



# Minutes of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Fort Davis ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Davis ISD was held Monday, February 10, 2014, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom of the Administration Bldg, 400 Webster Ave., Fort Davis, Texas.

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Faculty &amp; Staff</u>	<u>Visitors</u>
John Heiner	X		Judi Whitis	Debbie Aufdengarten	See Attached
Trae Dutchover	X		Allison Scott		
Cathy Rhudy	X		Graydon Hicks		
Steve Merrill	X				
Edith Taylor		X			
Evin Prude	X				
Julie McIvor	X				

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President John Heiner at 7:00 pm.

### II. Invocation and Pledge to the US Flag and Pledge to the Texas Flag

The invocation was given by Mr. Heiner followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American and Texas flags.

### III. Audience with Groups of Individuals

Dare Stevens spoke on his concerns for the future of the school district.

### IV. Communications/Reports

#### A. Community Charter School Meeting

After the community meeting Dr. Whitis followed up by talking to TEA. The method proposed would be called Home Rule Charter School District. A total replacement of public school has never been done in the State. Home Rule Charter schools would be subject to the same testing requirements. At some point the Home Rule Charter school could replace the school board. With a Home Rule Charter the only flexibility would be the school calendar and hiring non certified teachers and it would not free up ad valorem taxes.

#### B. Financial Report

##### 1. Comptrollers Preliminary Property Value Findings

Dr. Whitis advised the board that the 2013 Comptroller's property value study preliminary findings were certified to the Commissioner of Education on

January 31, 2014. We were awarded local value which will drive our state funding for school year 2014-2015. The estimated value for taxing purposes is \$165,072,425. That is \$5,858,577 less than the value for the current year. The decline we have experienced the past couple of years will push back our becoming a Chapter 41 school and should generate more state dollars and give some relief on the local side.

2. Cash Flow

Recent tax payments in the amount of 1.4 million have assisted in increasing our available cash. The last gym payment under the Public Facilities Corporation has been made and we will start making payments to Fort Davis State Bank for the refinance. Dr. Whitis noted the overpayment to the State at \$1,062,305.

V. Accounts Payable

Checks were presented for board approval and they reviewed checks paid last month. Mrs. McIvor made the motion to approve checks as presented. Mrs. Rhudy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote 6/0.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

1. January 13, 2014 Board Appreciation Dinner
2. January 13, 2014 Regular Meeting
3. January 16, 2014 Board Orientation
4. February 6, 2014 Special Meeting

B. Student Transfer Request

The motion to approve the consent agenda including minutes from all four meetings and approving Loana Grado's student transfer request was made by Mrs. Rhudy and seconded by Mr. Merrill. Motion carried. Vote 6/0.

VII. New Business

A. Consider Date Change for March Board Meeting

The March regular board meeting falls on the first day of spring break. Mr. Merrill made the motion to move the March meeting to Monday, March 17, 2014. Mr. Dutchover seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote 6/0.

B. Extracurricular Activity Commitments for 2014-2015

This item was tabled until after closed session.

In open session Mrs. Prude made the motion to continue Debate, One Act Play and the G/T History Fair. Mrs. McIvor seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote 6/0.

C. District Contribution for Employee Health Insurance for 2014-2015

Dr. Whitis advised that currently there are 35 employees covered under TRS ActiveCare insurance at a cost of \$529 per person per month. She has been researching to see if the district can legally reduce the amount it contributes as a benefit to each employee but asked for guidance from the board. The board agreed that they wanted Dr. Whitis to continue to research the maintenance of

effort issue and legalities to determine cost savings that could be realized for staff insurance contributions for the coming year.

D. Closed Session per Texas Government Code

President Heiner called for closed session pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code at 7:30 p.m.

1. Personnel (Section 551.074)
2. Administrative Contracts
3. Consider and discuss personnel affected by possible employment areas.

E. Reconvene from Closed Session for action relative to items considered during Closed Session

The meeting reconvened at 9:55 p.m.

2. The motion to renew the contracts of Graydon Hicks and Allison Scott as recommended by the Superintendent as discussed in closed session was made by Mrs. McIvor and seconded by Mrs. Rhudy. Motion carried. Vote 6/0.
3. Consider and take possible action to determine the employment areas to be affected as a result of program changes requiring the nonrenewal of district employees.

President Heiner recited a statement the Board had prepared:

The Board of Trustees is charged with the responsibility of ensuring a quality education for the children of the Fort Davis community. This responsibility entails making certain that the financial resources are available to provide for a school of our size. With great regret that hard decisions have to be made for our school district to meet its obligations during this coming year and into the future. Accordingly, the Board will be making both program and personnel changes for the 2014-2015 school year.

Whereas, the Board has previously determined that a need for program changes exists requiring the non-renewal of district employees, Mr. Merrill moved that the Board determine the employment areas to be affected by the program changes resulting in the nonrenewal of district employees include:

- (1) Elimination of the secondary art position.
- (2) Ceasing to offer a band program resulting in the elimination of the band director position.

Mrs. Prude seconded the motion. Motion carried. Vote 6/0

VIII. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Rhudy and seconded by Mrs. Prude. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.