

REGULAR MEETING - APRIL 23, 2001

The Invocation was offered by Mr. Hill; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Taylor.

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Regular Session on April 23, 2001, in the Okaloosa County Courthouse, Crestview, Florida.

PRESENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman
Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman
Howard Hill
Lloyd Taylor
Cathy Thigpen

Don Gaetz, Superintendent
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., and welcomed visitors and presenters.

Bill Smith submitted the engineer's report regarding surge protection at four schools that have experienced an excessive loss of equipment or damage to equipment due to lightning or transient voltage. He stated that cost estimates on the recommendations were being obtained and no funds were being requested at this time.

Dr. Smith submitted the engineer's report on the structural inspections of Okaloosa County stadiums. The engineer cited damage to a section of bleachers in the Crestview High School stadium. The necessary repairs will be made in this area. The engineer declared the bleachers on the visitor's side of the Meigs Middle School stadium unsafe and recommended they be roped off and posted as dangerous or demolished. Dr. Smith stated that price quotes for demolition of the bleachers were being obtained. He added that the principal of Meigs has agreed that it is not necessary to rebuild the guest bleachers because the home side bleachers provide sufficient seating for both.

Ray Sansom advised the Board of revisions to the application for the Cops in Schools Grant. The grant will provide three additional school resource officers to the District. If the grant is received, the current floater/substitute SRO will be assigned to Choctawhatchee and the additional officers will be assigned to Crestview, Niceville, and Fort Walton Beach High Schools. The start-up funds will provide uniforms and equipment for the new officers. Sheriff Morris made comments on the program and responded to questions.

Mr. Gaetz stated that he has provided a letter stating that he supports the Cops grant proposal but that Florida law prevents the School Board and Superintendent from entering into a binding financial commitment to provide funds in future years.

Mrs. Frakes informed the Board that Lamar Advertising has put up the "Tell Somebody" program billboards at no cost to the district. Plans are also being made for the "Tell Somebody" campaign for the beginning of next school year.

VISITORS:

Resolution 01-13 in honor of Jane King, Laurel Hill High School Student, being selected as the Okaloosa County School District's nominee for the Governor's High School All Stars was unanimously adopted on a motion by Mrs. Thigpen and seconded by Mr. Hill. The Resolution was presented to Ms. King by Mrs. Thigpen.

Mrs. Frakes requested the reconsideration of the previous action of the Board to set aside \$300,000 from OATC Reserves for start-up funds for a technical high school. She stated that OATC needs \$150,000 to operate their summer school program; therefore, she

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would amend the action by reducing the appropriation to \$150,000 from the original \$300,000. The Chairman approved the request and added this item as Consent #22.

Mrs. Thigpen asked if there was a time line for submission of the school internal audit reports. Mrs. Wascom stated that the contract requires the audits be completed by January 15, 2002. Mr. Gaetz stated that the audit reports will be submitted at the last Board meeting in January 2002.

At the request of the Superintendent, the Chairman withdrew Consent #9A, Surplus Property List #01-19, from the agenda.

Responding to questions from board members regarding the Change Order on Bid #01-B32, Water and Sewer Lines for OATC, Bill Smith stated that there was a disagreement with the contractor on the purchase of materials for the project as well as disagreement between the contractor and engineer regarding the process for installation of the lines. Mr. McInnis stated that he and Dr. Smith will confirm with the contractor that he will install the lines as specified by the engineer and warrant the work as required in the bid specs or they will request the bid for this project be awarded to another contractor.

Mr. Gaetz confirmed that the principal and school advisory council of Destin Middle School have agreed to the arrangements with the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority for use of the north parking area as a construction staging area in exchange for paving of the parking area upon completion of the road construction. Jim Vest, Executive Director of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority, provided the Joint Participation Agreement for the project and stated that completion of project is schedule for August 2002. He thanked the school and the Board for their cooperation in this matter.

Mr. McInnis advised the Board that two items of approval were required in this matter: a Joint Participation Agreement with the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority and granting a Warranty Deed for the road right-of-way.

Upon questioning by Mrs. Frakes, Diane Holman and Janet Hays confirmed that the application of the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grant submitted by Elliott Point and Edge Elementary Schools would not require matching funds or any additional funding from the District.

Mr. Hill asked for clarification on the liability insurance for students participating in the COMPACT Program. Mr. Gaetz stated that he would provide assurance that there is liability coverage for students as is represented in the Memorandum of Agreement.

The Chairman recessed the Regular Meeting and called to order the Public Hearing at 4:40 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. McInnis presented for the Board's consideration revisions to School Board Policy 7-4(B), Appointment and Reappointment of Educational Support Personnel, and School Board Policy 9-3(C), Appointment and Reappointment of Administrative/Managerial Personnel. The proposed revisions will conform these rules with Florida Statute. (Exhibit 01-242)

The Chairman called for public comment; there was none.

Motion to approve the revisions to School Board Policy 7-4(B), Appointment and Reappointment of Educational Support Personnel, as recommended by the Superintendent was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

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Motion to approve the revisions to School Board Policy 9-3(C), Appointment and Reappointment of Administrative/Managerial Personnel, as recommended by the Superintendent was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

The Chairman concluded the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Mr. Hill stated that concern has been expressed regarding his recommendation that November 12 be a school day and not a holiday. He emphasized that Sunday, November 11, is Veterans' Day and that he would never recommend having school on that day.

Mr. Walker proposed a compromise to the two calendars that have been recommended. He proposed August 9 as the first day of school for students and that the Veterans' Day Holiday on November 12 and the day before Thanksgiving, November 21, be given as holidays.

Mrs. Frakes stated support of the calendar proposed by the Chairman. She also requested that in developing the calendar for 2002-2003 that a mini-semester be investigated.

The Chairman recognized members of the public to make comments on the school calendar. John Fowler and Jean Schlitt stated support of Mr. Walker's proposal on the calendar and made comments on the proposed mini-semester.

Mike Foxworthy, OCEA Director, stated that he still supported the first calendar that was presented as the best option but the proposal made by Mr. Walker was a good compromise. He requested the flexible option on pre- and post- school planning days for teachers be approved.

Mr. Gaetz stated that in September he would appoint a committee of three parents, three teachers, and Mr. J. C. Connor, Chief Information Officer, to develop a calendar for the 2002-2003 school year.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously:

Consent Agenda: Item #9A was deleted; item #17 was deleted; added as item #22, Amendment of the appropriated funds for a technical high school

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: No Request

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS:

1. Facilities Construction Update, presented by Bill Smith
 - A. Engineers report on lightning suppression (Exhibit 01-243)
 - B. Engineers report on structural inspection of stadiums (Exhibit 01-244)
2. Grants Update, presented by Ray Sansom (Exhibit 01-245)

CONSENT AGENDA:

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Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended was made by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously:

1. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of April 5, 2001; Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 9, 2001; and Minutes of Special Disciplinary Hearing of April 5, 2001, recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
2. Budget Amendment #5, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-246).
3. Monthly Financial Report for March 2001, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-247).
4. Renewal of Annual Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP, for Internal Auditing Services for year ended June 30, 2001, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-248).
5. Renewal of Annual Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP, for External Auditing Services for year ended June 30, 2001, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-249).
6. Acceptance of donations to Baker School from Dr. Sandra Hanson in the amount of \$500, North Okaloosa Medical Center in the amount of \$500, and Crestview Wal-Mart in the amount of \$500, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-250).
7. Acceptance of donation to Destin Elementary School from the Louise H. Miller Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to assist the Technology Program, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-251).
8. Mary Esther Elementary School to change banking services for internal accounts from First National Bank of Florida to First National Bank & Trust, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-252).
9. Surplus Property Lists, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-253):
 - A. Deleted - List #01-19 Floor Machine, Davidson Middle School
 - B. List #01-20 Ice Machine, Okaloosa Applied Technology Center
 - C. List #01-21 Laptop Computer, Northwood Elementary School
10. Self-help project at Lewis Middle School for the development of a multi-purpose play field located between the baseball field and the track subject to an Agreement for the County Commission to provide grading services, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-254).
11. Award of bid for the Fort Walton Beach High School Cooling Tower Project to R. M. Tugwell and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$63,906.20, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-255).
12. Change Order on Bid #01-B32, Water and Sewer Lines for the Okaloosa Applied Technology Center, to Sand Hills Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$850.00, presented by Bill Smith and Mark Gardner and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-256).

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- 13A. Approval to grant a Warranty Deed to the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority for 15' of additional road right-of-way on Danny Wuerffel Way in front of Destin Middle School for the construction of an extended turn lane and relocation of the sidewalk, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-257).
- 13B. Approval of a Joint Participation Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority to provide for the paving, curbing and guttering of the parking lot at Destin Middle School, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-257).
14. Grant Applications, presented by Ray Sansom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
 - A. Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grant submitted by Elliott Point and Edge Elementary Schools (Exhibit 01-258)
 - B. Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grant submitted by Cherokee and Oak Hill Elementary Schools (Exhibit 01-259)
 - C. Continuation of the Okaloosa COMPACT Grant submitted by Crestview High School (Exhibit 01-260)
 - D. Safe and Drug Free Schools Project submitted by Barbara Edenfield (Exhibit 01-261)
 - E. Cops in Schools Grant submitted by Ray Sansom (Exhibit 01-262)
15. Personnel Recommendations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
 - A. New Hire Report (Exhibit 01-263)
 - B. Leave Requests (Exhibit 01-264)
 - C. Transfer Report (Exhibit 01-263)
16. Employment Separations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-265).
17. Deleted - Cleared Certification Requirements and Issuance of Contract for 2000-2001 School Year, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
18. Reinstatement of Sick Leave due to line-of-duty illness/injury/medical examination, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
 - A. Christi Collinsworth, Bob Sikes Elementary, 10 days (Exhibit 01-266)
19. Interagency Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and the University of West Florida to provide a training program for administrators, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-267).
20. Zoning Waivers, presented by Assistant Superintendents and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-268):
 - A. South Zone
 - B. North Zone
21. Bids and Purchasing, presented by Rick Norris and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-269; see bid file for additional information):
 - A. Approval of Bids and Purchasing Requests:

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- (1) Bid #01-B48 Janitorial Supplies awarded to Gulf Coast Paper in the amount of \$336.76; Supreme Paper in the amount of \$336.88; and Crest Supply in the amount of \$360.72
- (2) Bid #01-B49 Roll Toilet Tissue & Paper Towels awarded to Supreme Paper for Item No. 1 in the amount of \$18,202.31 and Item No. 2 in the amount of \$17,762.96, for a total of \$35,965.27; and to Unisource for Item No. 3 in the amount of \$31,626.05 and Item No. 4 in the amount of \$15,146.25, for a total of \$46,772.30
- (3) Bid #01-B50 Cut Size Office Bond Paper, fixed price bid for one year, awarded to Supreme Paper
- (4) Compass Learning iVIEW Secondary, Sole Source for Software License, Okaloosa Applied Technology Center, in the amount of \$14,016.00

B. Rejection of Bids and Purchasing Requests: None

22. Amendment of the appropriate funds for a technical high school from Okaloosa Applied Technology Center funds by reducing the amount to be appropriated to \$150,000.00, presented by Cindy Frakes and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.

DISCUSSION AGENDA:

1. Consideration of School Improvement Plan Requests, Responses and Updates, presented by Terry Hecker and recommended by the Superintendent for approval: None
2. Motion was made by Mr. Hill to approve the 2001-2002 school year calendar proposed by Mr. Walker whereby the first day of school for teachers will be August 6, 2001, and the first day of school for students will be August 9, 2001. And, within each school, the principal may opt to allow teachers, on an individual basis, to substitute August 2 and/or August 3 for May 28 and/or May 29. If the principal chooses this flexible option for teacher workdays, the option shall be available to all teachers in the school on an individual basis. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously. (Exhibit 01-270)

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM/OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE'S BUSINESS:

Motion to approve the following Change Orders was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously:

1. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Program No. 2, Task Order No. 1, Change Order No. 26, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-271).
2. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Program No. 2, Task Order No. 2, Change Order No. 14, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-272).
3. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Program No. 2, Task Order No. 3, Change Order No. 14, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-273).

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4. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Program No. 2, Task Order No. 4, Change Order No. 3, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 01-274).
5. The Board acknowledged the submission of the Program Status Report for March 2001 covering the activities of Sverdrup/Delta on the Okaloosa County School District Construction Management Program, submitted by Ray Gabriel, Program Manager (Exhibit 01-275).

BIDS AND PURCHASING: None

ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS:

Mr. McInnis requested the Chairman schedule a closed attorney-client session to discuss issues relating to pending litigation against the District in Case No. 3:00CV554. The session was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 2001, at 8:30 a.m. in the School District Administration Building in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

Responding to community concerns, Mr. Walker stated that the Board has no intent to close Laurel Hill School and would adopt a Resolution to that effect at the next meeting if necessary. He added that the Superintendent has assured him that he will work with the community to resolve the issues regarding Laurel Hill School. Other board members concurred with Mr. Walker's comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS:

1. Florosa Elementary fifth graders to visit New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 11, 2001 (date change-previously approved for May 4) (Exhibit 01-276).
2. Meigs Middle School cheerleading squad to attend UCA Camp at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa on July 9-12, 2001, and NCA Camp at the University of Georgia in Athens on July 25-28, 2001 (Exhibit 01-277).
3. Crestview High School JROTC to attend summer camp at Fort McClellan, Alabama, May 27 - June 2, 2001 (Exhibit 01-278).

Mr. Gaetz informed the Board that the school budgets will be submitted at the first meeting in May. He requested the Chairman schedule workshops to review and discuss the budgets. The department budgets will be submitted following review of the school budgets.

Mr. Walker requested a break down on the budget to show all unencumbered revenue and whether it is recurring or non-recurring revenue. He stated that most of the schools have taken severe reductions in funding and if revenue is available, funds may need to be reinstated in some areas.

Mr. Gaetz stated that the budget is being presented prior to the close of the fiscal year; therefore, it should be noted that fund balances will not be final. Additional adjustments to the budget will also be made pending the close of the legislative session.

Mr. Gaetz responded to questions from Mr. Hill regarding the impact of the charter school on the elementary schools in Fort Walton Beach and funding for school nurses.

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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Teresa Epperson, Recorder

DON GAETZ
SUPERINTENDENT AND
CORPORATE SECRETARY

RODNEY L. WALKER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD