

**Anderson County Board of Education**  
**907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621**  
**May 16, 2016**

**Call to Order**

Chairman David Draisen called the meeting to order. The Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell gave the invocation after which everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

**Board Members Present:**

The following board members were present for the May, 2016 meeting: Mr. David Draisen, Ms. Brenda Bradberry, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Mike Brock, Mr. Nakia Davis, Mr. Dale Martin, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Mr. Mike Upton, and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio.

Ms. Dana Grant was unable to attend.

**Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Brenda Bradberry made a motion to delete Item VII from the agenda before an approval. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion and with a unanimous vote, the agenda was approved. Therefore, Consideration of the Anderson County Board of Education Budget for 2016-2017 was removed.

**Approval of Minutes – April 18, 2016 Board Meeting**

Mr. Dale Martin made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Dr. Gary Burgess. With a unanimous vote, the April minutes were approved.

**Presentation by Anderson School District Four**

Mr. Larry Young, Director of Finance, introduced Christy Jablonski to the Board who will be taking over his position on July 1, 2016. Mr. Young then passed out preliminary information on the General Obligation Bond requests that will come before the County Board at their next meeting in June. He explained that the first item is the QZAB payment that will be the fifth payment in the process. District Four was awarded 3 million dollars from an interest free federal grant in 2010. The payment process comes back through an escrow account paid to Regent's Bank and they hold it until 2020 and then pay the entire 3 million dollars. The payment due in December, 2016 will be \$450,000. After this payment, the balance will be about 2 million and the final four payments are a little less than half a million dollars each.

Two years ago we did an Equipment Acquisition Loan for a major renovation project at Pendleton High School for 9.7 million dollars primarily to replace all of the HVAC system in the school and install a sprinkler system. Once we completed that work in the high school, we were

required by code to bring all the fire and safety measures up to current standards. This will be a major process this summer to change wiring, lighting, install all new fire alarms and sprinkler system. We must physically empty the building of all persons that are not contractors and all records since there will not be a fire alarm system in the school while this work is completed. Our target date to finish is about one week before school starts in August.

We paid one payment in 2015 and this will be the second payment to T.D. Bank of the 9.7 million dollars we borrowed. As previously done for the last four years, we've made a list of maintenance projects that are not in the general fund anymore such as painting, carpeting, repair project on LaFrance Elementary's roof probably in the fall, a new activity bus, and replace old band instruments. Last year, with your approval, we spread out \$60,000 worth of constructional supplies based on enrollment to our schools for long-term things like furniture or rugs that are used in the kindergarten classes. The staff was very appreciative for these things. Also the septic system we have to upgrade that is used for all water and sewage from the high school is now a lift station where everything is lifted and pumped all the way up Hwy 76 to the Pendleton city sewage treatment plant that has been abandoned since it is about 37 years old. We are using a temporary pump system right now that runs off a generator. These funds will build a brand new lift station that will take care of the capacity from the high school as it exists as well as any growth over the next twenty years. The school district is paying for the new system, however, the city will take it over once it is completed to operate and maintain it. This will relieve the school district from the sewage business.

This presentation was informational only. The bond issue that is done will add all three with a request "not to exceed" \$1,850,000.00 which will come before the board next month at the June meeting.

### **Anderson County Alternative School Report**

Mr. Nimmer told the Board a report from the Alternative School is in their packet and Mr. Dillingham is here personally to answer any questions they may have. Mr. Dillingham informed everyone that they are at maximum capacity with 130 students. He also said he is expecting two students to graduate on May 27<sup>th</sup> this year and that everyone is invited to attend. Mr. Nimmer and Mr. Draisen both mentioned, if you have not been, the graduation ceremony is a worthwhile event and a great experience.

### **Administrator's Report**

Mr. Nimmer reported that the proposed budget meeting schedule included in the packets for the five districts was done prior to receiving word from the delegation their meeting will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. Therefore, the three scheduled workshops for that day will have to be reworked a bit. Mr. Nimmer felt sure that a couple budget workshops could still take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> as long as they are well ahead of the delegation meeting. Keeping the original schedule with District Two meeting at 2:00 pm and District Three at 4:00 pm should allow plenty of time to arrive at and attend the Delegation Meeting at 6:00 pm that night.

District Four will have to reschedule their budget workshop meeting since from the original 6:00 pm time on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. This was the only time they were available that day. After some discussion, the majority of the Board members agreed to move District Four's workshop to June 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

To summarize the Budget Workshop meetings:

- June 14, 2016 District One at 5:00 pm and District Five at 7:00 pm
- June 16, 2016 District Four at 5:00 pm
- June 23, 2016 District Two at 2:00 pm and District Three at 4:00 pm

Mr. Nimmer will confirm these dates and times with the districts and let the Board members know of any changes.

The actual budgets from each district are due to me by Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Nimmer stated, and I will have them to the board members by Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The plan is to work over the weekend getting the budget books together since I, along with Dr. Burgess and two of our mental health counselors, will be attending a conference on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. We will actually be presenting a break-out session on our mental health counseling program at the National Summit of Schools, Communities, and Law Enforcement in Columbia. I will be back in the office on the 8<sup>th</sup> and, hopefully, will have these copied and bound in order to deliver them to each board member by Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Financial**

**Tax Collection:** Mr. Nimmer reported that the year-to-date tax collections for all five districts are at or above 100 percent of their budgeted revenue. Again, a reminder that the Alternative School with reimbursement for EFA and EAA money and the County Board with mental health reimbursements will lag behind as these monies are received at the back end of the year. Some of the EFA money for the Alternative School was collected in April this year which was helpful.

**Assessment Totals:** For the month, the tax assessment was fairly flat with very little change. The value of a mil grew by about \$100. We are maintaining the assessed value and should see some continued growth in automobile sales as the summer moves forward.

## **New Business**

A motion was made by Ms. Bradberry to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Rev. Dr. Mitchell and was followed by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Bradberry also asked that all the board members be made aware of the suggestion made by Anderson School District Five since they were not included in a budget meeting held prior to the regular board meeting. Mr. Nimmer explained that in the coming year, District Five has requested that we amend the agreement in terms of providing Mental Health Counselors to their

schools. We currently receive \$20,000 per counselor from the district and the County Board pays the balance in terms of salary, benefits, and travel which averages between \$60,000 and \$65,000 per position. If we were to adopt this request, the current cost sharing would be flipped. The positive in discussing this is that it would free up some additional resources to handle a request from School District Two for an additional counselor. There were some questions that came up in the Budget Committee Meeting earlier today that I will be getting answered for the budget committee at a follow up meeting. This issue may be part of the next meeting to discuss budgets depending on how the discussions go. Mr. Upton asked why District Five would be willing to assume more for these positions. Mr. Nimmer answered that they have the resources and they would become the employer for these individuals. However, it would remain a collaborative effort between the two entities. Mr. Brock asked if the issue would be ready by the next meeting. Mr. Nimmer said that he hoped to have the answers before then. If not, it will not be part of the budget discussions for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Draisen.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Gary Burgess, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education  
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.