

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

MINUTES for Tuesday, APRIL 22, 2014, 6:30 P.M.
Regular Board Meeting, West Cottonwood Library

Members Present: Mr. Iles, Mr. Kohler, Mr. Lucero, Mrs. Semingson, Mr. Vazquez
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Superintendent Lowden
Principals: Doug Geren, Don Ray
Laura Merrick, Business Manager
Staff: Three staff members were present along with approximately forty-two community members and students.

1.0 Call Regular Meeting to Order – Mr. Iles called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

3.0 Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Mr. Vazquez moved, seconded by Mrs. Semingson, to approve the agenda as presented.
VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

4.0 Recognition (Students, Staff, Curriculum Review) – Mr. Ray recognized the Star Performers; thirteen students were present to be honored. Mr. Geren recognized the students of the month; four students were present to be recognized by the board.

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 March 18, 2014;

6.1.2 Approval of Commercial Warrants

6.1.3 Approval of the following contracts for the 2014/15 Fiscal Year:

Cascade Union Elementary School District – Nurse Services
School Innovation & Achievement – Mandated Cost Compliance

6.1.4 Consider approval to hire **Chiem Tern** – Custodian and **Brittney Timmons** – Bus Driver.

6.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

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

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

7.0 Discussion/Action Items:

7.1 Public Hearing - Consider adoption of Level I Developer Fee Justification Study for District .

Mr. Iles opened the **public hearing** for adoption of the Level I Developer Fee Justification Study. Mr. Lowden explained that this occurs every two years for school districts. There was a general discussion of the process of how fees are set. There were no public comments on this item. The public hearing was closed.

7.2 Consider approval of Resolution #2014-2, Increasing School Facilities Fees as Authorized by Government Code Section 65995(b)3.

ACTION: Mr. Lucero moved, seconded by Mr. Vazquez, to approve Resolution #2014-2, Increasing School Facilities fees as authorized by Government Code Section 65995(b)3.

VOTE: Ayes 4, Noes 0, Abstain 1 (Kohler). Motion passed.

7.3 Consider Request for Rental Space from new Charter School Sponsored by Whitmore School District.

Mr. Lowden shared the history of Long Valley Charter School and the relationship to the new charter school sponsored by the Whitmore School District. He told the board we found out about the charter school through a small local newspaper and that they intended to rent classrooms at East Cottonwood School. We did not have any direct contact from the Whitmore superintendent about the charter school. Mr. Lowden felt this was not a good way to begin a relationship between schools and felt our schools may suffer from another competitor in the district. The new school is K-8. Their petition goes to the state for approval in May. Long Valley Charter School will not be renting from us after this year and has given us notice. Bathrooms are an issue at East Cottonwood; they are in need of cleanup and repairs. Cottonwood Creek Charter School has expressed an interest in renting additional classrooms next year as they continue to grow. A discussion occurred about the possibility of renting to the new charter school. The board did not feel that our facilities were a good match for their needs. They advised the superintendent to explain these issues with them should we receive an official request to use our facilities.

7.4 Demonstration of Smarter Balanced Field Test.

Mr. Lowden logged into the Smarter Balanced website and pulled up a practice test for the board to preview. A fifth grade math test was chosen as the example. A discussion was held of how to handle absent students and makeup tests.

8.0 Informational Items:

8.1 CTA Report: Mrs. White invited the board to attend the Open House events on May 15th and May 22nd.

8.2 Superintendent's Report: Mr. Lowden reported 1) Superintendent search update (1st interviews were held). He inquired about a date to hold the 2nd interview with the full board. It was agreed to hold those interviews on Tuesday, April 29th in the evening. 2) Curriculum Math evaluation yesterday, 3) New buses are due to arrive on Friday, 4) 7th & 8th grade testing was done before the break. 5th & 6th grade will begin tomorrow.

8.3 Principal's Report:

Mr. Ray reported on 1) kindergarten performances, 2) public schools week, 3) Million word club members, 4) 3rd grade testing will begin tomorrow, 5) Star Performers saw the Wizard of Oz play (Mrs. Bailey had a role in the play as well), 6) Rodeo day on May 9th.

Mr. Geren reported on 1) sports update, 2) testing, 3) Mrs. Boilon's class play, 4) end of year trips and graduation.

9.0 Information/Communication Items: Quarterly Williams Complaint report was provided in the packet.

10.0 Governing Board Discussion Items: Mr. Lowden reminded the board of the 75th anniversary of East Cottonwood School opening which will be held on Friday. A discussion was held by board members about kindergarten enrollment numbers and why they seem to be low this coming year. A question was raised about a getting a preschool at North Cottonwood or in the district.

11.0 Future Meetings:

11.1 Regular Board meeting, **Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 6:30 p.m.** in the West Cottonwood School Library, 20512 W. First Street, Cottonwood, CA 96022.

12.0 Closed Session: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, the board adjourned to Closed Session at 7:52 p.m. to consider and/or take action on the following item:

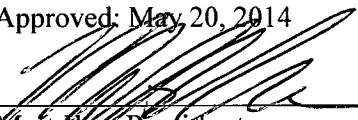
12.1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Superintendent

Public Notice of Action Taken in Closed Session


The board reconvened in Open Session and announced that no action had been taken during closed session.

13.0 Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Approved: May 20, 2014

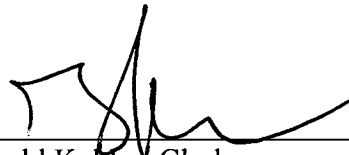


Matt Iles, President

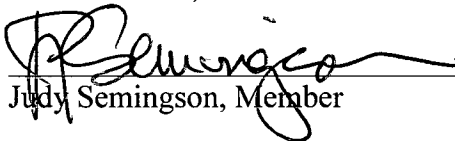


Fred Lucero, Member

Tom Vazquez, Member



Gerald Kohler, Clerk



Judy Semingson, Member