

**Bamberg School District One**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees**  
**Richard Carroll Elementary School**  
**December 16, 2019**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Board Chair Janeth Walker, Vice Chair Gwendolyn Dianne Bamberg, Trustee Julia “Kim” Berry, and Trustee John L. Hiers.

**Absent:** Secretary Tony E. Duncan

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Janeth Walker called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence.
2. **Notice to Media:** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting:

**The Times and Democrat**  
**The Advertiser-Herald**

3. **Approval of Agenda**  
**Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to approve the agenda as written.** The motion passed 4-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**  
**Trustee Kim Berry moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the November 25, 2019, minutes as presented.** The motion passed 4-0.
5. **Approval of 2020 School Board Calendar**  
Superintendent Schwarting noted that the January and February meetings listed on the calendar do not fall on the regular scheduled third Monday nights because they fall on holidays. Therefore, meetings for these two months were changed to Tuesday nights. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Following a review of the 2020 Monthly Board Meeting Calendar, **Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to accept the 2020 Monthly Board Meeting Calendar as presented.** The motion passed 4-0.

6. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Denise Miller, Dennis Ulmer**  
Handouts: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals):
  - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Dennis Ulmer
7. **Student/Staff Recognition Superintendent’s Report**  
Superintendent Schwarting noted the following:
  - Student Enrollment: 1,248 (Fluctuated slightly from the beginning of school.)

- The T&D Newspaper reported that the students of this District scored very well in all areas on the “Report Card”. [December 1, 2019 news article – Board Packet Enclosure]

8. **Salary: Board Members**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to table “Salary for Board Members” to the January 2020, Board Meeting due to the absence of Trustee Tony Duncan since this was a request from him.** The motion passed 4-0.

9. **Bond Refunding: Bob Damron, Compass Municipal Advisors, LLC**

Mr. Bob Damron noted that the District has an opportunity to refinance existing bonds with significant savings over the remaining 15 years and propose the closing of the refunding bonds on June 2, 2020. The net savings is expected to be \$1,022,778 in future debt service payments with a net present value of \$788,170. Both saving numbers are after all expenses are paid.

**Trustee Kim Berry made a motion and Trustee John Hiers seconded to adopt a Resolution authorizing the refinancing of the District’s existing bonds.** The motion passed 4-0.

10. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report for November 2019, for review.

As requested by the Board, invoices were provided for the Board regarding the cost for renewing subscriptions for the T&D Newspaper in the schools. The members will review the prices further and let Ms. Furr know whether to renew them or not.

Ms. Furr also noted that the District’s audit was submitted to the State Department on time and it is now posted on the District’s website.

**Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to accept the November 2019, Financial Report as presented.** The motion passed 4-0.

11. **Visitors’ Comments**

Ken Ahlin noted that he was wondering if there was any more information on consolidation issues and was there any particular reasons behind the Board wanting raises.

Board Chair Walker noted that raises for Board members is more about the work that they do for the District; however, more information will come from Trustee Tony Duncan at the next board meeting. As for consolidation, it will be discussed again with legal counsel during Executive Session.

12. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Janeth Walker called for a **motion to enter Executive Session**. Trustee John Hiers **moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to enter the Executive Session**. The motion carried (4-0).

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Personnel Employment
- b. Consolidation: Legal Advice
- c. Discussion: Superintendent Search

**Open session:** Trustee Kim Berry **moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting**. The motion passed 4-0.

13. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept under **Agenda Item #12 (a) Personnel Employment** the employment recommendations for employees #1 and #2. The motion passed 4-0.

Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to allow under **Agenda Item #12 (b) Consolidation: Legal Advice** the District's legal counsel, Superintendent Schwarting and Board Chair Walker to discuss the District's plans for consolidation with representatives from Bamberg School District Two. The motion passed 4-0.

Board Chair Janeth Walker noted that there was no action taken under **Agenda Item 12 (c) Discussion: Superintendent Search**. The motion passed 4-0.

14. **Adjourn**

Trustee Kim Berry **moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to adjourn the meeting**. The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Minutes approved:

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Janeth Walker, Board Chair

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Tony E. Duncan, Secretary