

BRADLEY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – Minutes

June 13, 2013

Members Present

Charlie Rose, Chair, 7th District
Vicki Beaty, 2nd District
Christy Critchfield, 6th District
Rodney Dillard, 5th District
Nicholas Lillios, 3rd District
Chris Turner, 1st District

Members Absent

Troy Weathers, 4th District

The Bradley County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, June 13, 2013, at 5:30 p.m., in the William R. Walker Board Room at the Administrative Office Building in Cleveland, Tennessee. Chairman Rose called the meeting to order, and the invocation was given by Rev. Noel Phillips, Pastor of Big Springs Baptist Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was also conducted. Chairman Rose recognized County Commissioner Charlotte Peak-Jones in attendance.

Chairman Rose informed the Board that Mr. Weathers had previously requested Item #6 – Director of Schools Contract – be placed on the agenda. In light of Mr. Weather's absence, a request was made to remove the item from the agenda. The Consent Agenda was presented with the deletion of Item #6 from the agenda.

5090 Upon motion duly made by Mr. Turner and seconded by Ms. Critchfield, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Consent Agenda with changes.

Mr. McDaniel presented the Director of Schools' Report (attached).

Doug Caywood, representing Lewis Group Architects, requested a Change Order for the Ocoee Middle School paving project. Bid for the project was awarded to Steve Williams Construction. As work was underway, the existing parking lot began to fail due to heavy construction traffic. It became apparent that the existing asphalt had been laid on top of existing earth without adequate binder/base. There had been no indications of the need for a geo-technical survey for the project. There were no visual indicators that the parking lot did not meet codes. A contractor cannot be held responsible for fixing something that was installed below standards.

The proposed Change Order in the amount of \$43,150 for additional binder and additional topping was expected to extend the life of the project for ten years according to Rocky Chambers, Civil Engineer for Williams Construction, giving 20+ years for the life of the paving. TDOT concurs with the recommendation outlined in the Change Order. Rick Smith, Business Manager, indicated the Change Order would be funded from reserve funds.

5091 Upon motion duly made by Ms. Critchfield and seconded by Mr. Dillard it was **RESOLVED** by roll call vote of 5-1 to approve Change Order #1 for the

Ocoee Middle School Paving Project in the amount of \$43,150 with funds from the reserve account.

Rose	yes	Turner	no
Dillard	yes	Beaty	yes
Critchfield	yes	Lillios	yes

Motion passed.

Mr. Caywood also asked the Board to allow Executive Approval for seven capital outlay maintenance projects currently out to bid which need to get underway as soon as possible after July 1 in order to complete prior to school beginning. Projects have already been approved by the Board in the Capital Outlay Budget.

Paving at Prospect Elementary	\$120,000-130,000
Canopies at Oak Grove Elementary	\$20,000
Secure Entrance at Charleston Elementary	\$10,000
Relocation of Portable for GOAL Academy	\$30,000
Fence at Park View Elementary	\$15,000
Fence at Bradley Central High School	\$25,000
Cafeteria Windows at Bradley Central	\$18,000

Chairman Rose acknowledged that only bids which fell within the approved budget would be awarded by Executive Approval. No notices to proceed or contracts will be issued until after July 1 and with notification from the county government that there are no issues with the 2013-2014 budget approval. A motion for Executive Approval was made by Mr. Lillios with second from Ms. Critchfield. Mr. Turner made a substitute motion.

- 5092** Upon substitute motion duly made by Mr. Turner and seconded by Ms. Beaty, it was **NOT RESOLVED** by roll call vote of 2-4 to allow Executive Approval for all proposed capital outlay projects except Prospect Elementary School paving which could be awarded with a called meeting, if necessary.

Dillard	no	Beaty	yes
Critchfield	no	Lillios	no
Turner	yes	Rose	no

Motion failed.

- 5093** Upon motion duly made by Mr. Lillios and seconded by Ms. Critchfield, it was **RESOLVED** by roll call vote of 5-1 to allow the Executive Committee to award bids for seven capital outlay projects as presented, not to exceed budgeted amounts.

Dillard	yes	Beaty	yes
Critchfield	yes	Lillios	yes
Turner	no	Rose	yes

Motion passed.

Angie Lyon; Kaatz, Binkley, Jones and Morris Architects; updated the board on current projects. The roofing punch list is underway at Michigan Avenue Elementary School with work beginning on HVAC replacement. Hopewell roofing installation is complete with metal work and guttering nearing completion. Preliminary work is being done at Taylor Elementary and Ocoee Middle in preparation for setting HVAC units.

Ms. Lyon reported that contracts have been signed for the Walker Valley High School addition. Once final Fire Marshal approval is received, TriCon, Inc. can begin work on the project. An on-site meeting has been held to go over logistics with school administration.

Ms. Lyon presented a proposal from S&ME for geo-technical work at Lake Forest Middle to determine if the site is suitable for constructing the proposed new academic building. Cost of the plan by S&ME is \$5,700. Mr. Turner asked if the survey would determine if the site would support a three-story building. Ms. Lyon stated she would expect that drilling would have to be deeper for that determination. A motion was made by Ms. Critchfield with a second from Mr. Dillard to approve the \$5,300 proposal from S&ME. Mr. Turner made a substitute motion that drilling be expanded to provide information for a three-story building. The motion was tabled until later in the meeting in order for Ms. Lyon to obtain additional costs for the survey.

Chairman Rose reviewed the formal request from the Bradley County Commission that the Board consider a financial commitment toward the Lake Forest Middle School project. “Specifically, we, the Bradley County Commission, respectfully request that you determine whether or not there are any funds that may be allocated to the construction at Lake Forest Middle School.” Mr. Rose reminded the Board that the Walker Valley project was being completed with no money from the Commission and includes a cafeteria expansion funded by the school system. The Board has also allocated money in the capital outlay budget for abatement and roof repairs at Lake Forest. Mr. Rose explained that as part of the Board’s contribution to the project, the school system would be maintaining the buildings being retained as capital outlay funds are available. Additionally, in a spirit of cooperation, the Board stepped up to make monthly payments to the City of Cleveland to cover the \$1.4M owed back as a result of the city/county sales tax settlement. Chairman Rose stated, “We are good partners and have accepted responsibility. We are trying to contribute and do our part.”

Mr. Turner stated that he had asked for two presentations pertaining to this agenda item: the net present value, or cost avoidance, comparison for a replacement building versus repair of the existing buildings, as well as a full report of all equity accounts that are

available. Mr. McDaniel stated it was hard to project cost savings in the project at this time as there are still many unknowns in the project; however, he provided a report which anticipated energy savings in the range of \$41,000 to \$82,000 annually (15-30%). Mr. Turner followed up to say that Lake Forest is not just a financial request but a strategic request. It is also about safety. Mr. McDaniel further stated that the proposal for Lake Forest is also about how we treat students and as the educator he was not in favor of a three-story building at Lake Forest. Mr. Lillios commented that in the spirit of cooperation the board should consider possibilities that would speed up the start date for the project. Mr. Lillios stated he was not in favor of finding money now and the project not progressing for several years. Commissioner Jones informed the board that current projections do not show any county funds being available before June 30, 2017, the end of the 2016 budget.

Mr. Turner questioned the \$831,360 in reserve from insurance proceeds for Blue Springs Elementary School. The Board voted previously to set insurance money aside for a replacement school. Additionally, there are funds in the amount of \$287,000 in insurance proceeds contingent upon building a replacement school. Building a feeder school for Blue Springs would qualify to receive the money for code upgrades. Mr. Smith provided a breakdown of unassigned equities which shows the unassigned equities available at June 30, 2013 estimated in the amount of \$5,139,781 and at June 30, 2014, unassigned equities are estimated to be \$3,639,781. The Commission statute requires a reserve of 5%. Mr. McDaniel stated that the system had been very conservative in budgeting which has served the community well and when money is rolled over, it is put toward maintenance projects. Mr. Turner suggested that the remaining \$132,000 outside of the 5% required reserve plus the insurance proceeds from Blue Springs would combine to provide the necessary \$1M in revenue needed to begin the Lake Forest project. Mr. Dillard spoke in opposition to using the money set aside for Blue Springs stating the board had told the community that this money was set aside for Blue Springs. These funds are currently restricted by action of the board and would require another vote by the board to allocate elsewhere. Ms. Critchfield expressed that the Commission had another option of a property tax increase rather than waiting on projected revenue. Mr. Turner stated the goal was to answer the Commission's request and make tough choices together.

5094 Upon motion duly made by Mr. Lillios and seconded by Mr. Turner it was **RESOLVED** by roll call vote of 5-1 to commit \$1M for a period of 12 months, beginning July 1, 2013, for the Lake Forest Middle School construction project. If the proposal is accepted by the Bradley County Commission, during the 12-month waiting period the Commission must develop a plan to begin construction by July 1, 2015, or the commitment is withdrawn.

Turner	yes	Rose	yes
Beaty	yes	Dillard	no
Lillios	yes	Critchfield	yes

Motion passed.

Chairman Rose recognized Representative Eric Watson.

The Board returned to the tabled item of expanding the geo-technical survey for Lake Forest Middle School to include determination of a suitable site for a three-story building. Ms. Lyon reported that drilling would need to go 10 feet deeper for an additional cost estimated at \$1500. Total cost of survey would be \$6,800. Ms. Critchfield responded that she had not heard that a three-story building was being considered. Mr. McDaniel restated that he would not recommend a three-story building. “You generally go to three-story when land space is not available.” Mr. Lillios stated expanding the survey was not making any commitments.

5095 Upon substitute motion made by Mr. Turner and seconded by Mr. Lillios, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** by roll call vote to approve the expenditure of \$6,800 for an expanded geo-technical survey at Lake Forest Middle School.

Beaty	yes	Dillard	yes
Lillios	yes	Critchfield	yes
Rose	yes	Turner	yes

Motion passed.

Chairman Rose asked that all questions regarding the travel budget for the Energy Manager be directed to Mr. McDaniel. Mr. Lillios asked Mr. McDaniel to verify his signature on two expense claim forms as the signatures differed. Mr. McDaniel confirmed that both signatures were legitimate. Mr. McDaniel stated that he had looked at travel expenses and at the job description and was looking into ways to save in this line item. One such way would be utilizing a vehicle taken out of maintenance service. Mr. Lillios questioned travel on December 26 to 25 locations totaling 209 miles. Mr. McDaniel stated he was not with Mr. Mull to verify; however, Mr. Mull had confirmed that expense claims were accurate. Mr. Lillios also pointed out that during one week in December, 592 miles were driven which would calculate, given the type of driving, to 23.68 hours of drive time. On December 30, 65 miles was claimed while Bing map calculates the route at 47 miles. Mr. Lillios asked for justification of the 27,000 miles driven from January to December. Mr. McDaniel restated that Mr. Mull had verified accuracy of claims. Mr. McDaniel reminded the board that the job description for Energy Manager allocated 80% of time in schools. Mr. Turner brought up that most daily trips were recorded as Central Office to a school and back to the Central Office questioning if there was an activity which must be performed after visiting a school. Travel on Saturdays and Sundays were also questioned. Mr. Lillios stated that if travel was a way to bolster salaries he would “have none of that.”

Ms. Critchfield asked to hear from the Energy Manager in response to the comments. Mr. Rose stated that the Director was the only employee to answer to the Board. Mr. Rose stated if there were no objections he would meet with the Energy Manager and Mr. McDaniel to review. Mr. Dillard expressed that this appeared to be a personal attack.

- 5096** Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Turner, it was **RESOLVED** by roll call vote of 4-2 for Chairman Rose to meet with the Energy Manager and Mr. McDaniel to review travel reimbursements and report back to the board.

Lillios	yes	Critchfield	no
Rose	yes	Turner	yes
Dillard	no	Beaty	yes

Motion passed.

Chairman Rose clarified that this would not be an open meeting. Ms. Beaty brought to the Board's attention that each member had received a copy of the expense claims.

Chairman Rose announced a called meeting to hear the dismissal appeal from Susan Elliott scheduled for June 20, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. A work session will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2013, at Lee University. The Board will not hold a regular meeting in July. Mr. Turner requested Director Goals and Objectives be placed on the August agenda to begin the conversation of attainable and measurable goals for the Director's Evaluation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Charles W. Rose, Board Chairman

Johnny McDaniel, Director of Schools