

The Fordyce School Board met in regular session on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the conference room at the central office. The meeting was called to order by Jessica Young at 5:05 p.m.

Word of prayer was given by Nick Cranford.

Those answering roll call were Susan Ridings, Silas Warner, Nick Cranford, Deborah Mathews, Jessica Young, and Dr. Hubbell.

### **Minutes**

Deborah Mathews made a motion to accept the minutes as read for the April 13, 2022 meeting and Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Financial Statements**

The April financial statements were presented by Dr. Judy Hubbell for approval. Deborah Mathews made a motion to approve the financial statements. Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Rhonda Lawson stated there were no updates regarding federal funds.

### **Old Business**

Jessica Young asked Dr. Hubbell what her thoughts were about accepting Scenic Hill Power's proposal to provide us with solar power. She expressed a concern that we would be signing a 30-year contract at a fixed rate when there is every possibility the cost of energy would go down in that time period. Nick Cranford stated that he had emailed the owner with a question and had received no response. Jessica Young asked if other school districts were participating and Susan Ridings read the list of schools participating from the presentation given to board members at the previous meeting. Deborah Mathews suggested Dr. Hubbell reach out to these districts for information. Board members agreed to revisit the proposal in June after Dr. Hubbell researches the districts who have signed contracts with Scenic Hill.

### **New Business**

Superintendent recommendation to approve School Choice Applications out of the district. Nick Cranford made a motion to approve school choice applications out of the district and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to approve School Choice Applications for students coming to Fordyce. Deborah Mathews made a motion to approve school choice applications out of the district and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to accept the Statement of Intent for DESE Special Education Assurances and Agreements for School-Age services for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Nick Cranford

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made a motion to accept Statement of Intent for DESE Special Education Assurances and Agreements for School-Age services for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for LEA Special Education Supervisor Consortium through the Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative (SEARK Co-op). Nick Cranford made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for LEA Special Education Supervisor Consortium through the Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative (SEARK Co-op) and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to accept the MOU for Facility Management Consortium through SEARK Co-op. Deborah Mathews made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding the MOU for Facility Management Consortium through SEARK Co-op. and Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to accept the MOU between SEARK Co-op and the Fordyce School District for Early Childhood Education. Nick Cranford made a motion to accept the MOU between SEARK Co-op and the Fordyce School District for Early Childhood Education and Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to operate under Provision Two for Child Nutrition. Tammie Works explained that in order to qualify for the CEP program identified student percentage (ISP) had to be at 40% and our ISP is currently at 36%. She recommended we apply for Provision II so that all of our students will continue to eat for free. This will involve parents completing application forms which we have not done for 6 years. This will increase the amount of federal paperwork the Child Nutrition Director will have to complete. Deborah Mathews made a motion to approve the recommendation that Fordyce School District operate under Provision Two for the 2022-2023 school year and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to have East Harding Construction waterproof the high school. This will take place after July 1, 2022 and will be paid out of building fund. The cost of the project is \$139,230. Deborah Mathews made a motion to accept the recommendation and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent recommendation to move the June board meeting to Monday, June 20, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. Deborah Mathews made a motion to move the June board meeting to Monday, June 20, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Superintendent's Report**

Clean Bus Grant (information in board packet)

Dr. Hubbell suggested each board member read through the information and it would be on the agenda to discuss at the June board meeting.

Progress on the HVAC in the Arena

Dr. Hubbell explained the delay on the replacement of the HVAC in the arena was due to supply chain issues but that she had been assured it would be completed this summer.

Intercom System

Dr. Hubbell referred to Mr. Askew on the completion of the High school intercom system and he stated it should be working in approximately two weeks.

Softball Dug-out

The owner of the company we had contracted with for the softball dug-out has had a stroke so we will be in the process of finding another person to do the work.

ACT Aspire Testing

ACT Aspire testing is almost complete. Make-up sessions are going on at this time.

Title IX Investigation

Dr. Hubbell provided the board members with a letter written to Mr. Tidwell providing him with the results of his investigation. Board members were given time to review the letter and return it to the superintendent for shredding. Susan Ridings requested that the parents of the students who were interviewed and named in the letter be given a copy of it as well. Dr. Hubbell agreed to handle that.

Board Vacancy

Dr. Hubbell stated that she had met with Ashley Howard, who is a parent of a student in the elementary school and that she was interested in serving on the board. She recommended the board appoint Mrs. Howard to Jessica Young's position. Nick Cranford made a motion to accept this recommendation and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Special Presentation for retiring board members:

Dr. Hubbell presented years of service plaques to:

Silas Warner            30 years

Deborah Mathews    15 years

Jessica Young        12 years

Personnel:

- a. Classified: None
- b. Certified:

Dr. Hubbell recommended to hire Anthony Socia as high school principal and athletic director for the 22-23 school year. Susan Ridings asked Dr. Hubbell if adding athletic director to high school principal and going back to school for his certification would be too much. Dr. Hubbell stated she did not have time to do the AD job and felt he was the natural choice for the position. She asked the board that he begin making his principal salary on June 1 because he had to attend several required trainings in June. Nick Cranford made a motion to accept this recommendation and Silas Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell made the recommendation to accept the resignation of Kissa White, high school special education teacher. Mrs. White is relocating. Deborah Mathews made a motion to accept the resignation of Kissa White, high school special education teacher and Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**Adjournment**

Deborah Mathews made a motion to adjourn at 5:40pm. Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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Date

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President

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Secretary