

**MINUTES**  
**ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625  
July 9, 2007

**Board Members Present:** Randy Price, David Draisen, Mike Brock, Reverend Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Brenda Bradberry, Mike Gray, John Sherard, Steve Garrison, Jeff Kubu and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio

**Board Members Absent:** All were present.

**Others Present:** Hugh Smith, Keith Martin, Terry Martin, Larry Young, Amy Heard, David Brooks, Steve Uldrick, Nathan Dibanyo, Maurice Lopez, Brantley Jordan, Betty Bagley, Wayne Fowler, and Pat Smith

**Call to Order:** Mr. Price called the meeting to order. Rev. Dr. Mitchell presented the invocation. Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Price requested an amendment to the agenda under V. Recognition of Media and Patrons to include Richard Thompson. Ms. Bradberry wished to reconsider IV. of the May 21<sup>st</sup> minutes, which was corrected before the meeting. Mr. Garrison made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Kubu seconded the motion, and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Garrison made the motion to amend the May 21<sup>st</sup> minutes, Mr. Kubu seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the corrections. Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mr. Garrison seconded and the Board voted all in favor.

**Recognition of Media and Patrons/ Public Comment Period:** Mr. Price welcomed the visitors.

**Mr. Richard Thompson:** Mr. Thompson had been asked to report on the conflict between Act 388 and other legislation that may impact school budgets. He stated that there was some question as to what exactly this statute means and how it can be worked in and implemented with other laws that are on the books. In the case of the County Board he did not believe it was a difficult matter to answer. In 1999 the State Supreme Court stated that the education clause of the State Constitution requires that students be given a minimally adequate education which was defined by the ability to read and write the English language, have a knowledge of mathematics and physical science, a fundamental knowledge of the economic, social and political systems, and the history of governmental process and academic and vocational skills. This decision was based on South Carolina Constitution Article 11, Section 3. This body, the County Board, is under a constitutional mandate to see that school children get a minimally adequate education. If you have a School District coming before you who believes they need to go above and beyond the cap to provide the previous described education for the children, then you have the right to pass the budget request. Mr. Thompson said problems could arise, but he would rather be accused of violating Act 388 than of violating the education clause of the State Constitution.

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Mr. Price stated that this was prompted by a School District requesting 8 mills. Mr. Price thanked Mr. Thompson for his presentation.

**Consideration of District One Budget:** Mr. Sherard presented the budget for School District One of \$51,636,973 and made the motion to accept. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Consideration of District Two Budget:** Mr. Brock presented the budget for School District Two of \$22,612,646 and made the motion to accept. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion and Board agreed unanimously.

**Consideration of District Three Budget:** Mr. Gray presented the budget for School District Three of \$16,114,209 and made the motion to accept. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Consideration of District Four Budget:** Rev. Dr. Mitchell presented the budget for School District Four of \$21,929,479 and made the motion to accept. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Consideration of District Five Budget:** Mr. Kubu presented the budget for School District Five of \$83,850,235 and made the motion to accept. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

Mr. Price thanked the financial directors and superintendents for the work they had done on preparing budgets. He suggested that in the future, the Board would like for them to be present at the preliminary budget meetings to answer questions the Board may have before the final voting on the budgets. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Districts and the Board would benefit from a template for preparing budgets.

**Anderson County Alternative School Report:** Summer at the Alternative School includes maintenance, repairs, updating technological equipment and preparing for the return of students and teachers.

**Administrator's Report:** Mr. Nimmer presented the following information:

1. The County Board and Alternative School budgets were approved in Columbia on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Delegation meeting. Mr. Nimmer thanked Mr. Draisen for attending the meeting with him.
2. Mr. Nimmer distributed a copy of the two resolutions passed by the House and the Senate stating the Millard Smith recognition. Also included was a rough draft of the plan for the new plaque, patterned after the present plaque, naming the building in honor of Mr. Smith. Mr. Price suggested asking Mr. Ronny Townsend to speak at the dedication ceremony. A discussion of the dedication ceremony followed.
3. Mr. Nimmer and Jacky Hunter have started meeting to discuss millage.
4. Mr. Nimmer handed out books prepared by Ellen Davis for all the Board members of pictures and information of past schools in Anderson County.
5. The County Council will adopt their resolution for Millard Smith at their next meeting.

Mr. Price thanked Mr. Nimmer for all his work during budget time.

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**Financial: Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget and Assessment Totals:** Mr. Nimmer noted that there are still two months worth of collections that will be booked in July and August. Everyone will be above the budgeted revenue for all the Districts. The County Board is at 210% because it included some unbudgeted money that was due to come in from Duke Power which is a large portion of that increase. As far as assessment totals go, they are in line with anticipated totals.

**Old Business: CPA Search Update:** Mr. Nimmer reported that Ken Martin of Martin and Lennon, CPA, who currently perform audits for the Alternative School and Districts Three and Four, came in with the most competitive bid, a three year commitment at \$6000 per year. Mr. Martin said that Paychex, Inc. is an organization he works with through several of his clients. Mr. Nimmer made the recommendation that the Board engage Martin and Lennon for the three year period at the fixed rate of \$6000 per year. He also suggested that in order to maintain the adequate independence that the Board needs, to enter into an agreement with Paychex to outsource the payroll which will be \$2500 per year which would represent a savings of \$1100 yearly. When coupled with the money saved on the audit the savings will be over \$2500 per year. Paychex, Inc. would only adjust their rates by CPI. Mr. Nimmer had experience with Paychex at his former employment and highly recommended their services. A discussion followed concerning the auditors and Paychex, Inc.. Mr. Brock made the motion to enter into an agreement with Martin and Lennon, CPA as auditors for the Anderson County Board of Education and with Paychex, Inc. for the payroll functions. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

**New Business:**

- A. Mr. Garrison made the motion to pay ADM and SFS accounts payable. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion. Ms. Bradberry asked if the Capital Outlay was for the kitchen. Mr. Nimmer stated that it was and that the total remodel would be \$8800. The Board voted all in favor to pay the bills.

Mr. Kubu suggested that the Board recognize Ms. Bagley for being selected as the South Carolina Superintendent of the Year. Mr. Kubu made the motion to have a drop in to honor Ms. Bagley for her accomplishment. Mr. Gray seconded the motion. The Board agreed unanimously. Rev. Dr. Mitchell made the motion to approach the City Council and County Council and ask for a resolution honoring Ms. Bagley. Mr. Draisen seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

David Draisen, Secretary, Anderson County Board of Education  
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.

