

**Cottonwood Union School District
20512 W. First Street
Cottonwood, CA 96022**

MINUTES for Tuesday, AUGUST 20, 2014, 6:30 P.M.
Regular Board Meeting, West Cottonwood Library

Members Present: Mr. Kohler, Mr. Lucero, Mrs. Semingson, Mr. Vazquez
Members Absent: Mr. Iles
Others Present: Superintendent Dr. David Alexander
Principals: Doug Geren and Don Ray.
Laura Merrick, Business Manager
Staff: Four staff members were present along with approximately three community members. (Pat Minturn, Shasta Co. Public Works, Supervisor Les Baugh, and a representative from the Cottonwood Community Center.)

1.0 Call Regular Meeting to Order – Mr. Kohler called the regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Kohler led the flag salute.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mr. Vazquez, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

4.0 Recognition (Students, Staff, Curriculum Review) – None at this time.

5.0 Public Forum/Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board – None at this time.

6.0 Consent Agenda

6.1 Review of Consent Agenda

6.1.1 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for:

Regular Board Meeting held on June 17, 2014, and
Special Board Meeting held on June 24, 2014;

6.1.2 Approval of Commercial Warrants

6.1.3 Approval of the following contracts for the 2014/2015 school year:

School Services of California – Annual Fiscal Budget Services

6.1.4 Accept Letter of Resignation from **Rebecca Reid** - Counselor

6.1.5 Approval to hire: **Allysa Jordan, Reagan Miller, Amy Foley** – Instructional Aides; **Sharin Steele** – Cafeteria Assistant, and **Chris Hagberg** – Bus Driver.

6.1.6 Approval to transfer **Jackie Shelp** from Inst. Aide to North Cottonwood Librarian

6.1.7 Consider approval of the following Personnel Request Forms:

Increase North Librarian from 3.75 hrs/day to 5.75 hrs/day

Increase Café Asst. from 3.0 hrs/day to 3.5 hrs/day

6.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

ACTION: Mr. Vazquez moved, seconded by Mr. Lucero, to approve the consent agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

7.0 Discussion/Action Items:

7.1 Presentation by Pat Minturn, Director, Shasta County Public Works, concerning Gas Point Road Project.

Mr. Minturn addressed the board about a recent analysis of Gas Point Road between the stop light and the driveway into the West Cottonwood school cafeteria. He mentioned that 7,000 cars travel this road daily and a majority of travelers are speeding. A traffic impact study was done in 2006. The proposal for the board's consideration tonight was whether the district would be willing to grant a right of way through our end of the property by the road.

The county would then widen the road, provide a driveway for the community center, better parking, and possibly a new stop light. This would help to eliminate the bottleneck of traffic trying to turn into the shopping center and/or turning onto Rhonda Road. He indicated the project may cost approximately \$1M so they want to make sure the board is in favor before they proceed and spend any money. They hope to complete this project within the next three years. County staff will design the project and no Federal or State funds will be used for the project.

The board was very much in favor of the project and indicated they would be willing to provide the right of way for this county project.

7.2 Discussion on delinquent cafeteria charges.

Dr. Alexander mentioned that the district needs to address the issue of unpaid lunch charges. He said that we consulted with some other local districts to see what they have in place to deal with this issue. There are two things that we currently are not doing but other districts are, which seem to keep the charges to a minimum. First, an alternate lunch is served to students whose account reaches a certain amount without being paid. A neighboring district instituted this and reduced their unpaid accounts from \$10,000 down to \$3,000. Second, other districts are making phone calls home to talk with parents about their child's accounts, not just sending letters home. Our district has not been doing this because we currently lack the personnel to provide this service. The board had a discussion and were torn because they want parents to be held accountable for their children's' lunch accounts. They didn't want to stigmatize the children however, because it is generally not their fault the lunch goes unpaid. The board recommended we try to make phone calls and do so sooner, rather than later. They felt parents should be able to take care of the charges while the amount is small, rather than wait until it seems too large to handle.

7.3 Consider approval of Resolution #2014-11, Designation of the Official Representative and Alternate Representative to the Shasta-Trinity Schools Insurance Group Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors.

ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mr. Vazquez, to approve Resolution #2014-11.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

7.4 Review and approve changes to the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2014/2015 year.

Dr. Alexander commented that the LCAP had been reviewed by SCOE and a few changes were recommended. Those changes have been made and marked so the board can see them easily.

ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mrs. Semingson, to approve the LCAP with the recommended changes.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

7.5 Discussion on Prop 39 funding and possible projects.

Dr. Alexander asked the board if they would be interested in specific projects that the district could do with the Prop 39 funding only, or would they be interested in a longer term, bigger project that may require some district funding to complete. For now, the board felt they wanted to do projects with the Prop 39 funds as the district is still paying for the North Cottonwood construction project and West Cottonwood Multi-purpose building. These projects are impacting the General Fund right now since developer fees have been very minimal the past few years. Mrs. Semingson mentioned that Red Bluff Elementary used a company called RHA for their projects and have been very satisfied with the results.

8.0 Informational Items:

8.1 CTA Report: Mrs. White said the teachers were happy to Dr. Alexander here. They appreciated the teamwork workshop today. She indicated there is still some anxiety over the new curriculum and hope to get the training needed so they can teach effectively.

8.2 Superintendent's Report: Dr. Alexander reported he has enjoyed getting to know our staff and community. He said the Common Core training is coming soon. He mentioned that a Facilities Plan with long and short term goals is being created. He tried to share a PowerPoint presentation with the board on Effective Schools Research; however, there were technical difficulties. So he shared his notes verbally with the board. He talked about Cottonwood's strengths: the PEOPLE and the challenges: lacks vision, direction, communication, facility issues, and a student support process established. He shared the four goals of the LCAP and reiterated we want the "best of the best!" He shared that the leadership team will be meeting soon. He also asked the board if they were enjoying his board line notes each week to keep them abreast of things happening in the district.

8.3 Principal's Report:

Mr. Ray shared the new curriculum has arrived for Math and English-Language Arts. He said the facilities look good for the start of school.

Mr. Geren thanked the maintenance crew for their hard work this summer. He was pleased with the parking lot sealing and striping. The new signage also adds a nice clean look to the site and hopefully will direct people where they need to go easily. The planter boxes by the office were recently replanted and add a new clean look to the school entrance. He is still working an electronic sign and has collected \$3,600 so far. He believes another \$1,500 will be coming and then CFES will pick up the balance. The teachers have been working hard getting ready for school to start. He also shared that 10 of his teachers attended a 3-day training last week entitled, Capturing Kids Hearts. Great training! We hope to have all of our teachers trained in the next few years.

9.0 Information/Communication Items: Four items were included for information only.

10.0 Governing Board Discussion Items: The board held a discussion on how electives were going to be added to the schedule and how that affected instructional minutes. Mr. Geren provided an overview of his elective program and how he envisions it will work. It is still in the preliminary planning stages he stated.

11.0 Future Meetings:

11.1 Regular Board meeting, **Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.** in the West Cottonwood School Library.

12.0 Closed Session: The board adjourned to closed session at 7:47 p.m. The board met in Closed Session to consider and/or take action on the following:

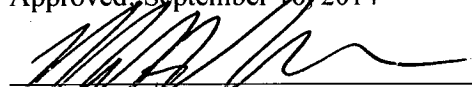
12.1 The board met in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.

Public Notice of Action Taken in Closed Session


The board returned to Open Session at 8:16 p.m. Mr. Kohler stated no action had been taken.

13.0 Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.


Approved: September 16, 2014



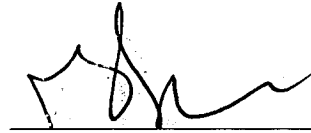
Matt Iles, President



Fred Lucero, Member



Tom Vazquez, Member



Gerald Kohler, Clerk



Judy Semington, Member