

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES

August 25, 2015

5:30 P.M.

GARLAND BOGGUS BOARD ROOM

426 SCHOOL STREET

SEBRING, FLORIDA

PURPOSE: Discuss/Review Budget Issues

- I. Chairperson Bill Brantley called the Regular School Board Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Garland Boggus Board Room at 426 School Street, Sebring, Florida. On roll call, those present besides Chairperson Brantley were Mrs. Jan Shoop, Mrs. Donna Howerton, Ms. Jill Compton, Mrs. Charlene Edwards, Superintendent Wally Cox, School Board Attorney John McClure and Executive Secretary Marlene Welborn and other staff members were present throughout the workshop.**
- II. Mr. Cox turned the meeting over to Mike Averyt. Mr. Averyt requested Board Members to refer to handouts and reviewed budgets answering questions from Board Members. Mr. Averyt asked Tracy Robinson from Centergistics to update the Board on the program. Mrs. Robinson shared she worked closely with plant managers during the summer to streamline air use. Mrs. Robinson also worked with Coach Scott, head football coach at Sebring High School and streamlined the air use at the field house from running all day to two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Mrs. Robinson shared she has submitted work orders to facilities which when completed, will make an impact on energy savings. Mrs. Robinson will share progress and dollars saved at an upcoming board meeting. Board will schedule a workshop to discuss how funds will be allocated. Mr. Cox explained base line is required to determine the savings. Mrs. Robinson has requested copies of water bills from the City of Sebring and will present base line to the board. Mrs. Edwards asked for clarification on the electricity bill exceeding projected amount. Mr. Averyt will review June and July bills and will report his findings to the board.**

Mr. Averyt continued with the Debt Service budgets. Mr. Averyt shared that the budget does not include the refinance funds.

Mr. Frank Brown updated the board on summer projects highlighting items not completed. Mr. Brown will provide the board with the roofing schedule for the Kindergarten Learning Center.

Martha Brown reviewed the Food Service Program with the board and shared update of the 2014-2015 school year and budget. Mrs. Brown shared overview of the 2015-2016 program answered questions and received input regarding the food service program from staff.

Mr. Cox thanked Mrs. Brown and Tim Thompson for their hard work allowing them not to use General Fund monies to fund their program.

Mr. Averyt resumed the review of local and state categorical budgets. Mr. Cox explained the categorical carry-forward process and will provide the board with a detailed spreadsheet.

Mr. Averyt reviewed the 2015-2016 personnel allocations budget. Mr. Averyt shared this is the second draft of the document and reviewed the changes from the first allocation. Mrs. Shoop asked for clarification on the health services allocation. Dr. Hollinger explained funding. Ms. Compton asked for clarification on the plant manager decrease of 2 units. Mr. Averyt explained decrease.

Mr. Brantley opened the meeting for comment. Mr. McClure cautioned to refrain from discussing the 2014-2015 budget. Mr. McClure explained that we are currently at impasse for the 2014-2015 budget and that during the installation period the Board is prohibited from discussing the budget. Mr. McClure reminded all that the budget

and workshop being discussed this evening is for the 2015-2016 school year and asked for comments and questions be limited to the 2015-2016 budget and thanked all for their understanding.

Ms. Kim Henry asked for clarification on how energy savings will be allocated to schools. Mr. Brantley shared we are awaiting report from Centergistics to determine the savings a workshop will be scheduled to discuss how the funds will be disbursed and that their intent is to give it back to the schools. Ms. Henry asked for further clarification if the amount of savings funds allocated in the budget to the schools would then be deducted from their allocation. Mr. Brantley stated that is not the case. Ms. Henry asked why these funds could not be placed in the General Funds and that she would be back at the workshop to ask the same question.

Ms. Carla Rice asked how the refinance will impact the budget. Mr. Brantley shared comments on the impact. Ms. Rice asked if there will be a workshop on how the refinance funds will be used. Mr. Cox stated it is the Board’s decision and depending on their decision, he will be able to discuss how it impacts the budget and the board can determine how the funds will be spent. Ms. Rice asked Mr. Cox to elaborate on the suggestions made to him during the school visits. Mr. Cox shared one of the suggestions was to allow our buses to display advertising. Mr. Cox has asked Mr. Solomon to contact districts that currently allow advertising and will review cost vs. revenue. Mrs. Howerton asked for clarification of upcoming agenda items. Mr. Averyt stated the board will vote on refinance will be September 22. Workshop on the energy savings will be scheduled once baseline is established and the impasse hearings will be held on September 14th. Ms. Rice asked for clarification on class-size. Mr. Cox stated he has visited elementary schools and met with principals to discuss their numbers and will be meeting with middle and high schools next week. Mr. Cox as requested by the Board, he has reviewed units allocated and two units were not needed based on population. Ms. Rice asked for clarification on the Library Media allocation. Mr. Cox will send copy of the allocation to Ms. Rice. Ms. ShawnaMae Warren asked for clarification on the carryover. Mr. Averyt explained the breakdown and will provide a copy of the summary to Ms. Warren. Mr. Hutchinson asked for clarification on the reserve account. Mr. Cox explained is on the revenue side of the budget not on the appropriation side. Mr. Cox asked Mr. Averyt to provide copy of the reserve account to Mr. Hutchinson. Mrs. Rhoades asked why out county has been unable to increase the teacher’s payroll when surrounding counties have been able to do so. Mr. Cox shared all districts are somewhat different and the primary issue based on the COP issue in 2005 and explained process and how the failure of the ½ cent sales tax has affected our budget. Mr. Cox was asked if our county had maximized our allowed millage. Mr. Cox explained we are levying all that we are allowed by law.

Mrs. Shoop thanked all for coming and hopes they will return to our next workshop. Mr. Brantley stated the Board will look at the scheduling for future meetings to allow for teachers and school staff to attend. Mr. Cox shared the date of the Public Hearing is September 8, 2015 at 5:05 p.m.

III. There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Secretary

Chairperson/Vice Chairperson