Minutes of Regular Meeting – August 31, 2009

The Board of Trustees
West Orange-Cove CISD

A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of West Orange-Cove CISD was held August 31, 2009, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 505 N. 15th St. Orange, Texas 77630.

I.   **PUBLIC MEETING**
      A.   Approval of Proposed 2009 Tax Rate

           Harry Barclay motioned to approve the 2009 Tax Rate of $1.43204
           Eric Mitchell Seconded the motion
           Motion passes unanimously

      B.   The Public Hearing Portion of the Meeting is Adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

II.   Routine Business
      A.   Call To Order – 6:05 p.m.
      B.   Invocation- Pete Amy
      C.   Pledge of Allegiance- All
      D.   Certification of Notice – Pete Amy

           Board Members Present: Pete Amy, Eric Mitchell, Ricky Jacobs, Dr. Mary Fontenot Hardin (arrived at 6:17 p.m.), Andrew Hayes, Vincent Bottley and Harry Barclay

           School Attorney Present: George Barron

           School Personnel Present: Dr. O. Taylor Collins, Margaret Duchamp, Jane Stephenson, Melinda James, Anitrea Goodwin, Paul Hardin, Travis McKelvain, Benny Smith, Elvis Rushing, Lorraine Shannon, Bettie Curtis.

III.   Audience with Patrons (limited to 5 minutes per patron)
Persons wishing to participate in this portion of the meeting reserved for that purpose were required to sign up as they arrive and to indicate the topic about which they wish to speak.

IV.   Superintendent's Report
      A.   Discussion: First week of busing with STS

              Kerri Baldwin, Director of STS spoke about the first weeks issues.

              Tommy Mann of the Orange Leader was honored with a Media Honor Roll certificate for his fair and balanced reporting of news about public schools.

              Anitrea Goodwin spoke on the Stimulus/Title 1 Grant of $632,550
              Jane Stephenson spoke on Special Education/IDEA Part B Funds of $550,000

              Paul Hardin, Travis McKelvain and Benny Smith shared with the Board on the first week on their campuses

V.   Approval of Consent Agenda Items:
      A.   Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for the following:
              1.   July 20, 2009
              2.   July 27, 2009
              3.   August 3, 2009
      B.   Approval of Budget Amendments

              Eric Mitchell motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items
              Ricky Jacobs seconded the motion
              Motion passes unanimously

VI.   Finance
      A.   Information/Discussion Items
              1.   Financial Statements
                   a.   General Operating Funds
                   b.   Student Nutrition Fund
                   c.   Debt Service
              2.   Tax Collection
              3.   Check Register - July 2009

B.   Action Items:

    1.   Approval of Revised Agreement with Betsy Bender

        Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the revised agreement with Betsy Bender as presented
        Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
        Motion passes unanimously

    2.   Acceptance of a $400.00 Donation for Standardized Dress from Driftwood Christian Church in Vallonia, Indiana

        Ricky Jacobs motioned to accept the $400.00 donation from Driftwood Christian Church
        Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
        Motion passes unanimously

    3.   Acceptance of an Anonymous Donation of $2,000 for a Book Per Month to each Kindergarten Students at Anderson Elementary

        Ricky Jacobs motioned to accept the anonymous donation of $2,000
        Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
        Motion passes unanimously

    4.   Acceptance of Sabine Cogen Litigation Refund for 2008 Property Taxes

        Postponed until after closed session

        Harry Barclay motioned to accept the Sabin Cogen Litigation refund for 2008 property taxes
        Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
        Motion passes unanimously

    5.   Approval of a Salvage Sale

        Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the salvage sale
        Harry Barclay seconded the motion
        Motion passes unanimously

6.   Approval of Proposal for Monitoring and Service of Alarm & Fire Systems

Harry Barclay motioned to approve the recommendation to Titan Systems for the monitoring and service of alarm and fire systems
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

VII.   Instruction

A.   Action Item for August 31, 2009

1.   Approval of Textbook Recommendation for Multimedia Course

Eric Mitchell motioned to approve the textbook recommendation for Multimedia Course
Ricky Jacobs seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

2.   Approval of New Courses for High School Course Catalog

Eric Mitchell motioned to approve the High School Course Catalog
Ricky Jacobs seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously

3.   Approval of Hiring a Risk Diversion Officer

George Barron spoke with Orange Police Chief Sam Kittrell who has some concerns about liability issues with an off duty police officer and does not feel that he can expose the City of Orange to that liability. He also stated that WO-C might want to consider entering into an agreement which would hold the City harmless against any lawsuits that might develop which would satisfy his concern and he would be willing for his officers to perform that service. That Collins stated that he is having a meeting with the 3 police chiefs on Wednesday, September 2, 2009.

The Board passed on this item until after the meeting with the three police chiefs on Wednesday, September 2, 2009

Convened to closed session at 6:44 p.m.
Reconvened to open session at 7:05 p.m.

VIII.   The open session of the meeting will adjourn. The Board of Trustees will reconvene in closed session for the following purposes.
     A.   Teachers and Administrators (Tex.Gov't Code 551.074)
          1.   Discussion of Selection/Employment
          2.   Discussion of Evaluation
          3.   Reassignment and Resignations
          4.   Duties
          5.   Discipline
     B.   Discussion of Discipline of Students (Tex.Govt. Code 551.082)
     C.   Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's Attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law.(Tex.Govt.Code 551.071)
     D.   Discuss other maters as authorized by (Tex.Govt.Code 551.071-551.084)
     E.   Paraprofessional, Support Staff, and Personnel (Tex. Govt. Code 551.074)

IX.   The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on items discussed in closed session and open session items.

X.   Personnel - Action Item:

A.   Approval of Substitute Employment

**Ricky Jacobs motioned to approve the substitute
Employments as presented
Eric Mitchell seconded the motion
Motion passes unanimously**

Adjourned: 7:06 p.m.