

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

June 16, 2011  
Escalante High School

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Vice President Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Kay Englestead, and Cheryl Cox.

Superintendent Ben Dalton, and Business Administrator Lark Reynolds were also present.

**BOARD MEETING**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order. No one was in attendance at 3:00 begin time. Ken noted certain items needed to be discussed in a closed meeting, which consisted of the professional competence and character of an individual, collective bargaining, and imminent or pending litigation. Brian Bremner then proposed a motion to move into an executive session to discuss the character and professional competence of individuals and also to discuss imminent or pending litigation. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen. A roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Following the closed meeting, Brian Bremner proposed a motion to come out of executive meeting into an open meeting. This motion was seconded by Cheryl Cox. A roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Following this motion Kay Englestead proposed a motion to move into another executive session to discuss collective bargaining strategies. This motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. A roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Following the second closed meeting, Brian Bremner proposed a motion to come out of executive meeting into an open meeting. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen. A roll call vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

A short break was taken at this time.

Ken Platt then called the meeting to order. He then recognized the people who were in attendance.

## **Welcome**

Board President Ken Platt extended a welcome to all who were present.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Gregg Christensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Agenda Changes**

There were no agenda changes.

### **1. Consent Agenda Items**

- A. Approve Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve May 2011 Financial Reports
- C. Approve June 2011 Hiring Recommendations
  - i. Melaney Draper – PHS Cheer Helper Volunteer. Melaney has scheduled a date for completing a background check and doing the other necessary paperwork. As volunteer she will not be paid from district funds, but she will be able to use a District Vehicle in transporting students.
- D. Resignation
  - i. John Gillett – PHS Math Teacher
  - ii. Maloy Dodds – Interim Superintendent (effective 6/10/2011)

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to accept the above consent agenda with noted changes to the meeting minutes all in one motion. This motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. Brian Bremner abstained from approving the minutes as he did not have time to review all the changes. Cheryl Cox also abstained from approving the November 2010 minutes as she was not a member of the board at the time. A vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion for the meeting minutes passed 3-0-2. The financial reports, hiring recommendations, and resignations were approved, and the motion passed 5-0.

### **2. Public Comments**

Greg Allen reported on how the Escalante City would like to pave a parking lot for the cemetery. This plot of ground is actually owned by Garfield County School District. The Board decided they would like this discussed at a future meeting in which they could vote concerning the matter. It must be an agenda item to vote. They also discussed retaining the right-of-way and possibly having Escalante City submit a request.

### **3. School Board Proposals – Comments - Reports**

Kay reported on the 5 County of Governments Association meeting he attended, as well as the legislative meeting he attended.

#### **4. Superintendent's Report**

- A.** Superintendent Dalton extended his public thanks to Interim Superintendent Dodds and the Board for their work over the past while.
- B.** He then reported on the pool, and what was discussed at the Panguitch City Council. They planned on forming a committee to discuss options for working with the city to keeping the pool operational.
- C.** Presented a district assignment of responsibilities flow chart.
- D.** Reported on negotiations and items that were discussed with the Garfield Education Association and the Garfield School Employees Association.
- E.** Discussion on the administrative meeting.
- F.** Move Gerald Talbot and Damon Brinkerhoff's offices to Bryce Valley to be mobile and reduce district transportation costs.
- G.** Senate Bill 65 – online schools reporting. The Superintendent discussed using electronic high school for one year as it will be free for the first year before moving forward with an online school. This would let the dust settle before making an important decision.
- H.** Ed-net classes discussion.
- I.** House Bill 50 clarified that District's do not have to give reasons for terminating non tenured teachers.
- J.** Discussion regarding starting time and ending time for teachers for clarification purposes.
- K.** Building Use Agreements.
- L.** SEDC meetings which included some electronic upgrades such as video conferencing.
- M.** Online bus trip tickets – trips will be assigned using a web based program. Principals and transportation director will be able to view and approve online.
- N.** Maintenance issues: bids on PHS Boiler/ upgrade pool, walk in coolers at PMS.
- O.** Discussion regarding the Garfield Education Foundation.

There were discussions on some of the above items.

#### **5. Discussion and Actions Items**

##### **A. Budget**

During this section individual negotiation items were discussed. It was noted that the Board is going to have a Budget Hearing on Tuesday June 21, 2011 at Bryce Valley High School. During this hearing the Board will receive input from the public. A decision

was made to open and approve the final budget for FY11 as well as adopting a budget for FY12.

### **B. Truth in Taxation**

House Bill 301 was discussed. Lark pointed out the budget includes a 0.0005 tax increase that results in approximately \$300,000 of new revenue to the District. He then informed the Board that if they approve that budget they will be going through Truth in Taxation. A tentative date was given of July 27<sup>th</sup> when the County would like to mail out those notices. The Board then discussed possible dates to hold a public hearing which would be greater than 14 days after that tentative mail date.

Cheryl Cox then proposed a motion to move the July 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting to Antimony and the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to Bryce Valley to accommodate a potential Truth in Taxation hearing on the same date as the Board Meeting in Bryce Valley. The Board expressed Tropic is a more central location. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

### **C. Bryce Canyon Half Marathon Indemnity Agreement**

After a brief discussion on the matter including Maloy Dodds had already signed the agreement, no fee charged, and the County will pay the district bus drivers, fuel and the cleaning of the busses, Brian Bremner proposed a motion to accept the Bryce Canyon Half Marathon Indemnity Agreement with Garfield County. This motion was seconded by Kay Englestead, and a motion was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

### **D. Early Retirement**

This was a discussion item only, no action was taken.

### **E. Approve First Reading of RIF Policy Changes**

After some discussion on changes that needed to be made to the current RIF Policy due to recent legislation, SB 75, not allowing a "last-hired, first-fired procedure for layoffs", Brian Bremner proposed a motion to direct Superintendent Dalton to take the updated USBA Policy regarding RIF's to the unions as part of the negotiation process to get their input. As part of his motion he made a change to the wording of the policy by adding the word, "recommend" after the word identify, to the second line in the second paragraph. This motion was seconded by Cheryl Cox, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. The motion passed 5-0.

**F. EES Overnight Field Trip to Zions National Park**

This item was not discussed as there was a conflict on dates, therefore the school was no longer asking for permission to attend.

**G. Board Goals**

This item was a discussion item only. The Board discussed goals for the upcoming year such as: financial expectations, implementation of curriculum timelines, and teacher/student ratios.

**H. Approve Two Days for Professional Development**

After a brief discussion Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to cut two instructional days from the current 180 day calendar and to use those days for Professional Development for Teachers to get ready for the common core. Teachers' contracts will not be cut by the two days as they will be responsible for attending those trainings. This motion was seconded by Cheryl Cox, and a vote was called for. Ken Platt, Gregg Christensen, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye. Brian Bremner voted nay. The motion passed 4-1.

**I. Pool: Lifeguards**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting, and no action was taken on the item.

**J. Trust Lands Reports**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting, and no action was taken on the item.

**K. Tenure**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting, and no action was taken on the item.

**L. Personnel Assignments**

After a lengthy discussion on this topic about possible changes, Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to assign a head teacher at Escalante High School, hire a new half time shop teacher, and assigning the counselor duties to the staff. In addition to this Gary Bennett would help with the comprehensive guidance part of the counseling. Susan Shurtz will work with Gary Bennett to cover the counseling at Escalante High School. It was also discussed that the EHs staff could go forward with preparing a schedule now that the decision to have a half-time shop teacher had been made. This motion was seconded by Brian Bremner and there was some additional discussion following the seconding of the motion. Following this discussion a vote was called for. Gregg

Christensen, Brian Bremner, Cheryl Cox, and Kay Englestead all voted aye, and Ken Platt voted nay. The motion passed 4-1.

#### **M. New Teacher Evaluation Tool**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting, and no action was taken on the item.

### **6. Board Business**

#### **A. Set July 2011 School Board Meeting time, date, and location.**

As the Board had approved this earlier during the Truth in Taxation portion of the meeting, and there were no changes to make to the date, time or place. No action was needed.

#### **B. USBA Leadership Academy September 8-10, 2011**

There was discussion concerning budget restraints and whether to attend or not. Gregg Christensen noted he attended last year. He expressed the training was very valuable, someone should attend, look for possible cost savings item such as staying in a more cost effective location. Superintendent Dalton also expressed how valuable the training is and it is an opportunity to receive very important information. He recommended filling both spots. Annie Eldredge noted USBA must be notified by August 8, so there was some time to make a decision. Cheryl Cox commented on how good the training at the January convention was and noted she would like to attend. Ken Platt also noted he would like to attend. It was decided to list this item on the next meeting agenda for a final decision.

### **7. Public Comments**

Greg Allen thanked the board for listening.

Nathan Platt talked concerning paraprofessional hours being cut and being able to provide services. Superintendent Dalton reassured him whatever is required will be provided and IEPs will drive what needs to be provided.

At this time Annie Eldredge asked if any information concerning the pool lifeguards was obtained at the recent Panguitch City Council Meeting. The pool manager has concerns that need to be resolved, such as, hiring additional lifeguards if needed, the purchasing of lifeguard uniforms, and recertifying lifeguards. It was noted Garfield County has agreed to contribute \$3,000.00 to help cover transportation costs for swimming lessons. Lifeguards will be able to purchase uniforms if they are willing to work off the cost and also work off the fees for recertifying. Also, there needs to be enough lifeguards to cover the hours of the pool.

## **8. Executive Session**

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and go into an executive session to discuss collective bargaining strategies. Brian Bremner seconded the motion with the anticipation of being out of executive session in 25 minutes. Brian Bremner pointed out they could not go into an executive session for the reason of collective bargaining. The meeting was reconvened into an open meeting. Brian Bremner proposed a motion to convene into an executive session to address the character and competence of an individual, and collective bargaining strategies. Cheryl Cox seconded the motion. All board members were present and voted in the affirmative. The motion passed 5-0. It was noted two BVHS teachers, Kaye Lynn Neilson and Cheryl LeFevre, had been invited to attend the executive session to address a concern they expressed during the break. It was noted these two teachers were representing themselves and not the GEA.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned prior to the executive session.

### **NOTICE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS**

In compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and service) during this meeting should notify Annie Eldredge at 676-8821 at least three days prior to the meeting.