

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held on Wednesday, August 25, 2022, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Alpine ISD Administration Building, Board Room.

I. Call Meeting to Order

Board President Eddie Natera called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Members Present: Nikki Ahrens, Haley Babb, Adrian Billings, Mary McCallister, Joe Portillo, and Board President, Eddie Natera

Members Absent: Jimmy Morris

Others Present: Michelle Rinehart, Superintendent of Schools

II. Invocation

III. Pledges of Allegiance to the Flags

IV. Verification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law. This is to verify that the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.041 in connection with public posting of meeting notice was met on August 19, 2022 at 4:01 p.m.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

None

VI. Convene Public Hearing for Review and Discussion of Alpine ISD's State Compensatory Education Funds for 2022-2023. (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Board President Eddie Natera convened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m. for discussion of Alpine ISD's State Compensatory Education Funds 2022-2023.

Chief Financial Officer, Clay Braden, explained the purpose of the program. Funds for 2022-2023 total \$ 840,917.00. The funds will primarily be utilized for salaries.

VII. Adjournment of Public Hearing and Reconvening of Open Meeting.

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the public hearing at 5:34 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting agenda.

VIII. Convene Public Hearing for Discussion of Proposed Tax Rate for 2022-2023 (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Board President Eddie Natera convened the public hearing at 5:34 p.m. for discussion of the proposed tax rate for 2022-2023.

CFO, Clay Braden, reviewed the process for establishing a tax rate, and reviewed the tax amounts adopted for 2021-2022. The tax rates being proposed for 2022-2023 are \$.9461 for Maintenance and Operations, and \$.019 for Principal and Interest on Debts, for a total tax rate of \$ 1.1361. The No New Revenue Tax Rate is 1.133, so this tax rate is 0.27361% higher than the no new revenue tax rate, and will raise taxes on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$3.10.

Adjournment of Public Hearing and Reconvening of Open Meeting

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the public hearing at 5:38 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting agenda.

IX. Review and Consideration of Ordinance to Approve Tax Rate for 2022-2023 (Goal 2, 4)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$ 1.1361, which is effectively a 0.27361% increase in the tax rate.

Motion carried – 6- 0

X. Review and Consideration of Resolution Granting Extracurricular Status of 4H Organization Under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76.1 (Goals 2, 3)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister to approve the resolution granting extracurricular status of 4H Organization under 19 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 76..1, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XI. Review and Consideration of Adjunct Faculty Request for Brewster-Jeff Davis County 4H Organization (Goals 2, 3)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Adrian Billings to approve the Adjunct Faculty request for Brewster-JeffDavis County 4H Organization, as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0

XII. Construction Updates (Goals 1, 2, 4)

A. Alpine ISD

Dr. Rinehart reported that the High School opened as planned on August 23, 2022. Imperial Construction has been addressing problems both on-site, and off-site, as needed. Demolition will be completed in approximately one more week. The Project should be wrapped up some time in November. The punch list is being addressed. Furniture that has been delivered is in place, while some furniture is still on back-order.

B. Imperial Construction

Imperial will continue to work on punch list items on nights and weekends. Continuing with demolition. Concrete work in hallways connections will begin. Planning on a November completion date, and vacating site by December 1. Still waiting on one more shipment of metal panels. Imperial will be working with Parkhill on floor issues to see what can be done. Imperial is continuing to keep an eye on the roof for leaks. Discussion of the work done by ServPro to remediate water in the building. Mr. Natera expressed his appreciation for the quick response by Imperial and Alpine ISD staff. Everyone worked well together to take care of the problem.

C. Parkhill, including review of CCR Log

Working on punch list – mechanical, electrical, plumbing, all the trades. Greg Carroll the roofing consultant has created a complete list addressing the roofing issues. The punch lists will be added to as the building is used and changes and needs are found. Warrant items will need to be tracked. Biggest item left to address is the roof.

XIII. Review and Consideration of CCR-062-R1 - Security at Front Entry (Goals 1, 2, 4)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Nikki Ahrens to approve CCR-062-R1 - Security at Front Entry, in the amount of \$9,720.00, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIV. Review and Consideration of CCR-063 - Moving Company and Asphalt Repair (Goals 1, 2, 4)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve CCR-063 - Moving Company and Asphalt Repair, in the amount of \$20,020.00, with \$500.00 for acid seal being removed from the CCR.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

Once again, Mr. Natera expressed his appreciation to Imperial Construction for their help with the moving company, and the manner in which they have handled numerous issues.

XV. Campus Principal Reports - Information Only (Goals 1, 3)

A. Alpine Elementary School

Mr. Wubbena reported on Meet the Teachers, first day of school, and other activities.

B. Alpine Middle School

Ms. Pardo reported on Open House, fire drills, lockdown drills, bus evaluation drills, and first day of school, as well as other activities.

C. Alpine High School

Mr. Vickers reported on the first day of school, saying it went “Chaotically Smooth”. Routines are running well. Principal has been conducting meeting with each class level.

Dr. Rinehart thanked the principals for everything they have done to start the year.

XVI. Review and Consideration of Rates of Pay for Athletic Game Workers (Goal 2)

Clay Braden recommended a \$5.00 increase across the board for athletic game workers.

A motion was made by Haley Babb, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Mr. Braden’s recommendation with a revision to Middle School game rates to make them equitable to JV game rates.

Motion carried 6 – 0

XVII. Reports (Goal 2)

A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

Clay Braden, CFO, reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of August, 2022.

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Mr. Braden told board members that auditors are on site, and so far, the reviews are going well.

XVIII. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

None

XIX. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

- 1. July 20, 2022 - Regular Meeting**
- 2. August 10, 2022 - Special Meeting**

B. District Expenditures for Month of July, 2022 (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Nikki Ahrens to approve the consent items, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XX. Review and Consideration of Board Self-Evaluation Instrument (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4) Dr. Rinehart discussed the process and reviewed the current document as well as a sample document.

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister, to use the sample document for the Board Self-Evaluation Instrument.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXI. Discussion of Alpine ISD Daycare Grant Opportunities (1, 2, 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart discussed the progress on early investigation into the possibilities for grant opportunities for Day Care. She has been meeting with Alpine Community Projects, Rio Grande Council of Governments, Sul Ross State University, and the Big Bend Memorial Hospital, discussing collaboration between entities. There are three grants being considered: Workforce Solutions/BorderPlex, Child Care Wxpansion Initiative, and a Partnership Matching Grant. Further updates will be provided as warranted.

XXII. Review and Consideration of Resolution Addressing the Alpine ISD Portion of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Action Plan (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to approve the Resolution Addressing the Alpine ISD Portion of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Action Plan, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXIII. Review and Consideration of Adjustment for COVID Leave for Employees for 2022-2023 (Goals 1, 2, 3)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve an additional five days COVID leave for employees, with the stipulation that the test be confirmed by a medical provider or the District nurse. The additional days will be made available, retroactive to July 1, 2022.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXIV. Review of Handbooks for Student Groups/Extracurricular Activities for 2022-2023 School Year - Information Only (Goal 1)

A. National Honor Society By-Laws - Information Only, No Action Required

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the NHS handbook. Mr. Vickers told Board members that Robie Golden will be serving as the new sponsor for NHS.

XXV. Superintendent Report (Goal 1, 2, 3, 4)

A. Entry Plan Update

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the progress on her entry plan, and told board members this would be the last update since school has begun. Board members commended Dr. Rinehart on her positive, transparent approach to providing updates about the district. Dr. Billing expressed his appreciation to Dr. Rinehart and the principals for team work and service they are providing for the district. Mr. Natera and Ms. Babb both said that all the comments they are hearing are positive and enthusiastic.

B. Enrollment Report

Dr. Rinehart reviewed enrollment numbers for the first week of school. Enrollment on August 25th was 950. She also reviewed enrollment and attendance trends.

XXVI. Closed Session - Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Section 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, & 551.089

The Board adjourned to executive session at 7:09 p.m.

A. Personnel - Hear and Deliberate Regarding Superintendent Recommendations for Personnel. (Goal 1)

- 1. Employee Resignations or Retirements**
- 2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2022-2023**

B. Deliberation of Safety and Security Matters - Discussion Only (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

- 1. Certification of Summer 2022 Safety and Security Requirements**
- 2. Safety and Security Updates**

XXVII. Open Session - Consider and Take Possible Action on Closed Session Deliberations

The Board reconvened in open session, at 7:46 p.m., taking action on Closed session deliberations as indicated below.

A. Consider and Take Possible Action Regarding Personnel. Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074 (Goal 1)

1. Employee Resignations or Retirements

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to accept the resignation of Carla Cheatham, with regrets.

Motion carried – 5 – 1, with Eddie Natera casting the dissenting vote.

2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2022-2023

None

XXVIII. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine ISD Administration Building Board Room, Regular Meeting


XXIX. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Nikki Ahrens, seconded by Mary McCallister, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

*The Board may retire to executive session at any time between the meeting's opening and adjournment for purposes of deliberating business as authorized in Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071-551.074 and 551.076. Action, if any, will be taken in open session. (Texas Government Code Chapter 551.102)


Board President


Board Secretary

Date of Approval: 9/22/2022