

December 14, 2017  
6:00 p.m.

The Fannin County Board of Education met in regular session with the following members present: Bobby Bearden, Chair; Lewis DeWeese, Vice Chair; and Steve Stanley. Terry Bramlett and Chad Galloway were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Bobby Bearden, Chair.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the consent agenda. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Approve minutes from December 12, 2017, 8:00 a.m.; November 17, 2017, 8:00 a.m.; and November 9, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

Approve FCCHS laptop carts as surplus property (see attached).

Declare FCCHS laptop carts as salvage property (see attached).

Declare FCSS technology property as salvage (see attached).

Public Comment:

Dr. Dillon Miller, Fannin County EMS Medical Director, spoke about West Fannin Elementary staff, and he commended their response with the recent use of an AED during a medical emergency.

Lucas Roof, Principal of West Fannin Elementary, spoke about his staff and their response with the use of the AED.

After public comment, April Hodges, Principal of Blue Ridge Elementary School, introduced Peyton Anderson, a first grader at Blue Ridge Elementary School, to the Board to recite the Presidents of the United States. Following Peyton's presentation, Ms. Hodges gave an update to the Board on school happenings.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the district financial report for October 31, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Dr. Gwatney stated the SPLOST check received in November for October was \$478,956.24 (see attached).

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the schedule of approved local option sales tax projects. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the FY18 budget amendment #3. All members voted yes; motion carried (see attached).

Benny Long, Assistant Superintendent, shared a transportation presentation with the Board for information purposes only.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve the purchase of two (2) 48-passenger school buses from Peach State Freightliner Thomas Bus Sales of Georgia. The purchase price for each bus is \$102,717.00. The total price for two (2) buses would be \$205,434.00. The buses will be paid for from SPLOST funds. Also, the purchase of two (2) 72-passenger school buses from Peach State Freightliner Thomas Bus Sales of Georgia. The price for each bus is \$87,777.00. The total for two (2) buses would be \$175,554.00. The buses would be paid for from SPLOST funds. The total price for four (4) school buses is \$380,988.00. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the purchase of a 2018 Ford F-250 service body truck from Allan Vigil ford in the amount of \$47,211.00. \$25,000.00 will come out of the Transportation Department budget and the remaining \$22,211.00 will be paid out of the Maintenance Department budget. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to approve the Fannin County High School stadium audio system renovation: A “turn-key” project from DB Integrations (DB Audio Video) in the amount of \$45,898.24. The purchase will be paid for through SPLOST funds. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to appoint Lynn Doss as School Board Attorney. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to go in to executive session to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(2)). All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to resume the regular meeting. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Bobby Bearden, Chair, announced no action was taken during executive session.

Bobby Bearden, Chair, announced while in executive session the Board reviewed Superintendent Michael Gwatney’s evaluation. Mr. Bearden stated that Dr. Gwatney received the highest possible marks in all of the performance standard categories and exceeded expectations on all standards.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Steve Stanley, to approve the executive session minutes for December 12, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to accept the resignation of Sheryl Campbell effective December 29, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Lewis DeWeese, seconded by Bobby Bearden, to accept the resignation of Betsy Hyde effective July 1, 2018. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to accept the resignation of Jeremy Jones effective December 3, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Steve Stanley, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to accept the resignation of Candi Michelle Ray effective December 19, 2017. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Lewis DeWeese, to approve Eddie Gilmore for the transportation department. All members voted yes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Michael Gwatney stated our community was certainly heard at the recent town hall meeting to discuss property tax issues. He thanked everyone who participated in any way to see that the best interests of our students were represented; our students count on us to advocate for them, and a resounding voice spoke on their behalf! Dr. Gwatney is thankful for our Fannin County community. He is proud of the staff at West Fannin Elementary School for how they handled the recent medical emergency. He commended his entire team for helping him make decisions, such as cancelling school, and he is thankful for them. With inclement weather cancellations, safety is always first. Dr. Gwatney commended Betsy Hyde on the wonderful job she does. He is so proud of her, and he stated that she will be missed when she retires in June 2018. He said it has been an honor to serve with her through the years, especially this year with her as the Associate Superintendent of Fannin County Schools. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2018!

Board Members' Comments:

Steve Stanley thanked Dr. Gwatney and said it has been an honor to work with him these past six months as Superintendent. He commended all the staff and said everyone exceeded their expectations. Mr. Stanley wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Lewis DeWeese wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hopes the good Lord takes a liking to them. He commended Peyton Anderson on reciting all of the Presidents of the United States.

Bobby Bearden thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Bobby Bearden, seconded by Steve Stanley, to adjourn subject to being called into special session by the Chair when deemed necessary. All members voted yes; motion carried.

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Bobby Bearden, Chairperson

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Michael Gwatney, Superintendent