

The Ouachita Parish School Board met in a “Special Called” meeting on Friday, November 17, 2017, at ten (10:00) o’clock a.m. at its regular meeting place, the Ouachita Parish School Board office for the intended purpose of discussing and considering the purchase of ten (10) new school buses with air conditioning systems at a discounted price.

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. John Russell arrived shortly after the roll was called.

Board member Carey Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

The Invocation was given by Board member Greg Manley.

Mr. Sims moved to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Carey Walker. Motion unanimously carried.

For the record, Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones read a list of recommendations provided the Board before asking them to consider purchasing new school buses at a discounted price through an incentive program that encourages the replacement of old 1994 buses still in use. Mr. Jones also provided documents received from Kent-Mitchell Bus Sales & Service, LLC on the DDC17 Consent Decree issued by the EPA clarifying the state requirements for participating in this program. Board members were given information on the process requirements for entering into a Contribution Agreement with Kent-Mitchell Bus Sales & Service, LLC and the correct procedures to follow in meeting guidelines for the purchase of ten new school buses.

Following Mr. Jones’ introduction of the requirements for the purchase of the new buses, the following document was offered for consideration as written:

CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

(CONDITIONS)

Consider the purchase of ten (10) new school buses with full air conditioning under the following conditions:

- ***The Ouachita Parish School Board receives a discount in the form of a check from the manufacturer/vendor not less than 35% of the bus purchase price.***
- ***The price of each bus shall not exceed \$85,773.00 with a net purchase of \$55,752.45 per bus.***
- ***No new buses will be purchased in the 2018-19 School Year.***
- ***Complete Exhibit D – Destruction Methods as described by manufacturer/vendor.***
- ***The Ouachita Parish School Board and Kent Mitchell Bus Sales & Service, LLC shall enter into a Contribution Agreement.***
- ***Transportation shall develop a procedure to utilize these ten (10) buses for the highest and best use as it pertains to the routes these ten (10) buses are assigned during the week and how these ten (10) buses shall be distributed when requested for activity trips during or after regular school hours.***

The recommendation to purchase a fully air conditioned school bus is based upon the discount the manufacturer/vendor is offering at this time.

As a matter of information the Ouachita Parish School Board will, on future school bus purchases, include full air as an additive alternate in the bid specifications. By including in the bid specifications the option to purchase a fully air conditioned school bus, the Ouachita Parish School Board will be given the option, if funds are available, to include a minimum 126,000 BTU air unit(s) on any new buses which are purchased.

A discussion was held, and with information provided by the Transportation Department it became evident that the number of school buses which remain to be purchased in order to fulfill the Board's plan of phasing out the year 1994 school buses prior to their end of life is a grand total of three (3) school buses once the order for the ten (10) new buses is delivered. Due to the remaining three (3) 1994 buses not going to the end of life until December 2019, it will be possible to obtain three (3) new buses to complete the 1994 phase out in July of the 2019-20 school year without the need to order any new buses in the 2018-19 school year. While the Board agreed to not purchase any new buses in the 2018-19 school year, and also recognized the number of buses to be purchased in order to completely phase out the model year 1994 buses was three (3), the Board has in no way bound itself legally to stay with this course of action should it choose to order additional buses.

Whereby, Greg Manley moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board approve the purchase of ten (10) new buses under the conditions as described in the above Contribution Agreement guidelines as read and presented by Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion unanimously carried.

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