



UNAPPROVED MINUTES

JUNE 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Piute County School District Board of Education was held on **June 9th, 2020** at the Piute County Courthouse in Junction, Utah. President Marty Morgan called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM. Present was Marty Morgan, Teresa Morgan, Erin Jensen, Rick Dalton, and Jeremy Pearson. Also present was Superintendent Koby Willis and Business Administrator Dallas Sylvester. Guests at the meeting were Shauna Bagley, Eric Jessen, Tyrel Ivie, Paul James, Holly Nowers, Lincoln Trapp, and Gloria Fox.

Work Meeting: The school board held a work meeting prior to the regular meeting to receive annual training for administering the School Land Trust Program. The school board discussed their roles in reviewing and approving school community council plans.

Opening Remarks:

- Board President Marty Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. After the pledge of allegiance opening remarks were given by Jeremy Pearson.

Citizen Dialogue:

- None

Discussion Items:

- Marty Morgan welcomed Dallas Sylvester as the new Business Administrator
- **Approval of Minutes and Vouchers**
 - Jeremy made a motion to approve the May board meetings minutes, the May payroll, and district vouchers 200877-200971. Motion was seconded by Teresa Morgan. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Approval of Governor's Honors Academy Sponsorship**
 - Lincoln Trapp has been awarded the Governor's Honors Academy Scholarship. The scholarship is a 4 year full tuition scholarship to SUU that is only awarded to 50 students. Lincoln is required to raise \$1,100 in sponsorships to attend the Governor's Honors Academy Conference. Lincoln has already raised \$850. The School Board discussed contributing \$150 and the high school would contribute the remaining \$100.
 - Rick Dalton made a motion to approve a \$150 Sponsorship for Lincoln Trapp for the Governor's Honors Academy conference. Motion was seconded by Erin Jensen. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Review of 2%, 5%, and 10% Budget Reduction Scenarios**
 - Koby Willis explained that the Utah State legislature is considering making cuts to the state education budget due to the economic conditions caused by the current world pandemic. The state legislature drafted a possible 2%, 5%, and 10% budget reduction. All of the scenarios affect all of the districts a little differently. The current draft includes cutting

several line items that would cut a much higher percentage of funding from the smallest school districts.

- Koby provided some spreadsheets to Senator Hillyard and several other state leaders to illustrate some of the inequities of the proposed cuts. Koby also spoke with the Legislative Fiscal Analyst for Public Education and discussed some possible solutions to the problem. After a series of meetings and calls it seems there will be some really positive changes to the proposed cuts.
- **Review of Preliminary Budget FY21**
 - Because the budget for the State of Utah seems to still be up in the air, lots of school districts are approving the same budget amounts for fiscal year 2021 as fiscal year 2020. Since there is a possibility of losing as much as half a million dollars from the fiscal year 2020 budget, the preliminary budget reflects the worst case scenario. Assuming the biggest cuts happen the school district would likely just take the hit for the next school year and use rainy day to cover, then if the state budget doesn't recover some significant changes would have to be made to balance the budget.
 - The Governor and several legislators are saying they would like to hold education harmless in the state budget cuts. If that is the case or if the proposed cuts are revised as has been discussed the school district would not have to make any significant changes to operations.
 - Koby ended by saying that overall the school district is in great financial health and is prepared for a budget reduction is necessary.
- **Review of Preliminary Property Tax Rates 2020**
 - The school board reviewed a 10-year possible plan for property tax rates. The plan illustrated allowing the GO Bond levy paying for the high school addition to continue to drift down as we get closer to the bond being paid off in 2027. The school district currently has the 6th lowest rates of the state's 41 school districts. Without the bond levy for the high school Piute County School District would have the lowest rates in Utah.
- **ACT Scores Presentation**
 - Piute High School Counselor and Principal Eric Jessen and Shauna Bagley presented ACT scores for the past 12 years. The scores were steady or climbing from 2009 to 2014. The class of 2015 was the first where every student, whether they planned to go to college or not, were required to take the test. In 2015 the scores took a big dive. After 2015 the scores climbed until the class of 2019. The classes of 2019, 2020, 2021 have seen a dip in scores.
 - Eric and Shauna discussed some strategies for improving ACT test scores for future classes. It was noted that schools that can improve their Reading scores can typically improve all of their scores because all of the sections of the test require higher grade level academic reading. For the 2020-2021 school year there will be a 20 minute period between 4th and 5th period where every student will have the opportunity to read.
 - Other changes included a night ACT prep course, incorporating more academic reading in every high school course, and providing some incentives for reading. Eric also presented some reading plus data to show what reading level students start the school year on and what grade level they end the school year on. For the 2019-2020 school year only the freshmen class was reading on grade level.
- **Approval of Business Lab Computers Purchase**
 - The business computer lab is due to be replaced. There are 22 desktop computers in that computer lab currently. The plan is to put 30 computers in that classroom for the 2020-2021 school year. The old desktops would be used for the Ag Computer Lab that has much older computers. The 30 desktop computers would cost just over \$59,000 and would require board approval for purchase.

- Teresa Morgan made a motion to approve the purchase of 30 iMac computers for the high school business lab. Motion was seconded by Erin Jensen. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Review of Awarded Outdoor Recreation Grant for CES Pavilion and Restrooms**
 - Stacie Gass has worked really hard to get an Outdoor Recreation Grant for a new pavilion and restrooms at the softball field in Circleville. The grant is for \$50,000 and several other agencies have promised supporting funds up to just over \$100,000.
 - The dilemma now is that engineers are saying that the proposed restrooms and pavilion would cost well over \$300,000. If it's possible to cut the project down to under \$200,000 and then raise some additional funds from the school district and Circleville Town then the project will continue. If the project can't be cut under that amount and retain the most important features the project may have to be put on hold.
- **Approval of New Hires**
 - Erin Jensen made a motion to approve the hire of James Martin as a Principal and Teacher at Circleville Elementary School. Motion was seconded by Teresa Morgan. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Appointment of Business Administrator**
 - Rick Dalton made a motion to approve the appointment of Dallas Sylvester as the Business Administrator beginning July 1, 2020. Motion was seconded by Jeremy Pearson. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- **Setting of Budget Hearing Date**
 - The school district has postponed setting a budget to see if the state would have more information on their budget. The school board decided to hold a budget hearing at 6:00 PM on June 30th, 2020.

Information Items:

- **SHAPR Survey SY21** - The SHARP Survey will be administered at Piute High School during the 2020-2021 school year. The survey is administered every year and requires parents permission for the students to participate.
- **Summer Capital Projects Update** - Koby updated the school board on some of the projects the school custodians are working on and ths school board decided to walk over and see the new gym after the meeting.

The school board took a minute to publicly thank Shauna Bagley, Eric Jessen, and all the others involved in the graduation ceremony. Also a special thank you was extended to Tyrel Ivie for making the choir performance and the broadcast a great success. The ceremony was a great success and received great feedback from lots of people. The choir performance received statewide recognition through social media and was highly praised.

No executive session was held

Adjournment

- At **4:40 PM** Jeremy Pearson made a motion to adjourn the **June 9th, 2020** meeting of the school board. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.



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JUNE 2020 BUDGET HEARING MEETING MINUTES

The budget hearing meeting of the Piute County School District Board of Education was held on **June 30th, 2020** at the Piute County Courthouse in Junction, Utah. President Marty Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Present was Marty Morgan, Teresa Morgan, Erin Jensen, Rick Dalton, and Jeremy Pearson. Also present was Superintendent Koby Willis and Business Administrator Dallas Sylvester. Guest at the meeting was Paul James.

Opening Remarks:

- Board President Marty Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned the time over to Superintendent Willis.

Citizen Dialogue:

- None

Discussion Items:

- **Budget Approval**
 - Superintendent Willis presented the original FY21 budget. He explained that there will be a need to do a budget revision in July due to Covid 19. He explained that the state will not make as many budget cuts to education as was previously anticipated.
 - Superintendent Willis explained that Circleville elementary was considered a K-8 school in 2018-2019, which means that the district will most likely receive more NESS funding this year than normal.
 - Superintendent Willis stated that the school district had good budget performance in FY20. He mentioned that the district was well under-budget on salaries and travel. He explained that travel was under-budget due to many activities being canceled in the spring. He also mentioned that the district was over-budget on equipment due to the approved new Suburban.
 - Superintendent Willis stated that due to Covid 19, each school district in the state will need to approve a plan for reopening schools for the upcoming school year. This plan will include different scenarios and how the district will react to them. He mentioned the need to schedule a special board meeting in July to do a budget revision and make a plan for reopening the school district.
 - Superintendent Willis presented the FY21 original budget and explained how the different funds will be budgeted. He mentioned that the food services fund will require a transfer from the general fund. He stated that the H. Alan Luke Scholarship fund will end this year in about the same place it started due to the economy.
 - Superintendent Willis presented the tax rate info for the school district from taxrates.utah.gov. He showed that there was an increase of 5.69% in real property value

from the 2019 tax year. He also stated that there was an increase of about \$3,000,000 in new taxable growth from the 2019 tax year. He presented the different tax levy rates and mentioned that we will continue to lower the capital local levy to in order to keep the Voted Local Levy and Board Local Levy at .001600 and .000400. An overview of different school districts tax rates was presented to show where Piute School District fits in with other districts in the state. Piute County School District currently has one of the lowest rates of the state's 41 school districts. Without the bond levy for the high school Piute County School District would have the lowest rates in Utah.

- Teresa Morgan motioned to approve the proposed FY21 tax rates. Erin Jensen seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Jeremy Pearson made a motion to approve the FY20 final budget and the FY21 original budget. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Information Items:

- **Upcoming Special Board Meeting** - The school board made a decision to hold a meeting on July 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM to do a budget revision and approve a plan to reopen the School District for the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Opening Institute** - Superintendent Willis informed the school board of the developing plans for the opening institute on Aug 24, 2020.

Adjournment

- At **6:46 PM** Erin Jensen made a motion to adjourn the **June 30th, 2020** meeting of the school board. Rick Dalton seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.