

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held Thursday, December 16, 2021, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Alpine ISD Administration Building, Board Room.

I. Call Meeting to Order

Board President Eddie Natera called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Nikki Ahrens, Adrian Billings, Justin Cross, Mary McCallister, Jimmy Morris, Joe Portillo, and Board President, Eddie Natera

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Becky McCutchen, Superintendent of Schools

II. Invocation

III. Pledges of Allegiance to the Flags

IV. Verification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law. This is to verify that the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.041 in connection with public posting of meeting notice was met on December 13, 2021, at 4:45 p.m.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

None

VI. Public Hearing to Discuss Alpine ISD's Rating on Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report (Goal 2)

Board President Eddie Natera, adjourned the regular meeting and called the Public Hearing to order at 5:32 p.m. to discuss Alpine ISD's rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report.

Mr. Braden reviewed the report, based on 2019-2020 data and explained the indicators and the final rating. Alpine ISD received a score of 100, with a Superior Rating. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions, and then expressed their appreciation to Mr. Braden for the excellent report.

VII. Adjournment of Public Hearing and Reconvening of Open Meeting

Board President Eddie Natera, adjourned the public hearing and reconvened in open session at 5:37 p.m.

VIII. Construction Updates (Goals 1, 2, 4)

A. Alpine ISD

Ms. McCutchen updated the board with information from Alpine ISD. Said work is continuing on the Band Hall, with an open house and Christmas concert scheduled for the evening of December 16, 2021.

Temporary power will be needed for the Ag building and Welding shops. The temporary certification of occupancy is still pending with the City of Alpine. Work is continuing on HVAC systems, duct socks, and have been reviewing landscaping quotes, but will not be moving forward on landscaping at this time.

B. Imperial Construction

Frank Patton reviewed the three-week look ahead, and reviewed the progress in various areas of the project. Jon Jones discussed material procurement issues and provided updated information on progress and timelines.

C. Parkhill

Alan Wolfe discussed progress, delays with materials, and reviewed the progress on the duct sock issues. He said various submittals are pending on the signage and plaques.

IX. Review and Consideration of CCR-037 Area E Temporary Power (Goals 2, 4) Ms. McCutchen reviewed the need for the temporary power for the Ag and Welding shops and explained the cost of \$15,817.92.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve CCR0037 Area E Temporary Power in the amount of \$15,817.92.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

X. Review of Proposal for Courtyard Area and Alternate Sidewalks - Information Only, No Action Required (Goals 2, 4)

Ms. McCutchen and Alan Wolfe discussed the need for the courtyard area and alternate sidewalks. Following discussion, plans were made to research the costs and options further before final decision is made.

XI. Review Furnishings Plan and Initial Pricing for AHS Bond Project (Goals 1, 2, 4)

Representatives from PPG Furnishings reviewed the updated plans with changes. Options for breaking down the plans to adjust costs were discussed, as well as the premise of wants versus needs, relative to pricing. Pricing options were discussed. The original Bond plan calls for \$365,000 for furnishings. The current proposal is priced out at \$848,000. Options for deleting some of the extra storage, furniture, etc., was discussed, as well as the possibility of selling some of the furniture currently in use.

A new proposal package, with less expensive options, will be compiled for presentation during the January board meeting. Conrad J. Arriola expressed his appreciation to Ms. McCutchen for working with them on the furniture proposal.

XII. Review and Consideration of Options for Replacement of Bleachers in Alpine High School Gym (Goals 1, 2, 4)

Clay Braden, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the pricing and options for replacing the bleachers in the high school gym. He reviewed the companies submitting quotes and the level of customer service.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to postpone decisions about replacement of the bleachers until more information is available.

Motion carried 7 – 0

XIII. Reports (Goal 2)

A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

Clay Braden, CFO, reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of November, 2021.

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Mr. Braden explained to board members that he is currently recoding account items to the Federal grants to better utilize funding for salaries, thereby providing cost savings in the local budget.

XIV. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

None

XV. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

1. November 16, 2021 - Special Meeting/Board Training

2. November 17, 2021 - Regular Meeting

3. December 2, 2021 - Special Meeting

B. District Expenditures for Month of November, 2021 (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Justin Cross, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve the consent items, as presented.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVI. Review and Consideration of TASB Policy Update 118, affecting local policies as follows: (Goals 1,2,3,4)

- **CFD(LOCAL): ACCOUNTING - ACTIVITY FUNDS MANAGEMENT**
- **CQB(LOCAL): TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES - CYBERSECURITY**
- **DFE(LOCAL): TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT - RESIGNATION**
- **DP(LOCAL): PERSONNEL POSITIONS**
- **EHAA(LOCAL): BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM - REQUIRED INSTRUCTION (ALL LEVELS)**
- **EHBC(LOCAL): SPECIAL PROGRAMS - COMPENSATORY/ACCELERATED SERVICES**
- **EIE(LOCAL): ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT - RETENTION AND PROMOTION**
- **FDE(LOCAL): ADMISSIONS - SCHOOL SAFETY TRANSFERS**
- **FEA(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**
- **FEC(LOCAL): ATTENDANCE - ATTENDANCE FOR CREDIT**
- **FFG(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**
- **FL(LOCAL): STUDENT RECORDS**

Ms. McCutchen reviewed each of the policies and highlighted the changes incurred with each, explaining that the changes are a result of the most recent Legislative session.

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Justin Cross, to adopt TASB Policy Update 118, as presented.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVII. Superintendent Report (Goal 1, 2, 3, 4)

A. Enrollment Report

Total enrollment stands at 976, with an ADA of 94.29 %.

Enrollment for the campuses is:

Alpine High School: 314 enrollment; ADA of 95.96 %.

Alpine Middle School: 276 enrollment; ADA of 95.08 %.

Alpine Elementary School: 386 enrollment; ADA of 92.69 %

Ms. McCutchen told board members that the campuses have been working on on-going truancy issues.

XVIII. Closed Session - Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Section 551.072 & Section 551.074

The Board adjourned to executive session at 7:27 p.m.

- A. Personnel - Hear and Deliberate Regarding Superintendent Recommendations for Personnel. Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074 (Goal 1)**
 - 1. Employee Resignations or Retirements**
 - a. Resignation of Personnel**
 - b. Resignation of Superintendent of Schools, Becky McCutchen.**
 - 2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2021-2022**
 - 3. Interview Candidates for Interim Superintendent Position**

XIX. Open Session - Consider and Take Possible Action on Closed Session Deliberations

The Board reconvened in open session, at 8:35 p.m., taking action on Closed session deliberations as indicated below.

- A. Consider and Take Possible Action Regarding Personnel. Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074 (Goal 1)**
 - 1. Employee Resignations or Retirements**
 - a. Resignations of Personnel**

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve Ms. McCutchen's recommendation to accept the resignation of Caroline Crawley, effective immediately.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

- b. Resignation of Superintendent of Schools, Becky McCutchen.**

A motion was made by Justin Cross, seconded by Adrian Billings, to regretfully accept the resignation of Becky McCutchen as Superintendent of Schools, effective January 14, 2022.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

- 2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2021-2022**

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve Ms. McCutchen's recommendation to offer Probationary

contracts with appropriate addendums to the following individuals, to begin on January 3, 2022, extending to June 30, 2022.

Angelique Gonzales, Elementary Special Education
Iris Chavez, Elementary Education
Kristyl Albertson-Reyna, Secondary English

Motion carried – 7 – 0

B. Review and Consideration of Action Naming Interim Superintendent

Ms. McCutchen recommended no action be taken at this time, to name an Interim Superintendent.

XX. Schedule Future Meetings

- Monday, December 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. – Alpine ISD Administration Building Board Room, Special Meeting
- Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., location pending, for Regular meeting.

XXI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Nikki Ahrens, seconded by Jimmy Morris to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

*The Board may retire to executive session at any time between the meeting’s opening and adjournment for purposes of deliberating business as authorized in Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071-551.074 and 551.076. Action, if any, will be taken in open session. (Texas Government Code Chapter 551.102)

Board President

Board Secretary

Date of Approval: January 19, 2022