

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, JULY 28, 2020

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Meeting at 5:01 p.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Vice Chair: Mr. Bill Slayton (District V)
Board Members: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)
Mr. Paul Fetsko (District II)
Dr. Laura Dortch Edler (District III)

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Not present: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters, School Board General Counsel

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on July 1, 2020 – Legal No. [4258833](#)

NOTE: The minutes from this session have been prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mrs. Hightower called the Special Meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. Mrs. Hightower welcomed everyone in attendance as well as those watching via live streaming and thanked them for their interest in public education. The Superintendent listed the changes made to this agenda after publication and prior to this session. On motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, adoption of the agenda (*as amended*), carried unanimously.

II. FINANCE

1. Presentation of [2020-2021 Tentative Millage Rates and Tentative Budget](#)

[NOTE: *Documents outlining the 2020-2021 tentative millage rates and tentative budget were provided to School Board Members prior to the Special Meeting.*] Ms. Theresa McCants, Director of Budgeting, recapped the budget materials that were previously approved for advertising at the July 21, 2020 Regular Meeting. She provided the definition of “rolled-back rate” and reviewed other information as required by the Truth-in-Millage (TRIM) Act.

III. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING FOR INPUT ON 2020-2021 TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES & TENTATIVE BUDGET

The following individual requested to address the School Board during the public hearing on the 2020-2021 tentative millage rates and tentative budget: Mike Horgan.

IV. ADOPTION OF 2020-2021 TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES

▪ Required Local Effort

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Required Local Effort millage rate at 3.829 mills, carried unanimously.

▪ Discretionary – Operating

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Discretionary–Operating millage rate at 0.748 mills, carried unanimously.

- Local Capital Improvement (Capital Outlay)
Motion made by Mr. Slayton to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Local Capital Improvement (Capital Outlay) millage rate at 1.351 mills. Mr. Fetsko seconded the motion for discussion purposes. Mr. Adams reiterated concerns he had previously expressed during the July 20, 2020 Regular Workshop. Motion carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”
- Total Millage
Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative total millage rate at 5.928 mills, carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”

V. ADOPTION OF 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET

- General Fund
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative General Fund budget in the amount of \$367,435,262.33, carried unanimously.
- Special Revenue – Food Services
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Special Revenue–Food Services budget in the amount of \$28,575,593.00, carried unanimously.
- Special Revenue – Federal Programs
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Special Revenue–Federal Programs budget in the amount of \$42,049,130.80, carried unanimously.
- Special Revenue – Cares Act – ESSER
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Special Revenue – Cares Act – ESSER budget in the amount of \$5,179,741.00, carried unanimously.
- Special Revenue – Cares Act – Other
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Special Revenue - Cares Act - Other budget in the amount of \$1,076,533.00, carried unanimously.
- Debt Service Funds
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Debt Service Funds budget in the amount of \$66,987,323.54, carried unanimously.
- Capital Project Funds
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Capital Projects Funds budget in the amount of \$176,557,592.19, carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”
- Internal Service Funds
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative Internal Service Funds budget in the amount of \$62,141,148.88, carried unanimously.
- Total Budget
Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt the 2020-2021 tentative total budget in the amount of \$750,002,324.74, carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”

VI. ADOPTION OF [RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-01](#) – A RESOLUTION OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

- Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt Resolution Number 2021-01, carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”

VII. ADOPTION OF [RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-02](#) – A RESOLUTION OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt Resolution Number 2021-02, carried 4 to 1, with Mr. Adams voting “No.”

VIII. SET DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF FINAL BUDGET HEARING

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to set the final Budget Hearing for September 15, 2020, beginning at 5:01 p.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, carried unanimously.

IX. CURRICULUM

1. [School District of Escambia County 2020-2021 School Calendar – Amended](#)

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to approve Item IX.1, *School District of Escambia County 2020-2021 School Calendar – Amended*, carried unanimously.

X. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

1. [Request to rescind all appointments for the 2020-2021 school year under Item V.b.3.A.1., that were approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)
2. [Request to rescind all leaves of absence under Item V.b.3.A.6., that were approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)
3. [Request change to Item V.b.3.B.1., approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, to move the start date of Mary Lee Martelli, from August 10, 2020, to August 21, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation as outlined in Item X.1, Item X.2, and Item X.3, carried unanimously.

XI. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

CORRECT

1. [Request change to Item V.db.3.A., approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, to move the beginning date of the suspension without pay from August 3, 2020, to August 17, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)

CORRECT

2. [Request change to Item V.db.3.D., approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, to move the beginning date of the suspension without pay from July 31, 2020, to August 17, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)

CORRECT

3. [Request change to Item V.db.3.E., approved during the Regular School Board Meeting on July 21, 2020, to move the beginning date of the suspension without pay from July 31, 2020, to August 17, 2020, due to the amended school calendar.](#)

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations as outlined in Item XI.1, XI.2, and Item XI.3 (*as corrected*), carried unanimously.

XII. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

-No registration forms submitted

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair