

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees
El Paso Independent School District
October 7, 2003
5:00 p.m.
Education Center-Boeing

Present: Mr. Sal Mena, Jr., President
Dr. Lorraine O'Donnell, Vice President
Mr. Carlos Cordova, Secretary
Mr. David Dodge
Miss Leonor Garcia
Mr. Charles L. Tafoya, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony Safi, School District Attorney

Absent: Dr. Charles Roark

Vacancy: Trustee, District 1

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Mr. Mena. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Luis Villalobos, Executive Director, Communications and Business Partnerships.

1. Canvassing of Votes and Declaring Results of October 4, 2003, Bond Election

Mr. Safi presented for the Board's review the Order Canvassing Returns and Declaring Results of Bond Election on October 4, 2003. He also reviewed the certification results submitted by Ms. Helen Jamison, County Elections Administrator.

It was moved by Dr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Cordova, and carried unanimously that the report and certification results for the October 4, 2003, bond election be accepted; that the Order Canvassing Election Returns and Declaring Results of Bond Election be adopted (copy attached to the permanent file of these minutes); and that the Board declare that the 2003 Bond Propositions received a favorable majority vote in all aspects and have passed.

5. Amendments to and Employee Premium/Contribution Requirements for EPISD Health Care Trust Medical Plan for Plan Year 2004

It was moved by Mr. Dodge, seconded by Miss Garcia, and carried unanimously that the Board approve the Premium/Contribution Schedule for the EPISD Health Care Trust Medical Plan for Plan Year 2004, as presented in Attachment A; and further approve the following amendments to the EPISD Health Care Trust Medical Plan: Amendment #2, Extending Dependent Coverage to Age 25, as presented in Attachment B; Amendment #3, Adding Additional Labs for 100 Percent Coverage, as presented in Attachment C; Amendment #4, Enhancement to Classic and Standard Options - Adding Bariatric Surgery, as presented in Attachment D; and Amendment #5, Enhancement to Classic and Standard Options - Adding a Lifestyle Reimbursement Program (Wellness Component), as presented in Attachment E.

6. Amendment to EPISD Comprehensive Section 125 Employee Benefit Plan

It was moved by Mr. Cordova, seconded by Dr. O'Donnell, and carried unanimously that the Board approve Amendment #1 to the EPISD Comprehensive Section 125 Employee Benefit Plan to include over-the-counter drugs as defined by the Internal Revenue Code Section 105(b) as covered healthcare expenses and remove nonprescription drugs from the list of exclusions.

7. Award of Pharmacy Benefits Management and Prescription Drug Mail Order Services RFP #52-03

It was moved by Mr. Dodge, seconded by Mr. Cordova, and carried unanimously that the Board award RFP #52-03 to Restat for coverage effective January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2005, for an initial two-year term, with the option of two additional one-year renewals, and further authorize the administration to finalize the contract terms with Restat.

8. Addition of UNUM Gold Plan Option to Disability/Income Protection Plan

During a meeting of the Board's Employee Health/Insurance Committee held on October 7, 2003, immediately prior to the Board meeting, the administration, after re-evaluating the Gold Plan Option, recommended that this option not be added to the Plan. The Committee concurred with the recommendation.

Meeting Closed

The meeting was recessed at 5:15 p.m. to a closed meeting by Mr. Mena under Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Government Code as follows:

2. Closed Meeting

- A. Personnel Appointment – Principal, Bradley Elementary School
- B. Consultation with School District Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation – Silva's Super Market, Inc., Silva Diversified, Inc. and Silva Investment Partnership, Plaintiffs vs. El Paso Independent School District, Defendant; In the 120th Judicial District Court, El Paso County, Texas; Cause No. 2003-1388

The closed meeting started at 5:20 p.m. The closed meeting ended at 5:44 p.m.

Meeting Opened

The meeting was reassembled in Open Session at 5:45 p.m.

2. The action as a result of items discussed in closed meeting was as follows:

A. Personnel Appointment – Principal, Bradley Elementary School

It was moved by Miss Garcia, seconded by Mr. Cordova, and carried unanimously that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Richard Anderson, Assistant Principal at Bradley Elementary School, to the position of Principal, Bradley Elementary School.

3. Presentation by Texas Rural Legal Aid and Area Residents Regarding Site for New South Central Elementary School

Mr. Michael Wyatt, attorney with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, and residents of the site area selected for the new South Central Elementary School were present at the meeting. Mr. Wyatt provided information about their client, Residentes Unidos del Segundo Barrio, which is a community-based organization. He spoke about some of the people residing on the South Central El Paso properties being proposed as the site for the new elementary school and the hardships they would suffer through the loss of their homes. Mr. Wyatt advised that the residents wished to partner with the District in making the new elementary school a community effort.

The following people spoke to this item:

1. Ms. Josefina Acosta, Ms. Maria Torres and Ms. Rosa Maria Valdez encouraged the Board to investigate all options before deciding on a school site.
2. Mr. James Coursey spoke about his concerns with the proposed site for the South Central Elementary School and safety issues associated with the location being so close to the border.
3. Ms. Cristina de la Cruz requested that consideration be given to the residents and the appraisals provided on their properties.
4. Ms. Esperanza Yee spoke about the new elementary school being a positive gesture but the location not having been given enough thought; the need for more community input; and concerns about safety.
5. Mr. Samuel Pichardo spoke about the site for the new elementary school and safety issues associated with that site and other locations he believed would be more suitable. He also requested the Board's reconsideration of the site.

Mr. Wyatt commended the Board's efforts to build a school in South Central El Paso but indicated problems with the site selection process. He requested that the Board consider one of the alternative sites and identified problems associated with Block 49 in the Campbell Addition. He requested that the Board take action at the October 14, 2003, Board meeting to reverse its action on the selection of Block 49.

4. Presentation by Administration on New South Central Elementary School

Mr. Hector Martinez, Associate Superintendent, Operations, reviewed the presentations on site options for the new South Central Elementary School that were made to the Board since March 2002.

Mr. Nick Corona, Executive Director, Facilities, Maintenance and Construction, provided an overview of Options 1 through 4, which were originally presented on March 26, 2002, and Options A and B, which were presented on September 10, 2002. He reviewed the original Project Scope and the proposed Revised Project Scope. Details of Options 1 through 4 were provided, with property acquisition requirements; and the pros and cons of all four options were reviewed. Photographs were provided of the areas immediately surrounding the various options. Details of Options A and B were also provided, with property acquisition requirements.

Mr. Tommy Razloznik, PSRBB Architects, Inc., provided preliminary construction details on Options A-1 and A-2.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Date Approved: November 25, 2003