

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
May 18, 2020

Call to Order: Chairman David Draisen called the meeting to order and Dr. Gary Burgess 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 April - May 2020 meeting: Mr. Mike Brock, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. David Draisen, Mr. Jim Haning, Mr. John Martin, and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio. Mr. Nakia Davis and Mr. Mike Upton participated virtually through Zoom.

Board Members Absent: Ms. Brenda Bradberry and Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell were unable to attend.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Jim Haning made a motion to approve the agenda and to conduct the meeting virtually. Mr. Mike Upton seconded the motion and with a unanimous vote, the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to approve the March 16, 2020 minutes and Mr. Jim Haning seconded the motion. With a unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period: Chairman David Draisen stated that no one from the public signed up to address the Board by the Friday afternoon deadline.

Consideration of Bond Request from Anderson School District Three: Mr. Nimmer reminded the Board that this bond request referenced back in January and we were all set to vote on it in March, however, the District changed some of the provision due to the change in the market. They resubmitted their paperwork and it was approved by their school board in April and were fine with us approving it tonight.

Mr. Matthew Moore, Director of Financial Services for the district was participating through Zoom, added that this is a 1½ million dollar bond to be paid over four years. Mr. Moore stated that between 1.3 and 1.5 million will go toward technology equipment that has already been built into our capital funding plan. He added that the district structured it so there will no millage increase needed for this borrowing since this is basically a refresh of a prior debt obligation that was paid off in December.

Mr. Mike Upton made a motion to approve the request and Mr. Mike Brock seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Alternative School Report: Mr. Nimmer advised the Board members that there has been no change since our last meeting on March 16th which was the first day of the State's mandated school closure. The Alternative School has remained closed as all schools have in South Carolina.

Mr. Mike Upton asked if the students at the Alternative School had access to e-learning. Mr. Nimmer answered yes, most of them do; however, there may be a few that work from packets due to technology issues or losing privileges. Once the semester ends, we will have a better indication of how many students participated as they were expected to.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Nimmer referenced a draft resolution included in the Board member's packets that deals with continuing with our current budget going in to the 2020-2021 budget year. Mr. Nimmer said he has been talking to Senator Mike Gambrell about how the state will deal with the budgets, since our delegation approves our budget and our budget is depended upon what the state budget is. The recommendation from Senator Gambrell, the Chairman of the Legislative Delegation, is for us to pass the continuing resolution like we did about three years ago when the state budget wasn't passed until late in July. This year we don't expect the state budget to be passed until mid-September at the earliest so this will allow us to continue to operate with everything frozen as is. Once the state budget is passed, we can submit a budget to the delegation. Once that is passed, they will instruct us as to when that new budget will be effective. At this point, there are still more questions than we have answers, but this will allow us to keep rolling into the next fiscal year. Mr. Nimmer would have added this to the agenda had he known about it sooner, however, requested the Board Members take action on this continuing resolution.

Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to amend Item VIII on the agenda to include a vote on the budget resolution. It was seconded by Mr. Jim Haning.

Nakia Davis made motion to approve the continuing resolution to the budget. Mr. Mike Upton seconded it. Both motions were approved unanimously.

Next, Mr. Nimmer was pleased to inform everyone that Anderson School District One donated four smart boards to us. This was part of their building program and we will put two boards in the conference room, one in the Seabrook Board Room, and one is yet to be determined. This is a big step up for us from a technology standpoint and Foothills Foundation is working with us to install them. Mr. Nimmer has already acknowledged the gift but thought a formal thank you for the donation would be best.

Mr. Haning asked if the smart boards were wall bound since he had a stand that would allow the fourth smart board to be mobile. Mr. Nimmer answered yes and thanked Mr. Haning for his generous donation.

Financial

A. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget: Mr. Nimmer reported the tax collections vs. budget year to date continue to be strong and ahead of last year's numbers with a cushion of one and a half to two percent. All the school districts, County Board, and Alternative School should be at approximately 100% when the books close in June.

B. Assessment Totals: Mr. Nimmer stated that we gained approximately \$900 in the value of a mil county wide since our meeting in March which is strong. He anticipated a bit of a dip with the current conditions, but people continue to purchase vehicles with some of the incentives that are out there. The value of a mil county wide is currently at \$795,396.00.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Mr. Nimmer referenced the sales tax report in the packets. He said that this report may drop beginning with the May report and beyond with the current economy effected during March, there is a two-month lag on the collections for this. So, these are still February collections before everything was shuttered. Through April 30th we have collected \$118,084,377.66 countywide. As a reminder, 20% is set aside to be posted to the sinking funds account for each district to offset debt service millage. For the month of April, that was \$395,945.00.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Mr. Mike Brock made a motion to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gary Burgess and was followed by a unanimous vote.

Executive Session: Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Mr. Jim Haning seconded the motion which was followed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mike Upton made a motion to come out of Executive Session which was seconded by Dr. Gary Burgess. It was approved unanimously. Chairman David Draisen addressed the Board Members and Zoom attendees to let them know the Executive Session had ended and that there were no decisions made or votes taken during this time.

A motion to post the vacancy on the School Board of Anderson County School District Two was made by Mr. Jim Haning. He affirmed that all qualified candidates for the replacement on the School Board of Anderson School District Two contact the Anderson County Board of Education by email or submit a letter through the postal service from May 19 to June 1, 2020 for consideration. Dr. Gary Burgess seconded the motion. Mr. Mike Upton amended the motion to state that candidates should address their inquiries to the Administrator of the County Board rather than the full board. With a unanimous vote, it was approved.

Mr. Nimmer added there will be a Notice of Vacancy posted tomorrow that will provide additional information regarding qualifications and contacting the County Board for consideration.

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.