

The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at twelve (12:00) o'clock noon 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, Scott Robinson, A. R. Sims, Jerry R. Hicks and Carey Walker. John Russell and Greg Manley were absent.

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

The Invocation was given by Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones.

On motion by A. R. Sims, seconded by Carey Walker, the Board approved the Minutes of April 24, 2018 as written. Motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board amend the Agenda to add under **XI. Permission to Bid**, Item No. 2 (*Purchase 2 Houses on Travis Street in WM by Ken Slusher*). President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley.

On motion by Scott Robinson, seconded by Carey Walker, the Board approved the amended Agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

Superintendent Coker announced the appointment of Mrs. Jerlyn Bobo to the position of Title I Supervisor, then asked the Board for permission to open Mrs. Bobo's former position as principal of Shady Grove Elementary School for application. Whereby, Carey Walker moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board grant Dr. Coker permission to open the position of Principal of Shady Grove Elementary School for application through the interview process. Following an offer for public comment by President Hicks, motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

On the recommendation of Business Director Juanita Duke, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Scott Robinson, that the Board adopt the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement as presented with the Ouachita Parish Assessor and the Ouachita Parish Sheriff to conduct a Homestead Exemption Audit and pay audit fees from the collections resulting from the audit. *This agreement is at no cost to the School Board, as fees are paid only if taxes exempted in error are found and collected.* Ms. Duke recognized Ouachita Assessor Stephanie Smith and Chief Deputy Morgan Herring being present for any questions related to the agreement. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

Business Director Juanita Duke presented her monthly 2017-18 Interim Financial Report (non-GAAP) for the period ended March 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. Mrs. Duke began her report with an announcement of the total expenditures in the **General Fund** expenditures to date are about 64% of the annual budget and 102% of expenditures compared to this same time last year. Revenues are at approximately 78% of budget for

the year and 99.4% compared to revenues this time last year. Fund balance is currently \$39.4 million, or about 96.7% of the fund balance a year ago. The Board is expected to meet its target for budget performance for the year, a projected drop in fund balance of about \$3.3 million.

Special Revenue Funds:

Sales Tax Funds to date have estimated collections of approximately 96% compared to this time last year. This is an average 4% decline in collections over the prior fiscal year. Mrs. Duke stated that a 4% reduction of the prior fiscal year will be the recommended adjustment to the revised budget for these funds whenever it is presented to the Board for approval.

School District #1 M&O Fund expenditures are \$6 million to date, which is approximately 75% of the budget. Fund balance is currently at \$17.2 million.

Internal Service Funds

Self-Insurance has expended \$519,000 on general liability and workers compensation claims to date and maintains net assets of \$2.5 million.

Centralized Printing expenses are about \$454,000 for the fiscal year. The current net liability is approximately \$56,000 which is not unusual for this time of year with outstanding billings to departments and schools. A lot of printing is going on and receivables are outstanding as reimbursements from schools are deferred. This balance should be eliminated by the end of this fiscal year when the reimbursements are in and all transfers are made from the General Fund.

Debt Service Funds are accumulating monthly transfers in *West Ouachita School District Bonds, School District No. 1 QSCB – West, School District No. 1 (West-Limited Certificates and East Ouachita School District* in anticipation of the next bond payments due on September 1 of next year.

East Ouachita School District millages are approximately 116% compared to last fiscal year due to the increases in millage rate and assessed values being higher than anticipated for 2017.

Capital Projects Funds: East 2015 Bond Construction has a fund balance of \$1 million. **West 2015 Bond Construction** has a balance of \$3.1 million.

In conclusion, Mrs. Duke referred the Board to the last two new pages of her report that provided additional information of historical views of the accumulation of *fund balance, excess(deficiency), revenue and other sources, and expenditures and other uses trends* comparing accumulated totals in each month of 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18. She indicated the fund balance maintained throughout the fiscal year is misleadingly higher than at June 30 because expenditures related to the accrual of summer salaries are not made until the month of June and that accounts for the decrease of fund balance in the General Fund by approximately \$15 million in June. Following Mrs. Duke's presentation, Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board approve the March 31, 2018 Interim Financial Report as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

On recommendation of Special Projects/Safety Coordinator Kenneth Slusher, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board grant permission to bid the new roof replacement at Ouachita High School [*Bid No. 14-19*] with a budget of \$700,000. Following an offer for public comment from President Hicks, motion carried unanimously. ABSENT: John Russell and Greg Manley

On the recommendation of Special Projects/Safety Coordinator Kenneth Slusher, Scott Robinson moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board authorize Mr. Slusher to proceed with the purchase agreement to purchase two (2) houses located at 515 & 523 Travis Street for approximately \$45,000 for both properties. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried.

THIS IS OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION that the attached certification forms signify that all seven (7) Ouachita Parish School Board members have completed the required 6.0 hours of attendance for training and instruction, with the majority of members earning well above the required credit hours and are also in compliance with the Continuing Education Training requirements for the year 2017 according to the Louisiana Revised Statute (LSA-R.S. 17:53), mandated by our legislators and made effective January 1, 2011. This post and certification are being entered into the 2017-18 Minute Book to confirm that 6.0 mandated attendance requirements have been met that includes the required one-hour Louisiana Board of Ethics training course for 2017 for the following Board members: Tommy Comeaux, Scott Robinson, A. R. "Red" Sims, President Jerry R. Hicks, John Russell, Carey Walker and Vice President Greg Manley.

The next Board meeting will be held on May 22, 2018 at 12:00 noon.

President Hicks announced the dates, times and places of the high school graduations.

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

OUACHITA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Jerry Hicks, President

ATTEST:

Don Coker, Secretary

/ps