

ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, SC 29625

MINUTES

September 20, 2004 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dr. Keith L. Cole, George W. Seaborn, Shawn R. McGee, George R. Price, Thomas F. Allen, Brenda D. Bradberry, Harris G. Wilks, and Millard G. Smith, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent: P. Michael Brock, and Barbara R. Kay

Others Present: Alison Newton, The Anderson Independent-Mail; Senator Robert Waldrep; Brantley Jordan, Mary Lee Lollis, and Carolyn Barnes

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

Approval of Agenda: On a motion to approve the agenda with Item X II-Approval of School Food Director-moved to Item VII, the agenda as changed was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes-August 16, 2004 Meeting: The minutes were unanimously approved.

Acting Secretary for September 20 Meeting to be Appointed by Chairman: Dr. Cole appointed Mr. Wilks to serve as acting secretary in the absence of Mr. Brock.

Recognition of Media and Others: Dr. Cole welcomed the guests to the meeting. He also commended Mr. McGee for his election as vice president to the SC Independent Bankers Association.

Opportunity for Citizens to Address the Board: No one wished to address the Board.

Approval of School Food Service Director: Mr. Allen regretfully informed the Board of the resignation of Mrs. Bell due to family illness in New York. He then presented Mrs. Carolyn J. Barnes stating she had excellent qualifications and made a motion from the Personnel Committee to employ her as the school food service director. Coming from committee, no second was necessary. Mrs. Barnes was approved unanimously.

General Obligation Refunding Bonds-School District Four: Mr. Price presented the request from School District Four to issue and sale General Obligation Refunding Bonds to refund the General Obligation Bonds, Series 1996, and made a motion to approve this request. A second was made by Mr. Seaborn. During discussion, Mr. Allen asked if there would be an increase in millage. Mr. Trotter replied that instead of an increase a \$200,000 savings was projected. The request was unanimously approved.

Recognition of Ad Hoc Tax Study Committee and Awards: Mr. Smith informed the Board that he, Mrs. Bradberry, and Mr. Wilks had received plaques from Anderson County Council for their service to the Ad Hoc Tax Study Committee.

Executive Session: On motion by Mr. Allen and second by Mr. Price, the Board entered into executive session.

Return to Open Session: The Board returned to open session with no action taken.

Millage Rates Approval and Ratification, and Assessment Totals: The School Millage By District chart was distributed and is attached to the minutes. On a motion by Mrs. Bradberry and second by Mr. Wilks, the Board approved the millage rates.

Taxes Collected for Month of August: This report is attached to the minutes. Also attached to the minutes is a comparison chart of collections of 2003 versus 2004 showing a \$330,450 increase over last year mostly due to auto taxes. Mr. Allen asked what would happen to this money, and Mr. Smith said the districts would use it for payrolls rather than apply for Tax Anticipation Notes.

Mental Health Committee/Letters of Appreciation: Mr. Price reported from the Mental Health Committee. A meeting with Russell Harris and Eunice Williams of Partners for a Healthy Community revealed a grant for \$6 Million for four years had been submitted to the federal government to address student and school safety and health issues for Anderson School

Districts One, Two, Three and Four. Anderson School District Five was ineligible because they have received these funds in the past. This grant if received would furnish full time twenty-one counselors and one director. Mr. Price said the Mental Health Committee will need to wait to see if this grant is awarded before trying to proceed. A brief discussion followed.

Alternative School Update: Mr. McGee reported as of August 31, there are eighty-eight (88) students enrolled-forty (40) middle school students and forty-eight (48) high school students with an average daily membership of 86%.

Old Business:

- Web Site-Mr. Wilks advised the Board that the web site is now on line at www.boardofed.net. He commended Mr. Smith and Mrs. Lollis on their work on this project.

New Business:

- Award Bid for Anderson County School Directories-bids were opened and read as follows: Electric City Printing Company \$2,835 plus 10% overage and Attaway, Inc. \$1,727.20. On motion by Mr. Wilks and second by Mrs. Bradberry, the bid was awarded to Attaway, Inc. as low bidder.
- The September ADM and School Food Service Accounts Payable was unanimously approved on motion by Mr. Allen and second by Mr. McGee.
- SC School Board Association Meetings-eight members indicated they plan to attend the annual conference in February, 2005. Dr. Cole plans to attend the Southeastern Conference in July, 2005.

Mrs. Bradberry reported that the School Law conference was the best conference she had attended and highly recommended the members try to attend the conference next year.

Mr. Price asked why executive sessions could not be moved to the end of the meeting. Dr. Cole replied the sessions need to be earlier in the meetings so any action that needed to be taken could be voted on in open session and reported on by the news media.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Harris G. Wilks, Acting Secretary, Anderson County Board of Education

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



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