

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
December 5, 2000
5:00 p.m.
Kohlberg Elementary School (Cafetorium)

Present: Dr. Charles Roark, President
Mrs. Ada Gonzalez-Peterson, Vice President
Mr. Richard Telles, Secretary
Dr. Gene Finke
Miss Leonor Garcia
Mr. Joe Rosales
Mr. Dan Weaver
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

Absent: Dr. Gilberto Anzaldua, Superintendent

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Dr. Roark. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miss Garcia.

Items Withdrawn

It was announced that item no. 1, C., Approval of Budget Amendment – Athletic Department Budget Transfer (\$137,000.00), and item no. 1, D., 1., Construction Contract Award – Classroom Remodeling – Highland Modular Campus, #00.019 (\$99,500.00), had been withdrawn from the agenda.

Consent Agenda (Item #1)

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion as follows:

Dr. Roark - Item 1, B., 1., Approval of Telecommunications Transmission System Easements – Portion of Tract 1C, Section 29, Block 81, Township 1, T & P Rwy. Surveys - Andress High School (\$3,600.00)

Questions on Approval of Approval of Telecommunications Transmission System Easements – Portion of Tract 1C, Section 29, Block 81, Township 1, T & P Rwy. Surveys - Andress High School (\$3,600.00) (Item #1, B., 1.)

Dr. Roark questioned whether the easement area is to be deeded to Southwestern Bell. Mr. Nicholas Corona, Executive Director, Facilities, Maintenance and Construction, advised that Southwestern Bell will use an area on the Andress High School property to install a maxi-hut for Internet communication equipment.

It was moved by Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved as listed including any recommended vendors for any amounts indicated.

A. Approval of Extension of Software & Peripheral Preferred Maintenance Agreement Between *epixtech, inc.* and the EPISD

The Board approved the extension of the Software & Peripheral Preferred Maintenance Agreement between EPISD and *epixtech, inc.*, the sole source for epixtech, inc. software and support, for the maintenance of library software, CPU hardware, and peripheral devices in the amount of \$51,889.88, with the option to renew for additional one-year terms contingent upon payment of the annual assessed fee.

B. Approval of Telecommunications Transmission System Easements

1. Portion of Tract 1C, Section 29, Block 81, Township 1, T & P Rwy. Surveys – Andress High School (\$3,600.00)
2. Portion of Unnumbered School Block Within Cielo Vista Park Subdivision – Bonham Elementary School (\$6,400.00)
3. Portion of Lot 1, Block 25, Clardy-Fox Unit IV – Clardy Elementary School (\$3,600.00)
4. Portion of Tract 8A, A. F. Miller Survey No. 211 – Coronado High School (\$6,400.00)
5. Portion of Tract 2P1, A. F. Miller Survey No. 215 – EPISD Unimproved Property (Lawndale Drive) (\$6,656.00)
6. Portion of Section 28, Block 81, Township 1, T & P Rwy. Surveys – Fannin Elementary School (\$4,800.00)
7. Portion of Lots 5 & 6, Block B, Hadlock Addition – Jefferson High School (\$6,400.00)
8. Portion of Tract 4E, A. F. Miller Survey No. 215 – Morehead Middle School (\$6,400.00)
9. Portion of Tract 5B, Block 2, Ascarate Grant – Ross Middle School (\$6,400.00)

The Board President was authorized to execute Southwestern Bell Telephone Company telecommunications transmission system easements located on El Paso Independent School District property at each of the sites listed, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney.

D. Construction Contract Awards

The Board approved the award of the following construction contracts, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney, to the recommended construction contracting firms for the construction/installation of the projects described for the amounts indicated:

2. Renovations to Hercules Cottages – Task Masters Program, #00.733 (\$91,791.00), was awarded to NLR Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$91,791.00.
3. Track Renovations – Andress High School, #00.813.01 (\$318,000.00), was awarded to Borsberry Construction Co. in the amount of \$318,000.00.
4. Districtwide Backflow Preventer Installation, Phase II, #00.864 (\$154,673.00), was awarded to Matyear Construction Co. in the amount of \$154,673.00.
5. Modular Campus – Lee and Kohlberg Elementary Schools, #00.951 (\$307,456.00), was awarded to F. T. James Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$307,456.00.

E. Demand Service Contract Award – Districtwide Communication Cable Moves, Adds, Changes (MACs) and Repair Services, #01.495 (\$56,520.00)

The Board approved the award of Demand Service Contract #01.495, Districtwide Communication Cable Moves, Adds, Changes (MACs) and Repair Services, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney, to Texas Business Systems for an estimated annual amount of \$56,520.00.

F. December Personnel Report

The December Personnel Report was approved (copy attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Approval of Contract Renewal for Individual Stop Loss Coverage and Aggregate Excess Loss Insurance for EPISD Health Care Trust Medical Plan (approx. \$701,340.00) (Item #2)

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the renewal of the contract for Individual Stop Loss Coverage and Aggregate Excess Loss Insurance for the EPISD Health Care Trust Medical Plan with ING Employee Benefits for an estimated annual premium of \$701,340.00.

Approval of Coronado High School French Club Students to Travel to Paris, France (Item #3)

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the request for Coronado High School French Club students to travel to Paris, France, on March 16-25, 2001.

Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to Board Policies (Item #4)

- A. BBE (Local), Board Members: Authority
- B. BBF (Local), Board Members: Ethics
- C. BJCF (Local), Superintendent: Nonrenewal

Following a brief overview of the policy revisions by Mr. Luis Villalobos, Executive Director, Communications and Business Partnerships, Mr. Safi discussed some new language proposed for Board Policy BJCF (Local), which would allow the Board the option to conduct its own hearing or use a hearing officer appointed by the Texas Education Agency in the event of the proposed nonrenewal of the superintendent's contract.

It was moved by Mr. Rosales that the Board approve the revisions to Board Policies BBE (Local), Board Members: Authority; BBF (Local), Board Members: Ethics; and BJCF (Local), Superintendent: Nonrenewal, as presented. The motion died for lack of a second.

There was discussion on Board Policy BBE (Local) and the proposed language in the sub-heading, "Requests for Reports," individual Board members requesting reports that they deem necessary; the Board acting as a unit in requesting reports from the administration; postponing approval of the proposed revisions to this policy; and the Board providing direction to the administration on revisions to policies.

It was moved by Dr. Roark, seconded by Dr. Finke, and carried unanimously that action on revisions to Board Policies BBE (Local), Board Members: Authority; BBF (Local), Board Members: Ethics; and BJCF (Local), Superintendent: Nonrenewal, be postponed until the Superintendent receives input to the policies from Board members and that they be brought back to the Board for discussion.

Mr. Safi recommended that a copy of BBD (Exhibit) be provided when BBF (Local) is brought back to the Board due to some of the language being deleted from BBF (Local) which is now addressed in BBD (Exhibit).

Approval of the Annual Financial Report with Independent Auditors' Reports Thereon for the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year (Item #5)

Mr. Joe Loya, Associate Superintendent, Finance, provided a report on the December 1, 2000, meeting with the District's external auditors, KPMG Peat Marwick, at which time the District's Annual Financial Report was reviewed.

It was moved by Dr. Finke, seconded by Mr. Wever, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Annual Financial Report prepared by KPMG Peat Marwick, Certified Public Accountants, and as presented to the Board Finance Committee, for the year ending August 31, 2000.

RFP and Purchase Orders Requiring Board Approval (Item #6)

Questions on PC Computers for Business Education Labs (Bowie, Burges, Coronado, and El Paso High Schools), Purchase Order No. 202140 (\$82,408.00) (Item #6, C.)

Mr. Wever questioned the maintenance costs on the Compaq and Dell computers. He advised that because Compaq computers use proprietary equipment, there is a higher cost to maintain the Compaq computers once the warranties expire. Mr. Wever recommended that the Board approve Dell computers for the Business Education Labs.

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Telles, and carried unanimously that the following RFP and purchase orders be approved to the recommended vendors for the amounts indicated:

- A. Computers for Library Learning Resources RFP #96-00 (\$197,750.00) was awarded to Dell Marketing LP in the amount of \$197,750.00, with net terms (bid tabulation attached to the permanent file of these minutes).
- B. Computers for External Funding Unit, Purchase Order No. 201739 (\$13,221.80), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP, the lowest quote, in the amount of \$13,221.80 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes):.
- C. PC Computers for Business Education Lab (Bowie, Burges, Coronado, and El Paso High Schools), Purchase Order No. 202140 (\$82,892.92), were approved for purchase from Dell Marketing LP in the amount of \$82,892.92 (copy of purchase order attached to the permanent file of these minutes).

Approval of Procurement/Delivery Methods for Construction Contracts Exceeding \$25,000.00 (Item #7)

It was moved by Mr. Wever, seconded by Mr. Rosales, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the competitive bid process for the solicitation of the following construction projects, subject to the review and approval of the District's attorney, and authorize the advertisement and issuance of relevant documents to prospective bidders/proposers:

- A. Districtwide Dishwasher Replacement – Dowell, Mesita, Putnam, and Rivera Elementary Schools, and Canyon Hills Middle School, #01.396
- B. Josephine F. Barron Elementary School, E-9, #98.832.02

Meeting Closed (Item #8)

The meeting was recessed at 6:00 p.m. to a closed meeting by Dr. Roark under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code as follows:

- A. Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation
 - 1. Leonard Amburn, Plaintiff v. EPISD, Defendant; In the United States District Court, Western District of Texas; Cause No. EP00CA0162
 - 2. Jerry Boyer, President, El Paso Classroom Teachers Association, et al. vs. El Paso Independent School District, et al; In the 346th District Court, El Paso County, Texas; Cause No. 2000-3533

The closed meeting was opened at 6:10 p.m. The closed meeting ended at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Opened

The meeting was reassembled in Open Session at 6:32 p.m.

Board of Trustees Community Meeting Welcome by Ms. Carolyn Grantham, Principal, Kohlberg Elementary School (Item #9)

Ms. Carolyn Grantham, Principal, Kohlberg Elementary School, extended welcoming remarks to the Board of Trustees, Dr. Anzaldúa, and those present for the Board meeting.

Holiday Performance by Kohlberg Elementary School Students (Item #10)

In anticipation of the holiday season, a performance was provided by students at Kohlberg Elementary School, under the direction of Ms. Mamie Davie and Ms. Dawn Yturalde.

Recognition of 2000 EPISD Holiday Greeting Card Designer (Item #11)

Julio Andrew Orozco, a junior at Austin High School, was recognized by the Board of Trustees as the winner of the 2000 EPISD Holiday Greeting Card Contest. He was presented with a framed replica of the card and an engraved plaque. Dasanj L. Aberdeen, a sophomore at El Paso High School, first runner-up; Armando Ramirez, a junior at El Paso High School, second runner-up; Natalie Rodarte, an eighth grader at MacArthur Middle School, third runner-up; and Krystal Martinez, a senior at Jefferson High School, fourth runner-up, were each presented with an engraved plaque from the Board of Trustees. Also recognized were the students' parents and teachers.

Public Forum (Item #12)

The following people requested to speak on Open Forum:

1. Ms. Joahn Sperry, a parent at Ross Middle School, spoke about concerns with an unbalanced grading scale and education being framed around the TAAS.
2. Maria del Carmen Jimenez, a parent of special education students, expressed her concerns about special education issues.
3. Mr. David Dodge, former EPISD employee, spoke about the upcoming bond election and feed back he had received from the public.

Presentation and Signing of "Commitment for Children" for Middle and Elementary Campuses in the West Region (Item #13)

Mrs. Linda Corral, Associate Superintendent, West Region, provided information on the written commitments between the Board and the school communities which commit the District to the maintenance projects for each school and provides accountability for funds from the December 12, 2000, bond election, if approved by the voters. Each "Commitment for Children" was signed by the principal from the elementary and middle schools in the West Region, along with their community representatives, the Superintendent, and the Board members.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Date Approved: January 13, 2001