South of Zapata Highway)

- B. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney
551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel
 - 1. Level III Grievance for P. Lopez

- C. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints against Personnel
551.076 Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of security personnel or devices
 - 1. United Middle school Student Activity Audit
 - 2. Status of on-going Audits

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:43 p.m.

IX. Reconvened from Closed Session, the Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in Closed Session.

- A. Report and possible action on entering into a Purchase and Sale Agreement pertaining to property for sale by Juan M. Narvaez pertaining to 5.991 acres of tract out of Porcion 37, Abstract 410, Laredo, Webb County, Texas (the"Property"). The Property is owned by Juan M. Narvaez is located on the east side of U.S. Highway 83 (South of Zapata Highway)

Motion: Rick Rodriguez made a motion to grant and authorize to negotiate a purchase and sale agreement pertaining to 5.991 acres of tract out of Porcion 37, Abstract 410, Laredo, Webb County, Texas as discussed in closed session.

Seconded by: Juan Roberto Ramirez

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2013 was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Motion: So move

Motion by: Rick Rodriguez

Seconded by: Ramiro Veliz, III

Discussion:

In Favor: Unanimous

Opposed

Judd Gilpin – President

Ricardo “Rick” Rodriguez – Secretary