

WEST OSO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
5050 Rockford Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78416
Administration Building Board Room

PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 26, 2007

The West Oso Independent School District Board of Trustees held a public hearing and its regular board meeting on **Monday, November 26, 2007 at 6:32 p.m.**, in the Administration Building Board Room, 5050 Rockford Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas.

AGENDA

Opening

1. Call to order
Ms. Velma Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. Roll call
Board members present: Cella Boyd, Diana Cantu-Guerrero, Lucas Jasso, Shirley Jordan, Jose A. Lopez, and Velma Rodriguez. Board member absent: George Barrera.
3. Declaration of quorum
A quorum was declared.
4. Pledges of allegiance
The pledges were recited.
5. Notice of Meeting: *The meetings were posted in Accordance with Government Code Chapter 551, State of Texas Open Meetings Act.*
6. Public Hearing for the Purpose of Taxing Goods-in-Transit as Required by House Bill 621
Mr. Palacios explained to the board and all present the purpose of holding this public hearing. Mr. Palacios shared a communication provided by the Nueces County Appraisal District (NCAD) which communicates an estimation of tax dollars that would be affected by goods-in-transit businesses if the board does not take action in adopting a resolution to continue taxing these types of businesses which have been granted exemption by legislators through House Bill 621. Mr. Palacios invited the board and any one present to provide comments or concerns on the matter.

Mr. Jasso formally protested this provision made via House Bill 621. Mr. Jasso expressed his opinion on the taxation of business which operates out of the Corpus Christi International Airport. He clearly referenced the entities conducting business within the airport and not the municipality itself.

Mr. Palacios acknowledged that he and Mr. Jasso have previously discussed the taxation of entities conducting business out of the airport. He assured Mr. Jasso that such entities are being taxed, a corresponding jurisdiction pays taxes to West Oso District; the other jurisdiction pays to Tulosos-Midway.

Mr. Palacios informed the Board that action pertaining to the taxation of goods-in-transit provision would be presented for action in December 2007.

Mr. Jasso asked Mr. Palacios if he could obtain an itemization report from the NCAD that would provide details of the business that would benefit from this provision. Mr. Palacios responded that he had spoken to someone from the NCAD who in turn informed Mr. Palacios that the report they have presented at this time represents an estimation based on their current knowledge.

Public Comments

7. Audience Participation [Policy BED (Local)]

Board members may not deliberate or make a decision on any matter presented at this time. The Open Meetings Act limits Board response to only two options: 1) a statement of specific factual information given in response to an inquiry; or 2) a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry. Any deliberation of or decision about the subject shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting.

No one addressed the board during open forum.

Recognitions

8. Recognitions of Students, Staff, and/or Community Patrons (Dr. Helms)

Dr. Garza informed that she had no information on this item, but would take the opportunity to recognize the District for obtaining \$100,000 through the Investment Capital grant for two campuses. Dr. Garza informed the board that three campuses applied for the grant, but only two received an award of \$50,000 each. The participating campuses are John F. Kennedy and West Oso Elementary. The funding will be utilized for parental involvement and tutorials.

Dr. Garza added that West Oso Junior High School received a grant for physical education improvement in the amount of \$15,000.

Consent Agenda:

The following items have been presented to Board Members for study prior to the meeting. These items are considered to be routine and are recommended for approval. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as an item on the regular agenda.

9. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:
October 15, 2007, Board Workshop
October 22, 2007, Regular Board Meeting (Dr. Helms)
10. Approval of Monthly Investment Report for October 2007 (Mr. Palacios)
11. Approval of General Fund Financial Report and the Instruction Expense Ratio Reports for October 2007 (Mr. Palacios)
12. Approval of Energy Consumption Reduction Plan as per Senate Bill 12 and House Bill 3693 (Dr. Helms/
Mr. Palacios)
13. Approval of Official Textbook Committee Members (Dr. Garza)
14. Approval of Modified Schedule/TAKS Testing Days Waiver Request (Dr. Helms)

Mr. Jasso motioned to approved Items 9 through 14 in Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Boyd.

Motion carried 6-0.

Reports and Information with Discussion As Appropriate

15. Hear, Consider, and Discuss as Appropriate the Report from the Project Architects and Construction Management Firm Regarding the Construction Status of the New High School Campus and Renovation Work for the Current High School Facility (Dr. Helms)

Mr. Shufford reported on the progress of the construction project. He informed the board that about 80% of the exterior brick has been completed; installation of the case work and flooring in Section 3, the science wing; installation of the vinyl flooring and lockers in Section 6. He informed that all wooden doors for the project and the wood for the competition and practice unit should arrive tomorrow (November 27). He added that the air conditioning system for Sections 5 and 6, the athletic area, should be in operation by the end of this week.

Mr. Palacios commented that the air conditioning is important at this point so that the flooring can acclimate. Mr. Shufford informed that the process for testing the two water systems and the system appears to be working really well. Mr. Shufford informed that about 65-70% of the Science area has been completed. He continued informing of the Installation of windows and door frames, ceramic tile on the flooring, inlays on the windows in the courtyard. He added that the brick wall on the south side of the building that overlooks the football stadium is complete, the west side wall of Section 1 (classroom section) and the west face of the administration building are currently underway. Mr. Shufford also informed that another crew is currently working on the north side of the building.

Mr. Palacios commented on the pictures that are being provided to board members almost on a weekly basis to keep them informed of the progress. Ms. Rodriguez asked if it would be feasible to provide a brief statement/sentence that describes or identifies the area photographed. This would give board members an idea of the progress of each section being photographed.

Mr. Jasso inquired of the approximate or expected date of completion. Mr. Shufford responded that the company is making every effort to try to wrap up the project by February. Mr. Palacios reminded the board of the vicinity of the end of November and that February was only three months away. Mr. Jasso expressed that his only interest is to have an idea, on record, of the expected time of completion, giving consideration to nature/weather elements must be taken into consideration.

Mr. Shufford reported that approximately 70% of the remaining work on the construction project is outdoor work. He informed that the crew is making every effort possible to prepare for the closing of the administrative section and that there is approximately 4 weeks of paving work in the courtyard area remaining. He encouraged board members to try to make it out to the site to look at the progress being made.

Mr. Palacios commended the company for the amount of notable progress that has been made in the last two months. He commented that he hopes to see this same progress as they move to complete the project. Mr. Palacios informed the board that he and Dr. Helms make weekly visits to the site to ensure that progress is being made.

16. Hear, Consider, and Discuss as Appropriate the Report on West Oso High School's Preliminary Exit Scores (Dr. Garza)

Dr. Garza commented briefly on the October Exit Level scores received and provided to the board for review. She commented that the results improved when compared to the results in May 2007 with the graduating class 2007. She introduced Mr. Lackey to report to the board. Mr. Lackey informed that 18 students needed to pass the math test and seven of these students passed. He informed that 11 students remain to pass this section of the TAKS test. When

considering the total enrollment of 112 seniors, 101 have passed this section. This represents 90.18% of the class meeting the requirements in the math section of the TAKS.

Mr. Lackey continued informing that 3 senior students remain needing to pass the language arts section. The results have not been provided. The staff remains hopeful that these students performed well and they too will also master this part of the TAKS test.

In the area of Science, Mr. Lackey informed that Dr. Garza's information indicates that 15 students remain pending in the mastery of this exam. He informed that his notes, obtained from the counselors, indicate that 16 students need to pass this section. He informed that the results show that 8 students mastered this exam. Mr. Lackey informed that thus far 104 seniors have passed the science TAKS test, thereby reflecting that 92.8% of senior class has mastered the test.

In the area of Social Studies, Mr. Lackey informed that only one student remains to pass this exam. He informed that it is unfortunate that this student did not pass the social studies test on this occasion. He added that the student missed passing this section by one question. He reassured that he and the staff will continue to work with this student to make sure he is successful in his next attempt.

Mr. Lackey finalized saying that one student remains needing to pass the science and social studies components, five students who need to pass the math and science components, six students need to pass math only, and two students who need to pass science only.

Mr. Lackey welcomed questions or comments. Ms. Jordan informed that improvement from last year is noted and said this is really good.

Dr. Garza commended Mr. Lackey for taking immediate action upon his arrival to ensure that staff worked together immediately to begin tutoring students. Dr. Garza informed the board that she, Mr. Lackey, and the counseling staff will begin to get ready for the GED program. She expressed her concerns on last year's events with 14 students who had the necessary credits to graduate, but were not successful in passing the remaining components of the TAKS test.

Items for Discussion, Deliberation, and/or Action

17. Consider, Discuss, and Act as Appropriate to Approve the West Oso Independent School District Improvement Plan (Dr. Helms/Dr. Garza)

Ms. Jordan motioned to Approve the West Oso ISD Improvement Plan, seconded by Ms. Cantu-Guerrero.

Motion carried 6-0.

18. Consider, Discuss, and Act as Appropriate to Approve the Campus Improvement Plans (CIP) for John F. Kennedy Elementary and West Oso High Schools (Dr. Helms/Dr. Garza/Principals)

Mr. Jasso motioned to Approve the CIPs for John F. Kennedy and West Oso High Schools with necessary modifications as discussed, seconded by Mr. Lopez.

Motion carried 6-0.

19. Consider, Discuss, and Act as Appropriate to Approve Engineering Services for Electrical Gear Replacement for Existing West Oso High School (Dr. Helms)

Mr. Jasso motioned to Approve the Engineering Services (agreement) for Electrical Gear Replacement for the Existing West Oso High School (facility), seconded by Ms. Jordan.

Motion carried 6-0.

20. Consider, Discuss, and Act as Appropriate on the Recommendation for the Purchase of Technology Equipment for the New West Oso High School Facility (Mr. Palacios/Dr. Helms)

Mr. Jasso motioned to Approve the Recommendation for the Purchase of Technology Equipment for the New West Oso High School Facility, seconded by Ms. Cantu-Guerrero.

Motion carried 6-0.

21. Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary