

MINUTES MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OCTOBER 15, 2007

The Monroe County Board of Education met in regular session Thursday, October 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Director of Schools' Office. Eight Board Members present: Mr. Regan Dalton, Chairman, Mrs. Jean Allison, Mrs. Sonya Lynn, Mr. Larry Stein, Mrs. Lisa McLemore, Mrs. Doris Davis, Mr. Dean Williams and Mr. DeWitt Upton. Mr. Rusty Vineyard was absent.

Item No. 1: The Chairman asked for approval of the agenda for the regular meeting on October 15, 2007 with the following added to the agenda: Awarding of Contract for Bus Route #36, Request to Appear before the Board by Madisonville Primary School PTO, Discussion of Monroe County Board of Education Policy #3.206 (Use of Facilities), and Discussion of Adequate Facilities Tax. Mrs. Jean Allison made a motion, seconded by Mr. Larry Stein to approve the agenda with the additional items. Motion passed.

Item No. 2: Mr. Larry Stein made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dean Williams to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on September 13, 2007 with the following correction: Item No. 9 – change Mrs. Lisa Summey to Mrs. Lisa McLemore. Motion passed.

Item No. 3: Mr. Dean Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Larry Stein to approve the following consent agenda:

1. Approval of Budget Amendments

#08-05	General Purpose Schools	\$34,039.04
#08-06	Education Capital Projects	\$297,000.00
2. Approval of Bus Driver for the 2007-08 school year: John Henry Robinson (Blake Britton, Contractor)
3. Request for 180 day extension of buses (**EXHIBIT I**)
4. Request to use Vonore Middle School – 12/8/07 – JTEKT Kid's Christmas Event
5. Request to use Tellico Plains Jr. High School – 9/27/07 – 11/3/07 - Tellico Little League
6. Request to use Sweetwater High School – 10/28-30/07 – First Baptist Church
7. Request to use Sweetwater High School Gym – November 2007 – March 2008 – Fairview Baptist Church

8. Request to use Sequoyah High School – once a month beginning in October – Tonia Satterfield, Foothills Care, Inc
9. Request for overnight/out of state trip to Huntsville Space & Rocket Center in Alabama – 5/16, 17, 18/ 07 – Karen Anderson, Tellico Plains Jr. High School
10. Request for out of state trip to Biltmore House in Asheville, NC – 12/20/07 – Rural Vale Elementary School
11. Request to play a day basketball game – 11/9/07 – Tellico Plains Jr. High School
12. Approval of the executive committee action on the following:
 - a. Textbook Selecting Committees (**EXHIBIT II**)
 - b. Budget Amendment: #08-04 - Federal Projects \$15,800.00
 - c. Request to use Vonore Elementary School Gym – 9/17/07 – 10/27/07 – Vonore Youth Sports
 - d. Request to use Madisonville Primary School – 9/11/07 – 10/27/07 – Sports and Civic Club

Motion passed.

Item No. 4: Mr. Charles Underwood, Maintenance Supervisor, appeared before the Board.

Mr. Underwood reported that progress on the building project at Rural Vale Elementary School is going very well and that the project is on schedule.

Item No. 5: Mr. Charles Underwood, Maintenance Supervisor, reported that the 2nd District Site Committee voted to recommend to the Board to build the new Madisonville Primary School on the old Madisonville Intermediate School site. After a discussion, Bridget Thompson, Madisonville Primary School PTO President, read a resolution to the Board that was adopted by the Madisonville Primary School PTO on September 20, 2007 (**EXHIBIT III**). The Board asked the Director to read the motion from the minutes of a special called meeting of the Monroe County Commission held on July 17, 2007. The Director read the following from those minutes: *“Allan Watson called the meeting to order. Discussion: School Building Program Rural Vale Elementary and Madisonville Primary School. Mayor Watson stated the reason for the special called meeting is to make a decision on the building program for both schools. MOTION: Commissioner Lee, to borrow \$25 million dollars to build 11 additional classrooms, a new gymnasium, and library and renovate the cafeteria at Rural Vale and build a new 40 room or*

more Madisonville Primary on a new site agreed upon by the Board of Education and County Commission. MOTION SECONDED: Bill Bivins. Before the vote, School Director Mike Lowry spoke to the full commission, justifying the need for a new primary school in Madisonville while explaining the inadequate facilities at Rural Vale. A teacher at Rural Vale, Missy Carter, echoed Lowry's words. She was followed by Madisonville Primary teacher, Shauna Bowers, who emphasized the numerous health problems students had experienced at the old primary school building. Third District Commissioner Harold Hawkins rejected Commissioner Lee's motion, urging the other commissioners to fund Rural Vale only, without an additional tax increase. Finance Director Brian Tallent confirmed that by borrowing \$25 million, property owners in Monroe County would be assessed ten more cents in taxes per year. Commissioner Hawkins wanted to let Madisonville wait just like Rural Vale has been doing. Commissioner Lee stated that Rural Vale had an addition built 10 years ago and Madisonville is fifty years old and had an addition built in the 70's, not to mention other health issues with the building. MOTION CARRIED: VOTE - Aye 5 Nay 4." A discussion followed and the Board took a roll call vote on whether to reject or accept the 2nd District Site Committee's recommendation to build the new Madisonville Primary School on the old Madisonville Intermediate School Site. Mr. Regan Dalton, Mrs. Sonya Lynn, Mrs. Lisa McLemore and Mr. Dean Williams voted to accept the Committee's recommendation. Mrs. Jean Allison, Mrs. Doris Davis, Mr. Larry Stein and Mr. DeWitt Upton voted to reject the Committee's recommendation. Committee recommendation failed. Mrs. Doris Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Jean Allison to continue to look for property to build a new Madisonville Primary School and advertise in Knoxville and local newspapers for thirty days. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Jean Allison, Mr. Regan Dalton, Mrs. Doris Davis, Mr. Larry Stein and Mr. DeWitt Upton voted yes. Mrs. Sonya Lynn, Mrs.

Lisa McLemore and Mr. Dean Williams voted no. Motion passed. A discussion followed concerning the appointment of a new site selection committee. The Chairman appointed a new 2nd District Site Selection Committee. Appointed voting members are as follows: Jean Allison, Doris Davis, Bill Bivins, Judy Lee, Ann Barker, Regan Dalton, Larry Stein, Bill Shadden and Bennie Moser. Appointed non-voting members are Mike Lowry, Director of Schools, and Charles Underwood, Maintenance Supervisor.

Item No. 6: Mr. Steve McSpadden appeared before the Board to report that the Transportation Committee met with the two applicants that have applied for the contract for bus route #36. The two applicants are Curtis Bus Service and Ms. Linda McCall. Mr. McSpadden informed the Board that the Transportation Committee, Mr. Dean Williams and Mr. Regan Dalton (Mr. Rusty Vineyard was absent), decided that the issue of awarding the contract should come before the Board as a whole, due to the fact that all Committee members were not present, and let the Board make a recommendation on who should be awarded the contract for bus route #36. The Chairman informed the Board that both applicants are willing to purchase the bus from the Dixon Family, that both applicants are qualified and that all paperwork has been turned in for each applicant. After a discussion, Mr. Larry Stein made a motion, seconded by Mr. DeWitt Upton to award the contract for bus route #36 to Ms. Linda McCall. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Jean Allison, Mr. Regan Dalton, Mrs. Doris Davis, Mr. Larry Stein and Mr. DeWitt Upton voted yes. Mrs. Sonya Lynn, Mrs. Lisa McLemore and Mr. Dean Williams voted no. Motion passed.

Item No. 7: Mr. Dean Williams made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Lisa McLemore to approve a request for release time for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd periods by Travis Napier, Sequoyah High School student. Motion passed.

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Item No. 8: Mr. DeWitt Upton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Larry Stein to approve a request for release time for 5th and 6th periods by Sara Browder, Sweetwater High School student. Motion passed.

Item No. 9: Ms. Susan Emert, Auditor with Mitchell, Emert & Hill, P.C., appeared before the Board to explain and discuss the Monroe County School System Activity Funds Audit.

Item No. 10: Ms. Carrie Mobley, Rural Vale Elementary School teacher, appeared before the Board to discuss the Monroe County Young Authors Conference.

Item No. 11: Mrs. Doris Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Jean Allison recommending that a resolution be developed to honor the Dixon Family for their service as bus contractor for the Monroe County School System. Motion passed.

Item No. 12: The Board discussed information received from TSBA in reference to Monroe County Board of Education Policy #3.206, *Community Use of Facilities*, and asked that Monroe County Board of Education Policy #3.206 be placed on the November 8, 2007 regular meeting agenda for further discussion.

Item No. 13: The Director reported to the Board on the following: The Director commended the schools for doing a good job on their audit reports. The Director informed the Board that all schools are aware of the "Non-Smoker Protection Act" that became effective on October 1, 2007. The Director informed the Board that all work is completed at VES with the exception of waiting on the stove for the cafeteria and removal of the gas tank. The Director informed the Board that Allan Morris is the new SRO at Tellico Plains High School.

Item No. 14: The Chairman reminded the Board of the 2007 TSBA Leadership Conference November 10-11, 2007.

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Item No. 15: The Chairman reminded the Board of the 2007 TSBA Convention November 11-13, 2007.

Item No. 16: The Chairman reminded the Board of the next regular meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2007.

Item No. 17: The Board discussed the Adequate Facilities Tax resolution and placing this as an item to the November 8, 2007 agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Date _____

_____ Chair

_____ Secretary