

## **WORKSHOP MEETING - AUGUST 28, 2000**

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Workshop Session on August 28, 2000, in the Fort Walton Beach Administration Building, 120 Lowery Place, SE.

PRESENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman  
Don Gaetz  
Howard Hill  
Lloyd Taylor

Walter Gordon, Superintendent  
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

ABSENT: Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., the purpose of the meeting being to review Agenda items, thereby expediting the Regular Meeting. Items may be considered in random order to accommodate visitors and presenters. Routine items not discussed during the Workshop were reviewed prior to the meeting with no further questions or comments from the Board.

The Chairman added to the Agenda the appointment of the Food Service Manager at Crestview High School.

Bill Smith presented for the Board's information a notice that Marina Developers has requested a variance from 50' building height to 62' building height for a dry stack boat storage building on the property adjacent to Destin Middle School. The Board requested Mr. McInnis review the requested variance for any negative impact to the school property.

Dr. Smith informed the Board that Destin Middle School will be putting up a temporary storage building for athletic equipment until a permanent structure can be constructed.

Dr. Smith advised the Board that the lease on the property which serves as the playground area at Valparaiso Elementary will expire in November. Valparaiso Realty Company proposes to renew the lease for a term of two years. The lease would serve as a use agreement with an option for the Board to purchase the property at any time during the two year period.

Mr. Gaetz declared a potential conflict of interest and abstained from the discussion. He stated that he has no interest in this property but has an unrelated business transaction with Valparaiso Realty partners on another piece of property.

Through discussion the Board agreed to renew the lease and directed Mr. McInnis to have the appropriate appraisals done in order to purchase the property.

Dr. Smith advised the Board that Valparaiso Realty has offered to sell the Board a small parcel of property across the street from Edge Elementary. The Chairman requested the Superintendent discuss the issue with Dr. Smith and Mr. McInnis and make a recommendation to the Board at a later date.

Dr. Smith provided an update on the five parcels of property around the Niceville High School area in which there was a question of ownership. He stated that Valparaiso Realty has proposed an exchange of properties to clarify this situation. They have offered to quit-claim their interest in the property of which a portion is used as a practice field by the school in exchange for a quit-claim from the Board on the four other parcels in question.

The Chairman directed Mr. McInnis to work with Dr. Smith to do whatever is necessary to bring the matter before the Board in order to rectify this situation. He stated that he thought the proposed exchange was a fair solution.

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The Chairman moved the discussion to Consent #11, Quick Response Training for Crestview Aerospace, in order to accommodate the presenters. He recognized Chris Dodd, Vice-Director of Okaloosa Applied Technology Center, and representatives from Crestview Aerospace and the Workforce Development Council, who gave an overview of the training program. The program is funded with money set aside by the state under the Title 1 Workforce Investment Act to provide skills training in industry to increase employment at higher wages. The school district will serve only as the fiscal agent for this program and will not be providing any funds.

Mr. Gaetz stated that this program is an opportunity for many of our high school graduates and graduates of OATC to get the training they need to get better paying jobs.

Emmett Windham informed the Board that the principals and physical education teachers have been provided the WBGT Index - Heat Stress Countermeasures obtained from Eglin officials to use as a guideline for outdoor activities. He stated that principals and teachers are aware of the dangers of physical activity in extreme heat and are taking precautions.

Mr. Gordon added that coaches are aware through the athletic trainers of the dangers and signs of heat exhaustion. They are required to weigh students at certain times and monitor their water intake.

Mr. Gaetz stated that his concern is not with the athletes but the elementary students participating in physical education classes. He further stated that he is not satisfied that the Eglin guidelines meet the needs of our students. He requested the Chairman add an item to the Agenda requesting the Superintendent to review current practices relating to students engaging in outdoor physical activities during periods of extreme heat and to recommend to the Board a child-specific policy governing this issue. He added that community physicians, Dr. Ken Haskins and Dr. Alec Schmidt, have offered to assist in the preparation of such a policy. The Chairman approved the request and the issue was added as Discussion item #3.

Mr. McInnis advised the Board that the Monthly Financial Reports that were previously tabled are being re-submitted for approval in order to clear the records for audit purposes.

Mr. Gaetz asked if in the closure of the fiscal year, were there any material changes from these reports to what the final report is expected to be. Mrs. Hurst explained that there are no changes to these reports. Each monthly report builds on the previous one and budget amendments have been submitted and approved to correct any discrepancies. The end of the year report will balance based on the budget amendments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Teresa Epperson, Recorder

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WALTER C. GORDON  
SUPERINTENDENT AND  
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY

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RODNEY L. WALKER  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD