

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
September 10, 2002
San Rafael Jr. High School

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Members present were Laurel Johansen, Sam Singleton, Rue Ware, Royd Hatt and Marie Johnson. Other present were Kirk Sitterud, Superintendent and Ross Huntington, Business Administrator.

A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve the warrants and minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Huntsman, Building and Grounds Supervisor, was welcomed to the meeting. He provided board members with information about a new type of roofing material and recommended we use it to repair roofs at Green River High School (GRHS) and the shop building at Emery High School (EHS). Swapp roofing had quoted a price of \$10,379.15 to repair the roof at GRHS. We have bids of \$21,922.30 from Swapp for the roof on the shop at EHS and a bid from Clark's Quality Roofing of \$25,880 on that project. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the bid of \$21,922.30 from Swapp Roofing and to have them do the repair work at GRHS as well. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huntsman then presented quotes from High Desert Excavating from Green River for crack sealing and/or seal coating the parking lots at GRHS. High Desert quoted a price of \$4350 to sweep, clean, fill, seal cracks and seal coat the parking lot immediately in front of the school; a price of \$4675 to clean, plane, compact, and seal coat the new parking area east of the school; and a price of \$3880 to repair, sweep and seal the rear parking lot. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to approve High Desert's proposals and quotes and authorize them to proceed with the work. The motion passed unanimously.

Ralph Ison, Director of Transportation, was next on the agenda. Mr. Ison reported on the current situation with busing. We have reduced the number of buses in the fleet from 33 several years ago to 29 and plan to dispose of three obsolete buses this year. In addition, Mr. Ison recommended that we reduce the number of automobiles by three or four more. We currently operate and maintain 35 automobiles. He reported that there are 57 elementary and junior high school students and 17 high school students for a total of 74 students being transported from Emery. After considerable discussion on the matter, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Rue Ware to combine the two bus runs from Emery into one on a trial basis with at least one weeks notice given to parents. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Thomas from the Local Interagency Council was next on the agenda. She reported on the summer school held this past summer. There were 51 students who qualified for services. One student, Bobby Gabrys, is one of the programs success stories. Prior to entering the program he had struggled with grades and attendance. He was welcomed by the board and made

very favorable comments about the program, indicating that he was now getting much better grades and his attendance had improved.. The Board applauded him for his efforts.

Garth Johnson, Principal at San Rafael Jr. High School (SRJHS), reported on the activities and improvements at his school this year. He expressed appreciation to the Bus and Maintenance Departments for the excellent manner in which they support the school. He stated that he has changed the testing program by testing one day per week over a three week period rather than three successive days in one week. This allows the students to be more rested and alert. In addition, students will be provided with a free breakfast on test day. They seem to do better than under the previous method. He informed the Board that they will be playing their home football games at EHS due to the poor condition of their own football field and the concern for the safety of the players. Mr. Johnson continues to emphasize the “Love and Logic” method of discipline. It preserves respect and dignity for the child.

Laurel Johansen, Board President, expressed appreciation to Mr. Johnson and his staff for the fine job they are doing and for their extra efforts to help kids.

Roger Swenson, candidate for State School Board was welcomed to the meeting. He requested a letter of introduction and support be sent from the Board to the other school districts within his voting district. A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to have the Superintendent write and send the letter. The motion passed unanimously.

Larry Davis, Principal at Canyon View Jr. High School, requested board approval for a cooling system at his school. After investigating various options he had obtained price information on the “trickle system” which is the same type system as SRJHS. Estimated cost of the project would be about \$10,000. Following discussion, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to support the concept of cooling CVJHS and expanding the system at SRJHS. Additional cost and installation information is needed before final approval can be given. The motion passed unanimously. Royd Hatt, Board member inquired as to the possibility of installing some type of cooling system in the GRHS gymnasium. Kerry Lake, Maintenance Specialist, stated that Mr. Huntsman and Arden Sherrill, a custodian at GRHS had been discussing the problem and would look further into the matter.

The annual employment agreement with Four Corners Community Mental Health Center, Inc. was renewed for an additional year by unanimous vote following a motion by Rue Ware and a second by Marie Johnson.

A letter notifying the public of the District’s Asbestos Abatement Program was read aloud to all in attendance and is attached to and is a part of these minutes.

An application for participation in the Federal Surplus Property Program was approved for signature by unanimous vote following a motion by Marie Johnson and a second by Royd Hatt.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended that LaNora “Kris” Richards be approved for hire as a three hour per day preschool educational assistant at Book Cliff Elementary to replace Jody Carter who has been moved to a full time teaching position with the departure of Jamie Huggard.

A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Following a request by David Bird, Chorus teacher, and the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to increase the chorus accompanist time at CVJHS for an additional hour per day for one quarter. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval for travel over 150 miles (one way) to athletic events was then discussed. Superintendent Sitterud recommended the Board approve travel to Dixie High School, Snow Canyon High School, and Uintah High School for Emery High's Football team and travel to Hurricane High School for Emery High's volleyball team. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Rue Ware to accept the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Information items presented by the Superintendent included enrollment numbers (2436 on the first day of school - a decrease of 72 students from last year); Cleveland Elementary School's qualifying for Title I this year; Utah School Boards Association Legislative Program; the State Board of Education Budget Initiatives for the 2003 Legislature; information about Constitutional Amendment #1; a national survey about salaries for Administrators and Professional Staff; and a copy of a letter written to the Jordan School District Board to Senator Howard Stephenson regarding information the Utah Taxpayers Association had disseminated to its members.

A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Rue Ware to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel matters and possible litigation. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon reconvening to general session and following the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Marie Johnson to increase the salary of the tennis coach at EHS to \$1300 for the season and to add an assistant coach to the program at a salary of \$900. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Rue Ware to contract with Western States Mechanical for additional labor to assist with the completion of the heating retrofit at Castle Dale Elementary. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was then made by Laurel Johansen and seconded by Royd Hatt. The motion passed unanimously.