

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – December 9, 2024

(AGENDA POSTED: December 6, 2024, 4:00 P.M.)

Call to Order and Roll Call:

The Karnes City ISD Board of Trustees met in Regular Session on Monday December 9, 2024, in the Karnes City ISD Board Room. Debbie Witte called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The following members were present: Alex Kotara, Melanie Johnson, Debbie Witte, Cason Newberry, Sherry Sommer, Melissa Padron-Valdez, and Michael Rosales.

Pledge and Moment of Silence:

President Debbie Witte led the pledge to the United States and Texas flags and called for a moment of silence.

Awards and Recognitions:

Karnes City High School Principal, Daniel Hutchins, presented the Karnes City FFA Ag Issues Team and their sponsor, Katelyn Ebrom. This team has qualified to compete at the State level. Then Principal Hutchins introduced the Karnes City High School UIL Academic sponsor, Stephanie Martinez and student Lino Lopez. Lino qualified to compete at the state level in UIL Congress.

KCISD Food Service Director, Trey Martin, recognized Ivory Williams for twenty-four years of hard work and dedication to Karnes City ISD.

Public Comments:

Alex Kotara gave a thank you to the board and individuals present for their support and condolences for the passing of his late father.

Public hearing pursuant to Texas Government Code Section § 180.007 regarding possible retention incentive stipend:

President Debbie Witte read the resolution for the possible \$1000 retention incentive stipend. The board discussed the resolution.

Closed Meeting pursuant to Texas Government Code Section § 551.071 consultation with attorney. At 6:18 pm Debbie Witte called the meeting into closed session for consultation with the district's attorney.

Closed Session ended at 6:51 pm.

Further discussion was had regarding the incentive stipend. Each board member shared their thoughts about the stipend. Alex Kotara then made a motion to approve a retention incentive stipend of \$500. Sherry Sommer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Public Hearing over the School FIRST Rating:

The School FIRST public hearing opened at 7:02 pm. Sean Smith, KCISD CFO, gave a brief summary of the School FIRST rating. The board members asked questions, and discussed the rating. There were no public comments. The Public Hearing over the School FIRST rating adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Information Items:

An updated document was provided to the board regarding the current staff. There were no questions.

Coach Charles Cook, KCISD Athletic Director, suggested renaming the Badger Relays to the Donnie Dziuk KC Badger Relays. Coach Cook shared information on Coach Dziuk's background and career as reasons for the name change. The Board discussed the ongoing process of updating the policy of naming facilities and suggested adding a section about naming events.

Sean Smith updated the board on the changes to the Federal Statute regarding compensation. He acknowledged that KCISD is in compliance with the statute.

Jim Wood, KCISD Maintenance Director, gave an update on maintenance and facility projects.

Brian Revell, with AGCM, gave an update regarding the KCE playground and the press box project.

Consent Agenda:

Board meeting minutes – November 11, 2024 (Regular Meeting)

General Operating Bills: \$ 2,563,075.55

Tax Collection Report: 94.67 %

A motion was made by Melanie Johnson and seconded by Alex Kotara to approve the board meeting minutes, payment of the monthly bills, budget summary, investment report, and tax collection report. The motion carried unanimously.

Items for Consideration and Possible Action:

A motion was made by Sherry Sommer and seconded by Melanie Johnson to approve the budget amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Jo Ann Gutierrez, KCISD Director of Instructional Services, gave a presentation regarding LASO Grant and Bluebonnet Learning Curriculum. A motion was made by Melanie Johnson and seconded by Michael Rosales to approve the LASO Grant and Bluebonnet Learning Curriculum. The motion carried with 6 in favor and 1 abstention by Alex Kotara.

Sean Smith, CFO, presented the District Investment policy for board review. A motion was made by Alex Kotara and seconded by Melissa Padron-Valdez to approve the Annual Review and Approval of the District's Investment Policy, Local (CDA). The motion carried unanimously.

Closed Meeting pursuant to Texas Government Code Section § 551.001 et seq:

Debbie Witte, Cason Newberry, Sherry Sommer, Melanie Johnson, Melissa Padron-Valdez, Alex Kotara, and Michael Rosales went into the closed session at 8:18 p.m. Superintendent Katherine Kuenstler and District's Attorney, Hannah Krammer, joined the board members in closed session.

Closed session ended at 8:46 p.m. No action was taken.

Adjournment:

President Debbie Witte adjourned the meeting at 8:47p.m.

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SECRETARY, BOARD OF TRUSTEES