

The Ouachita Parish School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at six (6:00) 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.

Mr. Comeaux led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Mr. Manley gave the Invocation.

On motion by A. R. Sims, seconded by Carey Walker, the Board approved the Minutes of September 26, 2017 as written. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Greg Manley, seconded by A. R. Sims, the Board approved the Agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Superintendent Coker had no personnel matters to report.

Business Director Juanita Duke presented her monthly 2017-18 Interim Financial Report for the period ended August 31, 2017. She provided the Board with a copy of the report showing all funds of the school board and the total budgeted revenues and expenditures all through the year comparing to their actual performance through the end of August 31, 2017. Mrs. Duke reported the total General Fund ending fund balance at August 31, 2017 is 106% of the balance for this same period last fiscal year. However, she reminded the Board they will see this fund balance grow until summer salary disbursements are recorded in June (a normal trend for cash-basis reporting). Mrs. Duke continued her report on other fund performance as follows:

**District M&O Fund** - Reported a beginning fund balance of \$18.6 million with FYTD Expenditures for July & August of \$1.2 million or (15.36% of budget) and an estimated current ending fund balance of \$17.4 million.

**1968 Sales Tax and 1995 Sales Tax (Salary Supplement Funds)** - Reported collections for July and August have been accrued into beginning fund balances of \$1.9 million and \$6.0 million, respectively, for the previous months of May and June. Expenditures to date are \$107,018 and \$400,283, respectively.

**West Ouachita Sales Tax** - Has a beginning fund balance of \$10.6 million (which includes accrued collections of May and June received in July and August, respectively). Operating transfers were made from the Debt Service Fund as required, which has reduce the fund balance by \$1.4 million for the first two months of the fiscal year. Fund balance is \$8.9 million.

**Child Nutrition Fund** - Beginning fund balance was \$4.2 million and has seen nominal expenses to date of \$809,064 as cafeteria start up begins. Ending fund balance is \$3.7 million.

**Grant Funds** – Are underway spending mostly for salaries and benefits in the summer months and gearing up for the new school year.

**Internal Service Funds** – Self-Insurance Fund (*Workers Com/Risk*) is showing a beginning fund balance of \$1.7 million, having expenditures of \$61,360 in July and August and ending with a current balance of \$1.6 million. Operating transfers are budgeted and will be made from the General Fund during this fiscal year to increase the funding available in this account.

**Centralized Printing** – With school starting, payments have not been collected from the schools to offset printing costs incurred in this report. However, we will see this revenue start to increase in our centralized printing as the year goes on, as well as expenditures. Operating transfers are made monthly to subsidize the cost of personnel charged to the Centralized Printing fund.

**DEBT SERVICE FUNDS:**

*Required funds for debt service are being transferred to appropriate funds (West Ouachita School District Bonds, School Dist. No. 1 QSCB – West), School Dist. No. 1 – West Limited Certificates) and tax payments collected (East Ouachita School Dist.) in anticipation of the upcoming semi-annual bond payments that will be made next month.*

**CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS:**

**East 2015 Bond Construction** - Current ending fund balance at the end of August is \$913,988. Ms. Duke stated that additional expenditures are still being incurred and we will see this balance drop in the next couple of months as projects wind down.

**West Ouachita Bond Construction Funds** - Current fund balance is \$4.7 million.

Mrs. Duke concluded her report and Carey Walker moved, seconded by John Russell, that the Board approve the August 31, 2017 Interim Financial Report as presented. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comments and motion unanimously carried.

Title I Supervisor Cynthia Osborne presented one amended policy released for the Board's review and consideration, along with the names of the directors that have reviewed them. Mrs. Osborne informed the Board that she will bring the policy: **FILE: JS, CF: JR** "*Student Fees, Fines and Charges*" back for approval at their next meeting. The policy has been reviewed and approved in advance by district personnel, Todd Guice, Werner Aswell and Board attorney, Elmer Noah.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Jerry Hicks, to name Tim Brandon, TBA Studios, as the architect assigned to the West Ouachita High School baseball renovation project [*Bid No. 27-18*]. A brief moment for public comment was offered by President Hicks and motion unanimously carried.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, Mr. Sims moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board accept the bid of \$109,757 from Vista Construction Group, LLC for the Riser School Drainage Improvements project [*Bid No. 14-18*]. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, the Board agreed to table the following items under **X. Evaluation of Bids:** **No. 2.** Copy Paper [*Bid No. 15-18*]; **No. 3.** Read/Math

Site Licenses, (funded through Title I with a budget of \$188,500) [Bid No. REP 18-18]; and **No. 5. Ink Cartridges(***various*), until further review.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by John Russell, that the Board accept the low bids from two vendors meeting specifications for Ag/Science Consumable items highlighted in yellow on the bid sheet in addition to bid items #16 - #20 and #22 & #23 awarded to Ruston Industrial Welding Supply; and further moving to accept the low bids also highlighted in yellow on the bid sheet awarded to Matheson in Shreveport, LA for Ag/Science Consumables with funding provided by Perkins/GF funds [Bid No. 21-18]. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones offered the Board two options for an innovative lighting system at West Monroe High School softball field. Musco Sports Lighting, LLC provided a turnkey operation for two lighting systems and benefits expected from each: **HID** Light Source at an estimated cost of **\$89,000 ±10%** or **LED** Light Source option at an estimated cost of **\$125,000 ±10%**, that would include anticipated equipment and installation costs for each option. Whereby, Tommy Comeaux moved, seconded by Carey Walker, that the Board grant permission to bid for a softball field **HID** lighting system at West Monroe High School, to be paid with West Side Bonds and having a budget of \$70,000 [Bid No. 26-18]. Following an offer for public comment from President Hicks, motion unanimously carried.

On the recommendation of Purchasing Agent Bobby Jones, A. R. Sims moved, seconded by Tommy Comeaux, that the Board grant permission to bid Baseball (Facilities) Renovations at West Ouachita High School with a budget of \$225,000 and funded through the West Side Bonds [Bid No. 27-18]. President Hicks offered a brief moment for public comment and motion carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon.

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 R. Hicks, President

**ATTEST:**

Don Coker, Secretary

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