

ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, SC 29625

MINUTES - SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

July 15, 2004 - 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dr. Keith L. Cole, George Seaborn, P. Michael Brock, George R. Price, Tom Allen, Brenda Bradberry, and Millard G. Smith, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent: Shawn McGee, Harris Wilks and Barbara R. Kay

Others Present: Alison Newton, The Anderson Independent-Mail; Larry Trotter, Anderson School District Four; Mary Lee Lollis, Anderson County Board of Education; Dan Harvell and Bennie Sue West, Anderson Taxpayers Association; and Brantley Jordan,

Call to Order: Dr. Cole called the meeting to order, gave the invocation and led in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Upon a motion by Mr. Price and second by Mrs. Bradberry, the agenda was approved unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Others: Dr. Cole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Public Comment Period from Patrons: No one wished to address the Board.

Opening Remarks by Chairman: Dr. Cole stated this meeting would be a workshop meeting with no vote or action taken. The dollar amounts for the budgets will be approved at the regular meeting, July 19 at 7:00 p.m. EFA will be \$1,852 with Medicaid reimbursement included per a memo from Mr. Richardson with the State Department of Revenue. However, the Medicaid portion will not be paid until it is received. Mr. Smith added that millage will be set in August with only one out of five districts requesting an increase. Mr. Smith also added that Mr. Houck with the State Department of Revenue will attend the July 19 meeting to explain industry revenue decrease in School District Two.

Work Sessions:

A. School District One—Mr. Seaborn said there is no millage increase requested to fund the proposed budget of \$40,356,835 general fund. He added his hope that the fund balance can be increased this year as previously the district had to make emergency loans.

Mrs. Bradberry asked if information requested in Item 4 of the Supplemental Budget Information section of the memo sent to the districts had been received. Item 4 requests total employees by category and location. This information has been received by School Districts Four and Five. She asked that the other districts submit this information for the meeting on Monday.

She also asked that letters be sent to the districts requesting the projected fund balance as of June 30, 2004, with the understanding the final figures for the fund balances will not be available until after audits are completed.

B. School District Two—Mr. Brock said a four mill increase is requested to fund the proposed budget of \$18,390,576 general fund with two mills being offset by a two-mill decrease in bonds. Dr. Cole added that the district is flat in revenue with two industries closing the past year. Mr. Smith said the Department of

Revenue representative will explain the tax situation in School District Two and the almost \$250,000 impact. Mr. Brock said the district is expecting more students and he does not know how the district can get by without the millage increase even though the district receives the highest amount of state funds of the five school districts with the local taxpayer effort at 38%.

C. School District Three—In the absence of Mr. McGee, Mr. Smith reviewed the proposed budget totaling \$13,648,868 general fund. The district is not requesting a millage increase although the district has the lowest growth in new construction in the county. The money will be transferred from the fund balance. There is also a fourteen mill decrease projected in bonds contingent on the assessment not being lower.

D. School District Four—Mr. Price presented the proposed budget for School District Four totaling \$18,100,136 general fund with no millage increase requested. The roof at La France Elementary had to be replaced, but the district is suing the company for this expenditure. The fund balance will be around \$4 Million, which will be a slight increase over last year. Mr. Trotter reviewed the technology plan for the district that includes phasing out leased equipment .

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E. School District Five—Mrs. Bradberry presented the proposed budget for School District Five totaling \$69,362,578 general fund with no millage increase requested. However, the bond millage will increase at least eight mills. The district has 1,566 employees with thirty-one new teaching positions. The average daily membership is 11,490. The district expects to add approximately \$2 Million to the fund balance.

Dr. Cole asked if there were any questions from the public. Mr. Harvell asked if there were an expected increase in students in School District Two. Mr. Smith answered that an increase of about fifty students was expected. Mr. Harvell added that during the building program he had warned of future utility bills creating a financial problem and now the district is beginning to experience this. There was no further discussion.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Brock, Secretary, Anderson County Board of Education

This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.