

The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at twelve (12:00) o'clock noon at their regular meeting place, the Ouachita Parish School Board office.

President Hicks called the meeting to order and welcomed visitors and guests to the meeting.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Tommy Comeaux, Scott Robinson, A. R. Sims, Jerry R. Hicks, John Russell and Greg Manley. Carey Walker was the only member absent.

Board member Tommy Comeaux led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board member Greg Manley gave the Invocation.

On motion by A. R. Sims, seconded by Scott Robinson, the Board approved the Minutes of February 13, 2018 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Greg Manley moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board approve the Agenda as amended to include under XI. Permission to Bid, Item No. 5. (*Laundry Room Expansion at SHS*) [Bid No. 41-18]. Motion unanimously carried.

On motion by Tommy Comeaux, seconded by A. R. Sims, the Board approved the amended Agenda as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: Mr. Walker

Dr. Coker had no personnel business to discuss.

Title I Supervisor Cynthia Osborne presented three policies for the Board's approval as follows: **1. (EE Policy—Child Nutrition Program Management); 2. (IDDH Policy – English Learner Program); 3. (IFD Policy—Parent and Family Engagement).** Whereby, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board approve the three policies as presented. Following a brief moment for public comment offered by President Hicks, motion carried unanimously. At this time, Mrs. Osborne informed the Board she will need their approval again on the following policies she will be mailing to them for review: **1. (IFDA Policy – Parental Rights/Student Rights of Privacy); 2. (JR Policy – Student Privacy and Educational Records);** and **3. IDCJ Policy (recommended for deletion): Supplemental Education Services.**

Business Director Juanita Duke presented her monthly 2017-18 Interim Financial Report for the period ended December 31, 2017. Copies of her report were provided the Board that include all funds of the school board and the total budgeted revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year compared to actual performance. She reported that the **General Fund** total revenue collections represent about 99% of income compared to this same time last year or 23% of the Budget. The difference, she explained, was the result of more property tax payments being collected during December of last year. State revenue is down due to the loss of State Supplemental Funding that was previously received during the last three or four years. Total expenditures for the General Fund compared to this same time last year are at 102% or around \$1.3 million more in expenses, which is about 40% of the Budget expended so far. Mrs. Duke reminded the Board of their previous adoption of the original budget containing a reduction plan to reduce the fund balance by \$3.3 million, which, at this time, has reduced to about \$1.3 million.

The four **District Sales Tax Funds** are continuing to experience a decline in collections through the month of December averaging about 5% across the board. However, Mrs. Duke reported that they are starting to level out according to information from the Sales Tax Division of Monroe City. She noted that there was nothing unusual to report on the **Grant Funds** and that the **Internal Service Funds** and **Debt Service Funds** had no change to report. In conclusion, Mrs. Duke reported that the **Capital Project Fund** balances have decreasing balances as outstanding construction projects are nearing completion. The **West Ouachita Construction Fund** balance currently stands at \$4.2 million, while **East Ouachita Construction Fund** balance is at \$1.5. Following Mrs. Duke's financial report, Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board accept the 2017-18 Interim Financial Report for the Period ended December 31, 2017 as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Comeaux announced that there are five (5) separate lots that have become available across the street from West Monroe High School on Riggs and Travis Streets. Mr. Comeaux recommended that the Board take advantage of this opportunity to purchase these five (5) pieces of property for use as parking lots and band staging at the school. Two (2) lots are directly in front of the WMHS main entrance located at (212 & 214 Riggs Street). The other three (3) are located near the Edgewood Multipurpose Facility across from the auditorium/band facilities on 511, 513 & 515 Travis Street. Following Mr. Comeaux's recommendation that the Board consider purchasing the five available lots on Riggs and Travis Streets in West Monroe to use for additional parking lots, Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board pursue negotiations for the purchase of these five (5) available pieces of property described above for the construction of parking lots near West Monroe High School. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

On the recommendation of Director of Child Nutrition Jo Lynne Corerro, John Russell moved, seconded by Scott Robinson, to authorize the purchase/installation of a new walk-in cooler/freezer at Shady Grove Elementary School. The replacement of the walk-in cooler/freezer will be conducted as a public works project. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

In the absence of Special Projects/Safety Coordinator Kenneth Slusher, Dr. Coker gave a brief report on construction activities within the district. He discussed the condition of an old storage building that is falling down located on the Drew Elementary School site and stated that it needs to be torn down and replaced. The superintendent also discussed Drew's drainage problems that need to be addressed. Dr. Coker has instructed Maintenance Supervisor Scottie Nugent to perform a roof and maintenance survey of all the properties in our district so these can be entered as budgeted items to help determine what repairs are currently necessary and move forward with a long-range plan to address our future repair/replacement needs according to the condition of roofs and other maintenance upkeep. Mr. Nugent announced that he and his crew have started their assessment evaluation on all the buildings noting their present roof conditions and estimated repair costs together with other estimated maintenance/repair/replacement needs for each project in the Ouachita Parish School System. Structures in critical need requiring immediate attention will be placed first on the list, with the rest to follow in the order of their needs and approximate dates they will need attention. A final

structure assessment and cost analysis of the conditions/repairs/replacements of all School Board property will be provided the Board upon completion. Mr. Nugent also reported that the drainage construction work now being performed at Riser Elementary School is estimated to be 75% complete and should help their drainage problem tremendously.

On the recommendation of the Director of Child Nutrition, Jo Lynne Corerro, Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board accept the bids with highlighted pricing awarded to manufacturers per items listed as the lowest responsive bid pricing from USDA Commodity Diversion Processing as presented [*Bid No. RFP-FS31-18*]. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, Greg Manley moved, seconded by John Russell, that the Board grant permission to bid the following items: **(1)** *Football Uniforms* for SHS to be paid with SHS funds [*Bid No. 37-18*]; **(2)** *Refrigeration Temperature Monitoring System for the Child Nutrition Program* with a budget of \$40,000 [*Bid No. 38-18*]; **(3)** *Large Cafeteria Equipment for the Child Nutrition Program* with a budget of \$100,000 [*Bid No. FS39-18*]; **(4)** *Camera Security Equipment* to be paid with General Funds [*Bid No. 40-18*]; **(5)** *Laundry Room Expansion at SHS* with a budget of \$310,000 and paid with East Side Bonds [*Bid No. 41-18*]. Following a brief moment for public comment, the motion unanimously carried.

Due to Spring Break the next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at noon.

President Hicks reminded the Board about the LSBA Convention coming up on Feb. 28 – Mar 2, 2018 and encouraged the Board members to participate.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Sims moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Jerry R. Hicks, President

ATTEST:

Don Coker, Secretary

/ps