

ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, SC 29625

MINUTES

February 20, 2006 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Shawn R. McGee, Phillip M. Brock, George R. Price, Thomas F. Allen, Brenda D. Bradberry, David Draisen, Reverend Rufus Mitchell, and Millard G. Smith, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent: Dr. Keith L. Cole, Steve Garrison

Others Present: Dr. Paul Talmadge, Brantley Jordan, Dr. Gary Burgess, Allison Glass, Maurice Lopez and Pat Smith

Call to Order: Mr. McGee called the meeting to order. Rev. Mitchell read from the scriptures and lead in prayer.

Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Agenda: On motion by Ms. Bradberry and second by Rev. Mitchell, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes–January 17 Meeting: The minutes were approved with no additions or revisions.

Recognition of Media and Others: Mr. McGee welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

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

District Four Bond Resolution: Mr. McGee called upon Mr. Price to present the bond resolution of \$26,800,000 to the Board Members. A discussion followed with the following questions being asked:

A. Over what period of time will the bond be paid back? Answer: Over a period of 20/25 years

B. How will it affect the millage rate? Answer: Estimated to be 51.9 mils based on current assessment to go to the 2006 series bond indebtedness

C. When will the construction be started? Answer: April, 2006 with projected completion date of 2007

D. Why are we voting on this resolution when it has already been approved by a referendum? Answer: Merely for issuance

With a motion by Mr. Price to go forward with the resolution and second by Rev. Mitchell, all Board members voted yea with the exception of Mr. Allen who voted nay.

Alternative School–Board Member Appointed, Two Year Term: Mr. McGee nominated Mr. Brock for the Alternative School Board member position for a two year term. All members voted unanimously to accept the nomination. Mr. Brock accepted the position.

Recognition of Achievement: District One: Mr. Smith acknowledged Jerome Hudson, principal of Palmetto Elementary School, for his national recognition as an exceptional leader. District Two: Mr. Brock presented information concerning the Gold Awards for Belton-Honea Path High School and Wright Elementary School. District Three: Mr. McGee made the Board aware of the state wrestling championship award for Crescent High School. He also congratulated Rev. Mitchell for being recognized in the Anderson Independent Mail for being one of the top ten pastors in Anderson. District Four: Mr. Price called attention to the outstanding job being done by Dr. Burgess and the staff at Anderson School District Four. He advised the Board of the of the Boy's Cross Country Team state championship and the signs that would be added to previous congratulatory signs.

OCF/County Council Ordinance: Mr. Smith talked to Senator O'Dell who sponsored the bill which authorizes the County Treasurer to negotiate payment of property taxes when bankruptcy occurs. The House passed with three readings and the Senate will hear the third reading this week. Mr. Smith expected the bill to pass as a statewide law.

School District Three: The second reading of the local OCF ordinance for Anderson School District Three will be at the County Council meeting on February 21, and Mr. Smith encouraged all the Board Members to attend to show support.

Executive Session: Upon motion by Mr. Allen and second by Rev. Mitchell, the Board entered into executive session.

Return to Open Session: The Board returned to open session on motion by Ms. Bradberry and second by Mr. Allen..

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South Carolina School Boards Association Annual Meeting: Mr. Draisen relayed excerpts from the workshop led by Dr.

James Johnson concerning "No Child Left Uncelebrated" and the need for the educational system to diversify in methods of teaching to accommodate the growing number of other nationalities in our state. Ms. Bradberry gave information regarding

workshops on teamwork among Board Members.

YTD Tax Collections vs. Budget: Mr. Smith informed the Board that they were on target with collections budgeted for the school districts.

County Board Appointments: The only change made in committees was to replace Shawn McGee with Mike Brock as chairperson for the Alternative School. Everyone else remained in the same position they held the previous year..

Old Business: After a meeting with Mr. Smith, Renee' Potter and Jack Lieb ; David Draisen explained to the Board that state billing would have to be used in filing medicaid.

New Business:

- A.** Mr. Brock made the motion to pay the ADM accounts payable and the SFS accounts payable. The Board voted unanimously to pay the bills.
- B.** Mr. Smith added that this was the biggest claim in the history of the County Board because of legal fees of \$23,096.43. He reminded the Board that there would be one more large legal bill in the future, and it would be for the trial concerning Anderson School District Five. He expected it to be about the same amount as the bill already received.
- C.** Mr. Draisen wished to put the amount of the bill for legal fees into perspective as to what could have been done with the money to benefit the schools, rather than paying legal fees. He said that \$23,096.43 could have bought 15,333 lunches for the children during the year. Mr. Price said that the community should be made aware of the money being spent that could be used to benefit the children, rather than on legal fees.
- D.** Mr. Smith informed the Board that the filing dates for school elections starts August 1, 2006, at noon and ends on August 15, 2006 at noon.
- E.** Collection Rate Prior Year Actual: Jason Phillips advised Mr. Smith that the prior year collection rate was 96.1 for personal property and 97 for autos. This was an average for the whole county. Ms. Bradberry asked what this information was based on, and it was based on 95% collection rate.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David Draisen, Secretary, Anderson County Board of Education

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