

Minutes
Monday, August 7, 2023
Special Board Meeting at 5:00 P.M.
Location of Meeting: GISD Administrative Board Room, 1615 St Lawrence St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Board Members Present: Ross Hendershot, III, President
Justin Schwausch, Vice President
Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
D'Anna Robinson
Ashley Molina-Joined the meeting online
Gloria Torres
Sandra Gorden

Board Member Absent:

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Monday, April 10, 2023, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Ross Hendershot, III called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 7 members present.

Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement

Josie Smith-Wright gave the Invocation. D'Anna Robinson led the Pledge to the Flag, and Ashley Molina read the Mission Statement.

Item #2: Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Item #3.: New Business/Action Items:

A. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Consent Agenda**

1. Budget Amendments-

Amanda Smith seeked approval of one amendment to the General Fund budget in the amount of \$100,000 for equipment for new officers (computers, radios, uniforms, weapons, vests, etc.)

Ms. Gorden made a motion, with a second from Justin Schwausch, to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0.

B. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve the Purchase of three upfitted vehicles for the GISD Police Department and Associated Budget Amendment**

Chief Brooks recommended to the board the need to purchase three new upfitted police vehicles for the GISD Police Department. Quotes were included in board book.

Ms. Smith-Wright questioned the amendment before for \$100,000 and was clarifying if this would be an additional movement of funds.

Mr. Hendershot asked if we had seeked quotes from our local dealerships and to include a Matrix next time.

Ms. Smith-Wright asked what an upfitted vehicle would cost. Chief Brooks stated that it was really hard to get police vehicles these days, especially Tahoes.

Chief Brooks' recommendation is to get two Chargers and one Silverado Pickup.

Justin Schwausch made a motion, with a second from Sandra Gorden, to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$193,807 from Function 11 to Function 52 for the purchase of three new upfitted police vehicles.

The motion carried 7/0.

C. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve an Order Authorizing the Defeasance and Redemption of a Portion of the District's Outstanding Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2015A, Approving an Escrow Agreement and Providing for Other Matters and Procedures Related Thereto**

Amanda Smith recommended to the board authorizing the approval of an updated defeasance order for tax rate management and stability and interest cost savings. This item is related to the June 20th agenda item. This would not go into effect until November-March time frame, due to the bonds not being able to be paid off early. Once that time arises a report item will be brought back to the board president and secretary for signatures. The purpose of a defeasance order is to save on interest cost. At the June board meeting the board agreed to pay an addition \$705,000 the 2023-2024 fiscal year and that would save the tax payers \$44,000 interest over the life of the loan. Due to our certified property values that we received in July were roughly 16% higher than the April estimated property values, we are now able to pay off one million dollars next fiscal year and save our tax payers almost \$600,040 in interest savings.

There were no questions or comments.

Sandra Gorden made a motion, with a second from Josie Smith-Wright, to the order authorizing the defeasance and redemption of a portion of the district's outstanding bonds and approve an escrow agreement and other related matters, as presented.

The motion carried 7/0

Item #7 Adjourn to Closed Session:

Under Texas Government Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Code Section 551.072 (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), 551.73 Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift, Texas Government Code Section 551.074, (Personnel, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee), Texas Government Code Section 551.076 (Deliberation regarding implementation of Security, personnel or devices) and Section 551.082: School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matter or Complaint, Section 551.083: Certain School Boards; Meeting Regarding Consultation with Representative of Employee Group, Section 551.084: Investigation; Exclusion of witnesses from a hearing.

The board went into a closed session at 5:33 P.M.

Item #8 Reconvene to Open Meeting:

The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in the Closed Session. The board returned to an open session at 6:33 P.M.

Item #9 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Hendershot adjourned the meeting at 6:50 P.M.


Ross Hendershot, III, President
Board of Trustees


Josie Smith-Wright, Secretary
Board of Trustees