

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Crane Independent School District**  
Monday, August 18, 2014

The Board of Trustees of the Crane Independent School District met on Monday, August 18, 2014 in regular session with the following members present:

Van Dodd, President  
Twilah Ward, Vice-President  
Lonny Velasquez, Secretary  
Jessie Gonzalez, Assistant Secretary

John Cavazos  
Wallace Cox  
Ricky Flores

*Administrators Present were:*

Tony Priest, HS Principal  
Lore Shultze, MS Principal  
Nicole Jeffery, Elem Principal  
Yolanda Carr, Curriculum Director

Matt Turney, Asst. HS Principal  
Henry Anderson, Asst. MS Principal  
Ken Eudy, Business Manager  
Monty King, Dir. Of Physical Services

*Other Guests were:*

Erick Macha, First Southwest  
Sara Tonne  
Pat Truitt  
LaToya Flores

Jeff Gulbas, McCall, Parkhill & Horton Law Firm  
Elaine Truitt  
Dan Wilkinson, TASB  
Evelyn Stroder

- Item 1 Mr. Dodd, Board President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Item 2 Tony Priest gave the invocation and the Pledges of Allegiance were recited by all.
- Item 3 Visitors were recognized.
- Item 4 Public Forum.  
No public comment.
- Item 5 Swear in new Board Member.  
Notary Public Sara Tonne administered the oath of office to newly appointed Precinct 5 Board Member Ricky Flores. Superintendent Rumage and other board members welcomed him to the board.
- Item 6 Multi-Purpose Building and Teacher Housing – Monty King.  
Dir. of Physical Services King reported that the Multi-Purpose Building finish date has been moved from July 31 to mid-late September. On August 14, liquidated damages started to accrue against them at a rate of \$1,000 per calendar day until the project is

finished. He then reported that the teacher housing project is still awaiting lawyers of Mr. Holifield and Mr. Sanchez to work out the boundary dispute so that we can purchase the land.

Item 7 Public comment on proposed budget/tax rate for 2014-2015.  
No public comment.

Item 8 Adoption of 2014-2015 budget.  
Business Manager Eudy presented his final budget projection for 2014-2015. He reported that the lawyers have advised that if we need to start on some critical projects such as the roofing, technology infrastructure and vehicles, we should add those items in the M&O budget and then pass a resolution to pay back the M&O budget from bond proceeds that will not be available until Jan-Feb 2015 at the earliest. After adding back the capital items removed at the last meeting that are going to be in the upcoming bond election, the deficit has now grown to \$1,026,906. Twilah Ward moved, seconded by Wallace Cox, to approve the 2014-2015 Crane ISD budget as presented in the total amount of \$32,876,035. Adopted unanimously.

Item 9 Adoption of 2014-2015 tax rate by resolution.  
Van Dodd moved, seconded by Twilah Ward, that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.1275 per \$100 valuation for the District for the tax year 2014 through an ordinance. This rate is effectively a 1.8% increase in the overall tax rate. The property taxes are to be assessed and collected by the tax officials designated by the District as follows:  
\$ 1.06 for the purpose of maintenance and operations and  
\$ 0.0675 for the purpose of principal and interest on debts.  
Adopted unanimously.

Item 10 Consider an order calling an election to ratify school district taxes pursuant to Section 26.08, Tax Code.  
Since the tax rate just passed is 2 cents above the rollback rate of \$1.04 on the M&O side, the voters will have to be asked to approve the \$1.06 rate. Lawyer Jeff Gulbas along with Business Manager Eudy reminded the board that these two pennies represent the last two cents of six cents available to us on the M&O side that are not subject to TEA Recapture (Robin Hood). Van Dodd moved, seconded by Twilah Ward, to adopt an order calling an election to ratify school district taxes pursuant to Section 26.08 of Tax Code. Adopted unanimously.

Item 11 Consider a resolution expressing official intent to reimburse costs of projects.  
Business Manager Eudy requested that the board consider this resolution in order to be able to start on some time critical projects immediately and then pay back our M&O side with bond proceeds if the election passes on November 4. Van Dodd moved, seconded by Twilah Ward, to adopt a resolution expressing official intent to reimburse costs of projects. Adopted unanimously.

Item 12 Purchase property/casualty/fleet insurance for 2014-2015.  
Business Manager Eudy reported that we received two interlocal proposals this year for our property/casualty/fleet insurance: one from our local agent Westwind Insurance and one from TASB (our current carrier). He recommended the TASB proposal due to the \$7,578 price difference. Van Dodd moved, seconded by Lonny Velasquez, to accept TASB's proposal for Property/Liability/Fleet insurance for the time period September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015 at a total price of: \$65,821. Adopted unanimously.

Item 13 2014-2015 Teacher Appraisal Calendar.  
John Cavazos moved, seconded by Jessie Gonzalez, to approve the 2014-15 Appraisal Calendar as presented by Superintendent Ramage. Adopted unanimously.

Item 14 Approve 4-H as a school sanctioned event for the 2014-2015 school year.  
Superintendent Ramage reported that our county does not currently have a County Extension Agent but he would still recommend that we take action to allow students showing their animals or projects to attend stock shows without penalty related to our attendance policies. Lonny Velasquez moved, seconded by Twilah Ward, to approve 4-H as a school sanctioned event for the 2014-2015 school year. Adopted unanimously.

Item 15 Legal Retainer Program Contract 2014-2015.  
Van Dodd moved, seconded by Wallace Cox, to approve the 2014-2015 Legal Retainer Program Contract as presented with the Walsh, Anderson Law Firm. Adopted unanimously.

Item 16 2014-2015 Student Code of Conduct.  
Asst. Principals Turney and Anderson went over proposed changes to the 2014-2015 Student Code of Conduct. Discussion followed about cell phones usage and consistent enforcement. Twilah Ward moved, seconded by Wallace Cox, to approve the student code of conduct for the 2014-2015 school year as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Item 17 Agreement with Ector County ISD for Alternative Education Services.  
Even though there is usually no space availability, Superintendent Ramage recommended keeping this option open as well as McCamey ISD's program for placement of our students placed in AEP ( Alternative Education Program). John Cavazos moved, seconded by Twilah Ward, to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Ector County ISD for 2014-15 AEP services as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Item 18 Administrative Reports.  
Superintendent Ramage reported a good first day of inservice training for the staff. Curriculum Director Carr reported that the test scores recently received showed that we "met standard" but were in the C level of an A-D system. Superintendent Ramage reported that we had received a reasonable offer from the Crokers for the sale of their property. Consensus was to proceed with the purchase.

Item 19 Executive Session to include:

- a. Personnel – discuss, appoint, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal, of an employee under Gove. Code Sec. 551.074

No action taken.

Item 20 Hire professional staff.

John Cavazos moved, seconded by Lonny Velasquez, to offer a professional probationary teacher contract subject to assignment for the 2014-2015 school year to Wendy Rocha.  
Adopted unanimously.

Twilah Ward moved, seconded by Jessie Gonzalez, to offer a professional probationary athletic trainer/teacher contract subject to assignment for the 2014-2015 school year to Erin Watts. Her pay will be \$10 per hour until trainer certification is complete.  
Adopted unanimously.

Wallace Cox moved, seconded by Lonny Velasquez, to offer a professional probationary teacher contract subject to assignment for the 2014-2015 school year to Angel Rodriquez. Adopted unanimously.

Item 21 Report on Day Care.

Superintendent Rumage reported that if the board is interested in providing a daycare, we should consider opening it up to the community as well as employees in hopes of making it a learning environment. That would require hiring a Director and enough aides to keep the ratios for this age of children at or below 12:1. Our Bethune property has a couple of size appropriate rooms available. With the ability to charge for this service, it should be able to stand on its own financially. The earliest he could foresee being ready to operate would be at the beginning of next school year (2015-2016). Consensus was to proceed.

Item 22 Consent Agenda to include:

- a. Minutes of previous meeting(s)
- b. Finance report and current bills

Lonny Velasquez moved, seconded by Van Dodd, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Item 23 Future agenda items.

Board Member Dodd requested the following be placed on upcoming agendas this year:

- (1) Strategic Planning,
- (2) Superintendent Evaluation exchange be included in Executive Session on a regular basis,
- (3) A report from the three Principals on their Master schedules
- (4) Explore alternative Cheerleading selection methods.

Item 24 President Dodd stated that with no objection, the meeting was adjourned.  
Time: 9:50 p.m.