

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2015
12:00 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in Open Session at noon on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Road, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Rob Hudson who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Rob Hudson announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for the regular March 17, 2015, Board meeting with an amendment. Section XIII would immediately follow section IX.

RECOGNITION OF TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Mr. Lee Stratton recognized two members of the Transportation Department.

OATH OF OFFICE – MRS. SHERRY DAVIS

Attorney Otis Tims of Mitchell, McNutt and Sams administered the Oath of Office for re-appointed Board member Sherry Davis. A copy of the signed Oath of Office is marked **EXHIBIT 1** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING ITEMS

TPSD Policy BBA Board of Trustees Organizational Meeting stipulates that the organizational meeting of the Board will be held at the first regular meeting of the Board of Trustees following the first Saturday of March of each calendar year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

School Board Attorney Otis Tims announced that School Board Policy #BBA stipulates that “the officers of the Board shall be a president, vice-president and secretary and shall be elected at the first meeting of the board following the first Saturday of March of each calendar year.” Mr.

Tims next announced that the floor was open for nominations for president of the Board of Trustees.

Election of President

Mr. Prather nominated Mr. Kenneth Wheeler for president of the School Board. Mr. Babb seconded the motion. By general consent, nominations for president were closed and the matter was brought to a vote as follows:

Mr. Joe Babb	voted: Aye
Mrs. Sherry Davis	voted: Aye
Mr. Rob Hudson	voted: Aye
Mr. Eddie Prather	voted: Aye
Mr. Ken Wheeler	voted: Aye

By a vote of 5-0, Mr. Kenneth Wheeler was elected president of the Board of Trustees.

Election of Vice-President

Next, Mr. Tims announced that the floor was open for nominations for vice-president of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Wheeler nominated Mr. Joe Babb to serve as vice-president of the School Board. Mrs. Davis seconded the motion. By general consent, nominations for vice-president were closed and the matter was brought to a vote as follows:

Mr. Joe Babb	voted: Aye
Mrs. Sherry Davis	voted: Aye
Mr. Rob Hudson	voted: Aye
Mr. Eddie Prather	voted: Aye
Mr. Ken Wheeler	voted: Aye

By a vote of 5-0, Mr. Joe Babb was elected vice-president of the Board of Trustees.

Election of Secretary

Next, Mr. Tims announced that the floor was open for nominations for secretary of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Babb nominated Mr. Eddie Prather to serve as secretary. Mrs. Davis seconded the motion and by unanimous consent nominations for secretary were closed and the matter was brought to vote as follows:

Mr. Joe Babb	voted: Aye
Mrs. Sherry Davis	voted: Aye
Mr. Rob Hudson	voted: Aye
Mr. Eddie Prather	voted: Aye
Mr. Ken Wheeler	voted: Aye

By a vote of 5-0, Mr. Eddie Prather was elected secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Appointment of Legal Counsel

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mitchell, McNutt & Sams as legal counsel for the TPSD Board of Trustees, and the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Posting of Public Notices

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously to assign the responsibility of posting notices of special meetings, recessed meetings, adjourned meetings, and rescheduled meetings as outlined in TPSD Policy BBAA to Ms. Modesty Shumpert and the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Appointment of Recording Secretary for the TPSD Board of Trustees

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Modesty Shumpert as recording secretary for the TPSD Board of Trustees and the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Authorization of Signatures for District Financial Accounts

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Prather, the Board voted unanimously to authorize signatures for district financial accounts in accordance with TPSD Policy DJAA: Authorized Signatures and the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Ratification of TPSD Policies

In accordance with TPSD Policy BBAA Board of Trustees Organizational Meeting, Mr. Prather moved to reaffirm and ratify the TPSD Policies, Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Exhibits previously adopted or authorized by the Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and the Board voted unanimously to reaffirm and ratify the TPSD Policies, Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Exhibits previously adopted or authorized by the Board of Trustees. The president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Appointment of Board Audit Committee to Review TPSD 2014-2015 School Year Audit

In accordance with TPSD Policy BBAA Board of Trustees Organizational Meeting, Mr. Hudson moved to appoint Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Joe Babb to serve on the Board Audit Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing the 2014-2015 School Year Audit. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis and the Board voted unanimously to designate Board Members Eddie Prather and Joe Babb to the Audit Committee for the purpose of reviewing the 2014-15 School Year Audit.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the following meetings were presented for consideration for approval:

February 17, 2015	Regular Meeting, Noon, Hancock Leadership Center
February 17, 2015	Regular Meeting, 5 p.m., Hancock Leadership Center

February 12, 2015

Special Called Meeting, Noon, Hancock Leadership Center

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No requests for public comments were received for this meeting of the Board.

RECOGNITIONS

There were no further recognitions at the noon meeting.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

The following informational reports were presented to the Board of Trustees:

- A. Mr. Andy Cantrell, Mrs. Mary Ann Plasencia, and Mr. Charles Laney of JBHM gave an update on Long Range Planning.
- B. Mrs. Rachel Murphree gave an update on Ad Valorem Collections for amounts received in February 2015. (TPSD Goal #4)

Copies of the above reports are on file in the Superintendent's Office.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for consideration for approval.

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Contractual Agreements
 - Acknowledge and Award Contracts #CO1544 through #CO1545; SFR1521
2. Accepted Donations #2014-2015-032 through #2014-2015-038
3. Permission to Accept TPSD Grant #1502
 - MDE: MCOPS SRO Program \$40,000.00
4. Permission to Advertise Bid
 - BD 1505 Dish Machine Rental
5. Deletion of Items from TPSD Asset Listing
 - Deletion of 16 Assets

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant

1. Student Transfer Report (TPSD Policy JBCD Transfers and Withdrawals of Students)
2. Overnight Field Trip Requests
 - Milam Chorus to Jackson, MS
 - THS Bridge Builders to Jackson, MS
 - THS Bridge Builders to Cheyenne, WY for AASHTO Bridge Building Competition

- DECA to Orlando, FL for International Competition
- TMS Bridge Builders to Jackson, MS for MDOT Bridge Competition
- TMS Bridge Builders to Cheyenne, WY for AASHTO Bridge Building Competition
- AP Science Club to Atlanta, GA for Application of AP Curriculum through experiences

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kimberly Britton

1. District Summary of School-Wide Plans for Title I A Program 2014-2015

D. Office of Executive Director of Operations and Facilities Mr. Andy Cantrell

1. Change Order No. 1 for Tupelo High School Turf/Track
2. Certificate of Substantial Completion
3. Permission to Operate Summer Food Service Programs at 5 TPSD Sites

E. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell

1. Request Road Work from Lee County Public Works
2. Letter of Understanding with Family Resource Center

No Board Member requested the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Docket of Claims

Mrs. Sherry Davis reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting and advised that at the 5:00 p.m. meeting of the Board she will recommend approval of the following:

- Docket of Claims for the period February 7, 2015 through February 28, 2015, Docket of Claims #25855 through #26242, Accounts Payable Checks #16196 through #16492 in the amount of \$522,807.82
- The Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for the period February 2015, Checks #1627 through #1638 in the amount of \$6,142.52
- Athletic Activity check Register for the period February 2015, Checks #2323 through #2332 in the amount of \$652.50

The grand total for all funds is \$529,602.86.

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending December 31, 2014

In accordance with MS Code 37-9-18 the following Financial Reports for the month ending January 31, 2014, were reviewed:

- Bank Reconciliation Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Report with Budget Status

- TPSD Cash Flow Statement
- Combined Balance Sheet
- January 31, 2014 Financial Statements

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant (TPSD Goal #2)

Student Discipline Report Case #03-2014-2015

Consideration of ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #03-2014-2015 from TPSD for one calendar year for violation of TPSD Policy JD-E3 #9, #18, and #33. Homebound services will be provided through the Special Education Department.

D. Office of Director Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner

1. Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Jim Turner presented the Licensed Personnel Recommendations for consideration of approval.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell (TPSD Policy E)

1. Second Reading of TPSD Policy

Dr. Ezell presented the following policy for a second reading:

:

DJEJA Bill Payment Authorization

2. Consideration of Approval for Opportunity Camp, Summer 2015

3. Revisions to 2014-2015 TPSD School Calendar

Dr. Loden and Dr. Ezell presented revisions to the 2014-2015 School Calendar for approval.

D. Office of Superintendent Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #3)

1. Employment of 2015-2016 School Administrative Personnel

Dr. Loden presented the 2015-2016 School Administrative Personnel recommendations for consideration of approval.

2. Information Items:

- Curriculum Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business was discussed at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution of Intent

Board Attorney Otis Tims presented and recommended for approval a resolution with the following title:

“RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF BORROWING MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE COSTS OF PURCHASING, ERECTING, REPAIRING, EQUIPPING, REMODELING AND ENLARGING SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND RELATED FACILITIES, PURCHASING LAND THEREFOR, PURCHASING TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES AND PROVIDING NECESSARY WATER, LIGHT, HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT AN APPROXIMATE COST OF \$44,000,000, DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO BORROW A MAXIMUM OF \$44,000,000 AND TO ISSUE BONDS OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AS EVIDENCE OF SUCH INDEBTEDNESS”

A copy of which resolution is set out in full as **EXHIBIT 1** to these minutes and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting and incorporated fully herein.

After a motion by Mr. Hudson to adopt such resolution, seconded by Mr. Babb, and after discussion the motion passed unanimously.

B. Resolution Calling for Election to Approve the 2015 General Obligation Bond Issue

Board Attorney Otis Tims presented and recommended for approval a resolution with the following title:

“RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CALLING AND HOLDING A SPECIAL ELECTION WITHIN AND FOR THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT WHETHER THE DISTRICT SHOULD ISSUE ITS BONDS, AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS”

A copy of which resolution is set out in full as **EXHIBIT 2** to these minutes and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting and incorporated fully herein.

Mr. Hudson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Mrs. Davis seconded the motion. After discussion, the Board President declared the motion passed.

C. Resolution Calling for Hiring Young Law Group as Bond Counsel, Mitchell McNutt & Sams as Issuer’s Counsel and MuniGroup as Financial Advisors

Board Attorney Otis Tims then presented and recommended for approval a Resolution with the following title:

“RESOLUTION STATING THE INTENTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, TO

ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND OTHER POTENTIAL FINANCINGS AND TO RETAIN LEGAL COUNSEL AND A MUNICIPAL ADVISOR TO ASSIST WITH THE PROPOSED FINANCING”

Mrs. Davis moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Prather. Mr. Babb requested that action on this resolution be deferred until the 5 p.m. meeting, and Mrs. Davis and Mr. Prather withdrew their motions.

D. Resolution Regarding Issuance of Notes for Up To \$325,000 notes

Board Attorney Otis Tims then discussed a resolution to be recommended for consideration for approval at the 5 p.m. meeting regarding issuing notes in the maximum amount of \$325,000.00.

E. Note and Sale Resolution

Board Attorney Otis Tims then discussed a proposed resolution calling for the issuance and sale of a \$306,000 note to be recommended for consideration for approval at the 5 p.m. meeting.

F. Safe and Sound Launch

Mrs. Kay Bishop along with Mrs. Mary Ann Plasencia then discussed the Safe + Sound Bond Issue public relations campaign being developed by the citizens' committee supporting approval of the \$44 million bond issue.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

- Curriculum Update
- Spring Orientation Update
- Legal Update
- Approval of Licensed Employees
- Recognize Special Education Department

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

1. Reconsider Dates of Board Retreat
2. Graduation Coaches

C. Executive Session

Board President Kenneth Wheeler suggested to the School Board a temporary Executive Session to determine the need for a permanent Executive Session for the purpose of discussing several matters.

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to enter temporary Executive Session for the purpose of determining a need for permanent Executive Session. The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The room was cleared and the temporary Executive Session was called to order by Mr. Wheeler with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mr. Andy Cantrell, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Charles Laney, Mr. Will Lewis, Dr. Gearl Loden, Mr. Kenneth Wheeler, Mr. Otis Tims, and Mrs. Modesty Shumpert.

The Executive Session was called to order and the Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Hudson, with a second by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, and acquisition of land. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed. Mr. Wheeler went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the board will remain in Executive Session.

Mr. Wheeler reentered the room, and reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into Executive Session was a personnel matter and land acquisition.

First, Mr. Babb opened the discussion of land acquisition.

Next, Dr. Loden opened the discussion on the personnel matter.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Upon motion to end the executive session duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed and the Board in Open Session.

Mr. Wheeler reopened the meeting to tell all in attendance that the Board was back in Open Session. Everyone waiting re-entered the meeting, and Mr. Wheeler stated that the Board was back in Open Session and no action was taken by the Board during Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Davis, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 3:40 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Kenneth Wheeler, President

Eddie Prather, Secretary