

MINUTES
ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625
November 20, 2006

Board Members Present: Shawn R. McGee, Thomas F. Allen, Phillip M. Brock, Reverend Rufus Mitchell, Brenda D. Bradberry, Randy Price, Steve Garrison, and David Draisen

Board Members Absent: Dr. Keith Cole

Others Present: Stephen J. Nimmer, Allison Glass, Mike Gray, Dr. Paul Talmadge, Brantley Jordan, Randolph Dillingham and Pat Smith

Call to Order: Mr. McGee called the meeting to order. Rev. Mitchell gave the invocation and everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Price requested the addition under Old Business of item B: Discussion of Item E, ordinance number 2006-040 on the Anderson County Council handout. Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the agenda with this addition. Mr. Allen seconded the motion with the unanimous approval of the Board.

Approval of Minutes, October 16, 2006 Meeting: Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the minutes with a second by Mr. Garrison. The Board unanimously agreed.

Recognition of Media and Patrons/ Public Comment Period: Mr. McGee welcomed Allison Glass and the other visitors.

Introduction of New Administrator: Mr. McGee introduced Stephen “Joey” Nimmer as the new Anderson County Board of Education Administrator and asked him to tell about his background. Mr. Nimmer expressed his eagerness to start work at the Board on December 1, 2006. He told about his present job at Thomas Heyward Academy in Ridgeland, South Carolina where he has been the chief financial officer and director of technology for the past six years. He said he is looking forward to working with people who are as dedicated to education as he is and also to moving back to an area in the state that he dearly loves. Mr. McGee welcomed Mr. Nimmer to the Board. Mr. Brock congratulated the personnel committee, Tom Allen, Steve Garrison, Rev. Mitchell and Dr. Cole, for a job well done in choosing Mr. Nimmer as the new administrator.

YTD Taxes vs. Budgets: Ms. Bradberry asked to see last years report to compare figures. She noted that in some districts delinquent taxes were coming in well but not well in others. She suggested that the Board check property tax relief and homestead exemption again after the first of the year.

Pat Moore—Attendance Manual: Ms. Moore thanked the Board for the approval to publish the manual. The purpose of the manual is to familiarize school personnel with the State Department’s code of regulations concerning truancy. It also contains helpful forms the schools can copy and use. An important part of the manual is the vast knowledge Ms. Moore included

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relating to laws of attendance, forgery, enticement, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, educational neglect, and many others, making them readily available to the administration and staff in the School Districts. Ms. Moore presented a very informative program discussing the causes of truancy in students' lives and the effect it has on them for the rest of their lives. One very important fact she related was that since 1994, truancy has been the main juvenile offense in South Carolina. It is the top juvenile offense in the United States. A discussion followed with everyone thanking Ms. Moore for a job well done.

Old Business: Mr. McGee reminded the Board of the December meeting which would be the annual Christmas party held at Tucker's Restaurant on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 pm.

Item B, Ordinance 2006-040 was presented by Mr. Price who asked the question as to what constituted an industrial park. Mr. Allen believed it would benefit the Board to find out how many industrial parks are in the area and what percentage of business is located in these parks. Mr. Price expressed concern that individual taxes may be cut at the expense of schools. Mr. Nimmer suggested that the Board get specific definitions of business parks. Ms. Bradberry said that Mr. Preston, County Administrator, should be called for a definition. Mr. McGee agreed to call Mike Freeman to ask for information. He asked Ms. Glass if she had any information concerning the fee in lieu to which she replied that she had no information and, she would be at the County Council meeting for a report. A discussion followed with several Board members planning to attend the County Council meeting.

Millard Smith's vacation days: Mr. Allen suggested that this item needed to be discussed. Mr. Draisen asked if this should be discussed in executive session at a later date. It was decided that this be further discussed at a future meeting.

New Business: Mr. Brock made the motion to pay accounts payable for the County Board and School Food Service. Rev. Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously. Mr. McGee congratulated the new Board members: Mike Gray, Jeff Kubu and John Sherard.

Mr. McGee reminded the Board of the SCSBA conference at Hilton Head to be held February 22-25. Mr. Price acknowledged Mr. Paul Sutherland as an outstanding athletic director for School District Four and made the motion that he be invited to a future Board meeting for recognition. Rev. Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board voted to issue Mr. Sutherland an invitation to attend the meeting in January.

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.

