

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC Board Minutes

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Winch **OF:** Board Secretary

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: January 23, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

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

December 19, 2007 - Regular Board Meeting

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).

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

December 19, 2007

In Attendance

Roberto J. Santos, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Trustees

John M. Bruce, President
Pat Campos, Vice-President
Francisco "Pancho" Gonzalez, Member
William B. Johnson, Member
Juan A. Molina, Jr., Secretary
Ricardo Molina, Parliamentarian
Juan Roberto Ramirez, Member - absent

I. Roll Call, Establish Quorum, Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. An announcement was made by the Board President calling the meeting of the United Independent School District to order at 6:35 p.m. The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at the United ISD Student Activity Complex, Fine Arts Building, 5208 Santa Claudia Lane, Laredo, TX 78043. A quorum of Board members was present and the meeting was duly called, and the notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

IV. Recognitions

The following individuals and team members were recognized by the Board of Trustees for their accomplishments.

- A. Lauren Guzman – JBA – Miss Texas Teen USA
- B. Beverly Herrera, Teacher – Alexander High School – American Star of Teaching for Texas
- C. *Texas Monthly* Magazine – Great Public Schools
 1. United High School
 2. Trautmann Elementary School
- D. Adriana Aguilar – United South High School - U.S. Congressional Page

- E. John B. Alexander High School
District 29-5A Back to Back District Champions
Region IV Cross country Championship 3rd Place Team
State 5A Qualifying Team

- 1. Boys Varsity Team

- a. Ryan Elizalde
- b. Wilford Collins
- c. Charles Dickinson
- d. Michael Rocha
- e. Alfredo Morales
- f. Ivan Garcia
- g. Daniel Martinez, Jr.
- h. Diego Mascorro
- i. Gerardo Quintanilla
- j. Coach Javier Reyes

Following the recognitions at 6:49 p.m., Mr. Bruce asked that they have a five-minute break in order to allow photographs to be taken of those being honored. The Board reconvened at 6:56 p.m.

Mr. Bruce asked that Item X-C be moved up to accommodate out-of-town representatives of the auditing firm Gonzalez, Garza & Associates.

Item X-C. – Approval of Independent Audit Report for the Year Ended August 31, 2007.

Mr. Eli Mendoza provided a report that his firm was rendering an unqualified opinion which is the best opinion of a possible four that can be received. Mr. Garza rendered an unqualified opinion in the Federal Programs and overall, it was a clean report.

Mr. Bruce thanked the firm for the assistance they gave the District and for their support.

Motion: So move.

Moved by: Gonzalez
Seconded by: J. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

V. Public Comments

No one came forward to speak during Public Comments.

VI. Closed Session. The Board entered into closed session at 7:01 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act:

A. 551.071 Consultation with Board's Attorney

551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel

1. Discussion re: Performance Pay Addendum to Superintendent's Employment Contract

B. 551.072 Discussion on the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property

- 1. Report on status of negotiations, and consideration of terms for Earnest Money Contract and discussion of possible action pertaining to the review of several options to purchase from E.G. Ranch, Ltd., either in one tract or several contiguous or non-contiguous tracts of approximately 54 acres. Such real property located east of Bob Bullock Loop 20 and approximately 200 lineal feet south of Highway 359 to be considered for purchase.**
- 2. Report on status of negotiations and consideration of terms for Earnest Money Contract and discussion of possible action pertaining to the purchase of approximately 95 acres to be acquired as one tract or as several contiguous or non-contiguous separate tracts from Verde Corporation as Trustee of the Hachar Trust located off of FM-1472 (Mines Road) East of Pico Road of Mines Road north approximately 900 lineal feet Southwest of IH-35 identified as T-Q by Verde Corporation.**

C. 551.074 Discussion of Personnel or to Hear Complaints Against Personnel

- 1. Internal Auditors Duties and Responsibilities**
- 2. Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities**

VII. The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 8:48 p.m. The Board took no action during Closed Session.

Ms. Campos did not return following Closed Session.

Mr. Juan Cruz, UISD General Counsel, advised the Board that there was no recommendation for action to be taken on Items VII- A and VII-B.

- A. Discussion and possible action concerning the execution of an Earnest Money Contract to purchase from E. G. Ranch, Ltd., either in one tract or several contiguous or non-contiguous tracts of approximately 54 acres. Such real Property located east of Bob Bullock Loop, Lop 20 and approximately 200 Lineal feet south of Highway 359 to be considered for purchase.**
- B. Discussion and possible action concerning the execution of an Earnest Money Contract and possible purchase of an approximate 95-acre tract to be acquired as one tract or as contiguous or non-contiguous separate tracts from Verde Corporation as Trustee of the Hachar Trust located off**

FM-1472 (Mines Road) East of Pico Road and West of IH-35 identified as T-Q by Verde Corporation.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

A. Report on Completion of the Required Continuing Education Training for School Board Members

State law requires that following their first year of service, board members receive a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing education annually in fulfillment of assessed needs. As of the last election held on May 13, 2006 through December 31, 2007, UISD board members have received the required training. Mr. Santos read the list of Continuing Education Training completed by the school board members.

John Bruce – 18.50
Pat Campos – 13.25
Francisco Gonzalez, Jr. - 41.75
Ricardo Molina – 50.50
Juan Roberto Ramirez – 57.25
William B. Johnson – 31.00
Juan A. Molina, Jr. – 25.25

IX. Consent Agenda Item

Mr. Johnson said that the Instructional and Business Committees had met the previous week and were recommending approval of the following items:

- A. Approval of Monthly Disbursements**
- B. Approval of budget Amendments**
- C. Approval of Tax Refunds**
- D. Award of district Student Extra-Curricular Insurance Contract**
- E. Approval of Awarding Bids, Proposals and Qualifications**
- F. Memorandum of Understanding – Social Security Administration and Department of Homeland Security**
- G. Approval of Course Requirement Waivers**
- H. Approval of Innovative Course-Ready, Set, Teach I and II for Renewal**
- I. Approval of District School Calendar for 2008-2009 School Year**

Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion:

Clarification was provided on Item IX-I that the calendar option being selected was Option 1.

Mr. Gonzalez asked about the approval of the innovative course (Item IX-H). He wanted to know if the course was in place and asked how many students have participated. He asked if the students had been successful.

Mr. Santos responded that the students who have participated are given a certificate that ensures they have a position with the District when they graduate with their teaching degree. He said he believed we had hired approximately ten teachers from the program.

Mr. Gonzalez said he felt it was worth it if we even had one student.

Mr. Gonzalez then addressed one of the items to be approved (Item IX-E) which was the bid on the technology services where our Technology Department had sought funding through outside resources. He commended the department on their doing so.

The bid to which Mr. Gonzalez referred was the awarding of network equipment and data cabling services for the E-Rate year 11. Mr. Hector Perez, Executive Director of Information Technology indicated that the recommended vendors were providing the best value to the school district. He provided information on the item informing the Board that he would be submitting an application for funding to the Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) and that the District could receive 90% of the funding on some of the schools listed in the RFP pending approval of the year 11 SLD e-rate application.

In Favor: Unanimous

X. Items for Individual Consideration

A. Board Minutes

- 1. Special Called Meeting 11-13-07**
- 2. Public Hearing 11-28-07**
- 3. Regular Meeting 11-28-07**
- 4. Special Called Meeting 12-10-07**

Motion: So move.
Moved by: J. Molina
Seconded by: Johnson
Discussion: None
In Favor: Bruce, Johnson, J. Molina, R. Molina
Abstain: Gonzalez

B. Donations

Mr. Santos read the donations totaling \$20,480.60 into the record and thanked the donors for their gracious contributions.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Gonzalez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

C. Approval of Independent Audit Report for the Year Ended August 31, 2007

This item was considered before Closed Session.

D. Approval of Amendment to Internal Audit Plan for 2007-2008

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Johnson
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

F. Approval of Energy Consumption Reduction Plan

Mr. Eduardo Zuniga, Associate Superintendent for Support Services, addressed the Board saying the implementation of this plan was in response to Senate Bill 12 and House Bill 3693 signed by the Governor in June 2007 and effective on September 1, 2007 in which all school districts must establish a goal to reduce their annual energy consumption by 5% each fiscal year for 6 years beginning September 1, 2007.

Mr. Zuniga read the resolution into the record.

Motion: So move.
Moved by: Gonzalez
Seconded by: R. Molina
Discussion: None
In Favor: Unanimous

Mr. Gonzalez recognized Mr. Enrique Rangel, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities/Construction/Student Services, and Mr. Cesar Trevino, Director of Energy/Environmental Management, for their work in reducing energy costs.

G. First Reading of Policy DAA (LOCAL) – Employment Practices

No action required.

G. First Reading of Policy DHE (LOCAL) Employee Standards of Conduct: Searches and Alcohol/Drug Testing

No action required.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, the Regular Meeting of December 19, 2007 was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

John M. Bruce – President

Juan A. Molina, Jr. - Secretary