

The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at twelve (12:00) o'clock p.m. at its 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, A. R. Sims, Jerry R. Hicks, John Russell, Carey Walker and Greg Manley. Scott Robinson was the only member absent.

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

Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones gave the Invocation.

On motion by A. R. Sims, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, the Board approved the Minutes of February 27, 2018 as written. Motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson

Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board amend the Agenda to include Business Item No. 1 – *[Board Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for WMHS to participate in the "Battle on the Border High School Football Showcase" in Shreveport, LA] (Dr. Coker)*. Motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson

On motion by Tommy Comeaux, seconded by John Russell, the Board approved the revised Agenda as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson

Dr. Coker had no personnel business to discuss.

Dr. Coker and WMHS Head Football Coach Jerry Arledge presented the Board with a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement entitled, "Battle on the Border High School Football Showcase" to consider. The agreement from the host of the event reassures the City of Shreveport that the West Monroe High School football team will participate in the "Battle on the Border High School Football Showcase" challenge this fall as evidenced by the Affidavit or Resolution of the Ouachita Parish School Board. Whereby, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board adopt the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, "Battle on the Border High School Football Showcase" as presented and authorize the WMHS Principal, Shelby Ainsworth and Superintendent Dr. Don Coker to execute the document. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson

Business Director Juanita Duke presented her monthly 2017-18 Interim Financial Report for the period ended January 31, 2018. Copies of her report were provided the Board that included all funds of the school board and the total budgeted revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year compared to actual performance. She had nothing unusual to report on the financial operations of the Board for this period. However, she reported that the **General Fund** total revenue collections represent about 96.6% of income compared to this same time last year or 58.2% of the Budget so far. A majority of 2017 property taxes were collected in the month of January 2018, however it was about \$2 million less than collected this same time last year due to the difference in timing of taxpayer payments. **Expenditures**

are currently at 102.6% compared to this same time last year or about 48% spent of what was budgeted. With the increase of property tax collections that came in this month, the ending *fund balance* increased to a total of \$34 million, or 92.17% of budgeted amount, compared to the balance this same time last year. She had nothing significant to report on the other funds at this time, other than commenting that the **District M&O** expenditures are at 58.04% of the budget and about 97.5% of what was spent this same time last year. **Sales Tax Collections** are maintaining the same trend we have seen for the past several months with collection being on average about 96.5% of prior year's collection for the same period. The Budget Revision will come before the Finance Committee and then to the Board later this spring that will reflect these changes of collections in these funds. **Internal Service Funds** and **Debt Service Funds** had no significant changes to report. In the **Capital Project Funds**, the **East Ouachita Construction Fund** has a balance of about \$1.2 million and **West Ouachita Construction Fund** currently has a balance of \$4.2 million. Following Mrs. Duke's financial report, Carey Walker moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board accept the 2017-18 Interim Financial Report for the Period ended January 31, 2018 as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson

Business Director Juanita Duke provided copies of an agreement for Independent Evaluator Services for the District Charter Application between the Ouachita Parish School System and Strategic Solutions, LLC for discussion and consideration. Whereby, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board continue the application process to enter into the agreement to hire Strategic Solutions, LLC as its independent evaluator for the charter school application review process as it has been presented and to authorize Superintendent Coker to execute the agreement. In accordance with R.S. 17:3982, all School Boards are required to run a charter school application process annually to accept applications to open a Type 1 (new school) or Type 3 (converting an existing school) Charter School. The agreement for the Independent Evaluator Services is for a term of five (5) months, effective upon the date signed with options to renew or issue new arrangement upon mutual agreement. State law requires the application to be reviewed by an independent evaluator. The cost for the services is \$7,000. Once the independent review is completed, a recommendation will be made by the evaluator to the School Board to either approve or deny approval of the application by no later than June 8, 2018. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried, with Mr. Sims casting the only "no" vote. ABSENT: Mr. Robinson.

Due to a timeline issue with **[Bid No. 37-18]** a previously approved bid for SHS football uniforms and for informational purposes, Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones requested and was granted permission by the Board to reissue and assign a new advertised number to purchase football uniforms for SHS replacing the original bid no. **[Bid No. 37-18]** with the new one **[Bid No. 42-18]** using it for the same bid.

Jo Lynne Correro, Director of Child Nutrition, presented the "Articles of Agreement of Child Nutrition Purchasing Co-Operative" for the Board's review and consideration. The co-op agreement is extended on a ten-year basis and is due for renewal at this time. If everyone in the co-op agrees to continue participation, the Resolution will go into effect on June 30, 2018. Following Mrs. Correro's explanation of the co-operative program, Greg Manley moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board extend the present participation in the Child Nutrition Purchasing Co-operative Resolution

Agreement as recommended. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: Robinson

Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones presented a Resolution for the Board's consideration to adopt (*in part*) Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1702 [A(1),(2) & C] to authorize its participation in, sponsor, conduct, or administer cooperative purchasing agreements and to authorize the procurement of materials, supplies and equipment from federal General Services Administration supply schedules using a Louisiana licensed dealer or distributor. This will help to expedite federal program purchases with use of the general services administration or Federal GSA contracts next fiscal year. Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board adopt the resolution as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and called for a roll call vote as follows: Tommy Comeaux, yes; Scott Robinson, absent; A. R. Sims, yes, Jerry Hicks, yes; John Russell, yes; Carey Walker, yes; and Greg Manley, yes. Motion carried, with six (6) "yes" votes and one (1) absence.

Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones presented a Resolution setting forth the adoption of (*in part*) of Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:1321-1324.1 of the section known as "The Local Services Law" for the Board's consideration in regards to entering into "piggyback" agreements. A political subdivision is allowed to "piggyback" off an existing public contract of another political subdivision provided they are in compliance with the provisions provided under Title 38 or under the Local Services Law. The recommended statutes provide additional flexibility in making procurements through piggyback agreements. John Russell moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board adopt the Resolution as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and the following roll call vote was recorded: Tommy Comeaux, yes; Scott Robinson, absent; A. R. Sims, yes; Jerry Hicks, yes; John Russell, yes; Carey Walker, yes; and Greg Manley, yes. Motion carried, with six (6) "yes" votes and one (1) absence.

Special Projects/Safety Coordinator Kenneth Slusher notified the Board that the bids are out for the Sterlington High School laundry room expansion and West Ouachita baseball dressing room. These two projects should be completed before school starts in the fall. The Osterland lights have been delivered to West Monroe High and Sterlington Middle but have yet to be installed. Banister Electric has advised that it is still too wet to move trucks into the area to install the lights but will complete the job as soon as the ground dries out enough to support his trucks. In closing, Mr. Slusher discussed some concerns he discovered with the public use of the nature trail located on the Shady Grove Elementary School property. Following the discussion, the Superintendent and Mr. Slusher agreed to meet with the principal and address his concerns.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, Greg Manley moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board accept the only bid received from Harkness Litter at \$20.00/yd. for woodchips used for playgrounds, funded with General Funds [*Bid No. 35-18*]. After discussion, President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Robinson

On the recommendation of Director of Child Nutrition Jo Lynne Correro, John Russell moved, seconded by Greg Manley, that the Board accept the bid [*Bid No. FS6G-18*] from Robertson Produce,

Monroe, LA for a total of \$78,369.25 for the Bid Period: 4/1/2018 – 5/11/2018. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: Robinson

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

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

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Jerry R. Hicks, President

ATTEST:

Don Coker, Secretary

/ps