

Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2019

A public hearing on the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR), and a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Refugio Independent School District was held on Thursday, January 24, 2019, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Administration Office, 212 West Vance Street, Refugio, Texas, with the following members present: President Jorge Jaso, Vice President, Ethel Garza, Secretary Andy Rocha, Lorraine Garcia, T. Wayne Price, Eugene Lewis, and Kelley Walker.

Also present: Melissa Gonzales, Superintendent.

Staff present: Brandon Duncan, Brenda Schumann, SRO Peter Silvas, Twyla Thomas, Darius Robertson, and Lisa Herring.

Others present: Chris Brzozowski, Jay Boynton, Brooklyn Moya, Ruby Rodriguez, Jennifer Flores, Gabree Guerra, Bradi Fox-Smith, Ciara Tilley, Ashanti Deleon, Melissa Deleon, Olivia DeLeon, Angelica Galvan, Valarie Lopez, Anabelle Taylor, Lillyann Lopez, Kylie Moya, Staci Moya, Aalec O'Donnell, and Christa Lara.

President Jorge Jaso established a quorum of members present, welcomed guests, and called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Mr. Jorge Jaso led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

An audience with visitors was held.

In honor of School Board Recognition Month, the following presentations were made to the School Board:

- Angie Galvan along with the Ladies of Distinction (LOD) presented the Board with hand crafted cards in appreciation of their dedication to the students and staff of Refugio ISD. Brooklyn Moya, Ruby Rodriguez, and Kylie Moya read poems to the school board.
- Darius Robertson sponsor of the junior high Student Council along with Ashanti Deleon and Melissa Deleon presented the board with a tray of assorted fruit in honor of the school board.
- High school Student Council representatives Aalec O'Donnell and Christa Lara presented the board with an edible cookie bouquet as a token of their gratitude and appreciation for the countless hours the school board has dedicated to the staff and students of Refugio ISD.
- Mrs. Gonzales thanked the Board for their hard work and dedication and presented each board member with a plant.

On behalf of the Board, President Jorge Jaso expressed his appreciation to all the staff for their gifts.

Motion by Mrs. Ethel Garza, second by Mr. Eugene Lewis to approve the Superintendent's recommendation of the Change Orders for the 2015 Bond Construction Projects. All voted for 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lorraine Garcia, second by Mr. T. Wayne Price to approve the Superintendent's recommendation of Pay Application #29 for the amount of \$9,413.52. All voted for 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lorraine Garcia, second by Mrs. Ethel Garza to approve the Superintendent's recommendation of Pay Application #30 for the amount of \$830,754.12. All voted for 7-0.

Chris Brzozowski updated the board on the repairs to the high school interior. Mr. Boynton with BWA reported to the board on the repairs and upgrades on the two high school gyms, and Mr. Boynton has drawings/plans on the two gyms to return the gyms back to the original and/or current code standards. Mrs. Gonzales and Mr. Boynton will meet and review the drawings.

During the Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR) hearing, Mrs. Herring reviewed the TAPR Report. Refugio ISD's rating for the 2017-2018 TAPR is A-Superior, Met Standard, and Accredited. The staff is diligently working to improve student performance.

During the Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Gonzales discussed the following:

- Enrollment update
- Principals' reports:
 - Refugio Elementary
 - Refugio Junior High
 - Refugio High School
 - Truancy Report
- Financial information
- Summer Nutrition Program
 - Summer nutrition program will be offered for the month of July and plans are to serve breakfast and lunch.
- Date of February Board meetings – Monday, February 25, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
- Winter Governance Seminar – Galveston Texas – Thursday, March 1-3, 2018 – Online registration begins Wednesday, January 24, 2018 – Friday, February 6, 2018.
- Team of Eight Training – Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- Election for Region 3 ESC Board of Directors
- Office of Civil Rights
- Notice of General Election
- RISD Calendar of Events – February, 2019.
- Salary Study – Custodial Staff
- Cheerleader Constitution
- Spring Sports Schedules
- Update on Bond 2015 projects
- General comments on the state of the District

The following consent agenda items were approved by common consent:

- A. Approve minutes from the December 17, 2018 regular meeting
- B. Approve and adopt the resolution indicating the district's current investment policy and strategies were reviewed, approved, and continue in effect as required by Section 2256.005, Texas Government Code.
- C. Approve the mandatory exemptions for Refugio I.S.D. as presented by the Refugio County Appraisal District for the 2018 tax year:
 - Homestead – Mandatory (\$25,000)
 - 65+ & Disabled – Mandatory (\$10,000)
 - Disabled Vet. – Mandatory by percentage (\$5,000 to \$12,000)
- D. Accept donations and amend the 2018-2019 budget.
 - Laura Bush Foundation - \$10,000

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ITEM #8

Motion by Mrs. Lorraine Garcia, second by Mrs. Ethel Garza to call a general trustee election under the Single-Member District Voting Plan for May 4, 2019, for the purpose of electing trustees for Single-Member Districts #1, #3, and #5 (three-year terms). All voted for. 7-0

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ITEM #12

The Board entered closed session beginning at 6:55 p.m. pursuant to the following sections of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Govt. Code Sections 551.074 and 551.075 to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints against an officer or employee; to confer with employees of the school district to receive information or to ask questions; superintendent's evaluation, contract extension and compensation.

The Board returned to open session at 7: 28 p.m. having taken no action.

Motion by Mrs. Lorraine Garcia, second by Mr. Eugene Lewis to approve a one-year extension of the superintendent's contract of Melissa Gonzales through June 30, 2022, at an annual salary of \$107,000.00 plus \$500.00 per month as an automobile/gasoline allowance, and other benefits as included in the contract. All voting for 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33p.m.

Jorge Jaso, Board President

Andy Rocha, Board Secretary

