

EUREKA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

and

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Of May 20th, 2015

Board Room, Eureka Elementary School, Nevada
Room 8 Crescent Valley Elementary School, Nevada
Meeting sites connected by Interactive Video

5:30 p.m. – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Bacon-Bowling.

Roll Call

Present:

Kathy Bacon-Bowling, President
Robin Hicks, Member
Darla Baumann, Clerk (Late)
Terrilynn Brown, Member

Greg Wieman, Superintendent
Susan Squires, Elementary Principal
Dan Wold, High School Principal
Mike Rebaleati, Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown to adopt the agenda, seconded by Robin Hicks to adopt the agenda. No Public Comment. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

*President Bacon-Bowling stated the following: Comments may be made by members of the public on any matters within the authority of the Board. Please note that Public Comment will be taken on any item on this Agenda marked “**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**” before action is taken on such items, and members of the public are encouraged to comment on such items at the time they are being considered. Although members of the Board may respond to questions and discuss issues raised during the period reserved for Public Comment, no action may be taken on such a matter until the matter is placed on an agenda for action at a meeting of the Board. In making Public Comment, speakers are asked to identify themselves for the record and to limit their comments to no more than three (3) minutes. Members of the public who desire to have an item placed on an agenda of the Board are asked to submit their request and any supporting information to the Superintendent for review five (5) days prior to the date of a Regular Meeting of the Board.*

No public comment.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 1) *Discuss, approve, or deny a decision on holding future board meetings in Crescent Valley. Board decision may include whether to travel to Crescent Valley for meetings and if so, what frequency meetings will be held there. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Terrilynn Brown said that she would like to see meetings held in Crescent Valley quarterly. Mike Rebaleati proposed an alternate schedule for Eureka if the meetings are held quarterly in Crescent Valley. Mr. Rebaleati said that he is in favor of the Board meeting twice a month. President Bacon-Bowling suggested that the Board meet twice a year in Crescent Valley because of the comparison with the County Commission. Since they have twice as many meetings as the school board, she thinks that the school board should meet there one half as many times as the county commissioners. Darla Baumann stated that the county commissioners meet during the day but the school board meets at night, and traveling there would result in the board getting back home at midnight. She feels that this is too late. Members decided that individual board members could travel to Crescent Valley if they wanted to, but if commitments made it difficult, then board members could attend the meeting in Eureka via interactive video. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati to have three meetings a year in Crescent Valley with the meetings being held in the Fall, late Winter, and during budget preparation time, seconded by Terrilynn Brown. President Bacon-Bowling suggested that the administrators who give reports could report from Eureka so that they won't have to travel so much. Mike Rebaleati amended his motion, with Terrilynn Brown agreeing to the amended motion, that the staff members who give reports could make the reports from Eureka. For Public Comment, Principal Squires stated that she thinks that the Crescent Valley citizens have come a long way this year by feeling that they are part of the district. Motion carries unanimously.

- 2) *Discuss, approve, or deny decision on disposition of Old District Office. Decision by Board may include renting building after appraisal, using for school district use, selling building and surrounding land, or trading building and surrounding property for comparable property. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Terrilynn Brown said that she had spoken to the School District's attorney and she said that Mr. Pavlakis indicated that the Board was not violating the law regarding letting the current tenants use the building without paying rent. She believes that if we do not let the church group use the building, then we also can't let other groups use our facilities either. She said that it is done throughout the State that other schools let churches use their facilities for free. Darla Baumann said that she feels like the Board had been pushed into an action the last time the Board discussed this issue. She does not want to trade the building or property. She understands the concerns others may have but she is not opposed to the church using the building because she feels that the community has the opportunity to attend. Mr. Rebaleati thinks that there may be legitimate reasons for the school to utilize the building. President Bacon-Bowling suggested that board members separate their feelings about the group that it is using it, versus the general concept that the board should have the property appraised and it

should be rented out to whatever group may want to use it full-time. The Board discussed the sole use of the building by the group that is currently in it as opposed to intermittent one-time use by other groups who utilize other areas of the school's facilities. Mike Rebaleati said that for sole use, the board should go through the appropriate process and rent the building as the law requires. Mr. Rebaleati went on to suggest the various ways that the school district could use the building for their own uses. Motion made by Terrilynn Brown to table this agenda item until the school's attorney could be present. Motion died for lack of a second. Superintendent Wieman stated that the attorney cannot provide a legal opinion to just one board member. The attorney is to provide legal advice when there is board consensus to do so. The job of the attorney is to provide support for the board when the board gives him direction as a group via the Superintendent. The Superintendent also made suggestions on how the building could be used by the school. Terrilynn Brown asked for clarification from the Superintendent regarding individual board use of the school's attorney. Mike Rebaleati said that the use of the District Attorney of Eureka County could be sought for a legal opinion, and also the Attorney General of the State of Nevada. Further explanation was provided concerning using an attorney for clarification or using an attorney when there is board consensus to seek a legal opinion. Mike suggested that the Board use Mr. Pavlakis' services at every single meeting by his attending the meetings via telephone. Dr. Wieman suggested that he be the "advocate" for the Board and contact the attorney on their behalf. He believes the proper procedure would be for him to make contact with the attorney by being directed so by the full Board. Robin Hicks suggested that the Board ask the attorney to put in writing his legal opinion on how the church could legally use the building. Mrs. Hicks also had concerns about remodeling the old District Office for teacher housing space. She thinks that the District should follow the housing policy and have teachers move out of the housing according to the policy. Board members then discussed district use of the old District office building. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati to identify school district use of the building by the next meeting to be direction given to the Superintendent. If the Board does not want to use the building, then the motion includes getting an opinion from the Attorney General. President Bacon-Bowling suggested that the District determine school district needs first, before any money is spent on attorney's fees. Darla Baumann likes the first part of Mr. Rebaleati's motion. She thinks that our legal counsel should be able to render an opinion. Mr. Rebaleati amends his motion that the opinion can be rendered by the school's attorney, rather than the Attorney General or the District Attorney. Robin Hicks stated that she doesn't want to see the building used for storage. Mr. Rebaleati again amended his motion to include that the building not be used for storage. Mr. Rebaleati restated his motion: Direct the superintendent to research the legitimate use of the old District Office building and that would not include storage. President Bacon-Bowling called for Public Comment. Stu Bloyd participated by volunteering his public comments. He does not think that the taxpayers should subsidize just one church. He cited other church groups in the community who do not have use of the building. Vote was taken with all members voting 'Aye' except for Terrilynn Brown, who voted 'Nay'. Motion carries. Mike Rebaleati's second motion is to direct the Superintendent and the school's attorney to write a written opinion on whether the school originally had a legal arrangement with the current occupier and to provide written direction on what we need to do now legally. Mr. Jim Neuenswander asked the Board about the separation of church and state. Terrilynn Brown said that if the church has to vacate, then the district can't let any

other groups such as the Boy Scouts use our building either. Mike Rebaleati explained to Mrs. Brown that there is a difference between long-term 100% use which constitutes a “rent” situation in opposition to a single-use arrangement with a group, who only uses space intermittently. Earlier motion by Mike Rebaleati was seconded by Terrilynn Brown. No further public comment. Motion carries

- 3) *Discuss, approve, or deny decision to use a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) construction process for parking lot project or use traditional bidding process for obtaining a General Contractor. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Dr. Wieman investigated the possibility of using a CMAR process with Summit Engineering. Summit does not recommend using a CMAR at this time as Summit does not feel that it will expedite the process or save money. A site plan will be available sometime in June. Motion made by Mike Rebaleati to proceed with the process, seconded by Robin Hicks. No Public Comment. Motion carries.

- 4) Public Budget Hearing – Comments will be taken from the public regarding the FY 16 proposed Final Budget. **PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE TAKEN**

Mike Rebaleati informed the public that this was a public hearing as required by law to set the 75 cent tax rate. Finance Officer Lisa Jones discussed the major governmental funds estimated opening fund balances, proposed expenditures, and projected ending fund balances for the upcoming fiscal year of 2015. The recent receipt of 3.7 M of net proceeds was explained. The Board determined that the net proceeds will be transferred to the Capital Projects fund. Mike Rebaleati asked for the addition of the sidewalk project on Capron Street added to the budget. He said that the project should not be very expensive – he thinks it should cost around \$60,000, with the engineering cost probably around \$2,500. Mike Rebaleati made a motion to approve the FY16 budget and giving the Superintendent authorization to proceed with obtaining engineering costs for a cost estimate regarding the addition of sidewalks on Capron Street being added to the Capital Projects fund and to transfer 3.7M net proceeds to Capital Projects seconded by Terrilynn Brown. Motion carries.

- 5) *Discuss, approve, or deny approving FY 16 Final Budget. Board decision may include adoption of the proposed Final Budget with or without recommendations for change from the Tentative Budget. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.** Public Comment will be taken before action is taken.*

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown, seconded by Darla Baumann, to approve the FY 16 Final Budget. No Public Comments. Motion carries.

REPORTS – Information Only/No Action

A) High School Principal’s Report: Brief update to the Board regarding school activities/events.

Principal Wold provided a report to the Board.

B) Elementary School Principal's Report: Brief update to the Board regarding Eureka Elementary and Crescent Valley school activities/events.

Principal Squires provided a report to the Board. The hot lunch menu and federal subsidies for the National School Lunch Program were discussed at length.

C) Finance Officers Report: Brief update to the Board regarding District Finances.

(Budget report given earlier in the meeting.)

D) Superintendent's Report: Brief update to the Board regarding school activities/events.

Superintendent Wieman provided a report to the Board.

E) Board Report: Brief updates and notices from the Board regarding District activities/events. (Information only, No Action)

No Board Report

CONSENT AGENDA – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. Public comment will be taken prior to any action. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon by the Board of Trustees with one action and without extensive hearing.

- 1. Approve adding new employee(s) to district's authorized employee and substitute list: Pursuant to NRS 391.110. Each applicant for employment must submit to the District a full set of fingerprints for a report on criminal history, and if negative results are received, the offer of employment may be withdrawn. Brandy Gibbs, Educational Aide at Eureka Elementary School.*

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown, seconded by Robin Hicks, to approve consent agenda. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Members of the public who desire to have an item placed on an agenda of the Board are asked to submit their request and any supporting information to the Superintendent for review five (5) days prior to the date of a Regular Meeting of the Board.

No Public Comment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Terrilynn Brown seconded Darla Baumann to adjourn meeting. Motion carries.