

SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING – JULY 30, 2012

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Special Session and held a Public Hearing on July 30, 2012, in the Okaloosa County Courthouse, Crestview, Florida.

PRESENT: Rodney L. Walker, Chairman
Cindy Frakes
Chuck Kelley
Cathy Thigpen, Vice-Chairman
Melissa Thrush

Alexis Tibbetts, Superintendent
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

The Chairman called the Special Meeting to order and opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried unanimously:

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. McInnis announced that the Board was in Public Hearing session as advertised for the purpose of receiving public comment and to consider adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget and Millage Rate.

1. Receive Public Input and Consider Adoption of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Preliminary and Tentative Budget and Millage Rate, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 12-501).

The proposed fiscal year 2012-2013 Preliminary and Tentative Budget was provided by Mrs. Rita Scallan, Chief Financial Officer. She explained that the Required Local Effort, which also includes the Prior Period Funding Adjustment Millage, is mandated by the State; therefore, the Board has no discretion over that millage. She stated the only discretion that the Board has with the Basic Discretionary Millage is to either levy or not levy; they cannot change the amount. She commented that every school district in the State of Florida levies the Basic Discretionary Millage because districts cannot operate without that levy. Mrs. Scallan noted that changes can be made to the Preliminary & Tentative Budget until adoption of the Final Budget through a Public Hearing scheduled September 10, 2012.

Mrs. Scallan explained how the reduction in the District's total millage from last year will reduce property taxes for homeowners. She commented that Okaloosa School District is one of the few districts in the state with no additional taxes.

Mrs. Scallan stated that compared to last year there is an increase of approximately \$3 million in the total budget. She provided detailed explanation of the revenue sources impacting the general fund increase. She informed the Board that other than the Impact Aid and Weighted FTE, all the other funding sources which she explained are restricted for a specific purpose.

- A. Resolution No. 12-03 adopting the tentative millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013 was presented as follows:
 - (1) Required Local Effort Millage @ 5.2280 mills (includes Prior Period funding Adjustment Millage) – Chairman Walker called for further public comment; there was none.

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Motion to adopt the tentative millage rate of 5.2280 mills for Required Local Effort (includes Prior Period Funding Adjustment Millage) was made by Mrs. Thigpen, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

- (2) Basic Discretionary Operating Millage @ 0.7480 mills – Chairman Walker called for further public comment; there was none.

Motion to adopt the tentative millage rate of 0.7480 mills for Basic Discretionary was made by Mrs. Thigpen, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

- (3) Capital Outlay Millage @ 1.5000 mills – Chairman Walker called for further public comment; there was none.

Motion to adopt the tentative millage rate of 1.5000 mills for Capital Outlay was made by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried unanimously.

- (4) Total Millage Levy @ 7.4760 mills – Chairman Walker called for further public comment; there was none.

Motion to adopt the total tentative millage rate of 7.4760 mills was made by Mrs. Thigpen, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

- B. Resolution No. 12-04 adopting the Preliminary and Tentative Budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year in the amount of \$342,821,848.74 was presented. The Chairman called for public comment; there was none.

Motion to adopt the Preliminary and Tentative School District Budget in the amount of \$342,821,848.74 was made by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried unanimously.

2. Receive Public Input and Consider Adoption of the Code of Student Conduct for the 2012-2013 School Year, presented by Jerry Sansom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 12-502).

Mr. McInnis stated that the Board previously approved the Code of Student Conduct for the 2012-2013 School Year, and that it has been advertised for the purpose of the Board to receive public comment and consider for adoption as policy.

Jerry Sansom, Coordinator of Safe Schools, stated that there are no changes from last year, and administrators will receive training at a workshop tomorrow.

The Chairman called for public comment; there was none.

Motion to approve the Code of Student Conduct for 2012-2013 School Year was made by Mrs. Thigpen, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

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The Chairman concluded the Public Hearing at 5:35 p.m.

Jan Crawford, Recorder

ALEXIS TIBBETTS, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT AND
CORPORATE SECRETARY

RODNEY L. WALKER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD