

The Fordyce School Board met in regular session on Monday, June 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the board room in the Middle School Building. The meeting was called to order by Judy Hubbell at 5:30 p.m.

Word of prayer was given by Nick Cranford.

Those answering roll call were Susan Ridings, Katrina Doherty, Nick Cranford, Ashley Howard, Tonia Sledge, and Dr. Hubbell.

Three new board members were introduced: Tonia Sledge, Katrina Doherty, and Ashley Howard.

Election of Officers

Susan Ridings nominated Nick Cranford for President. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Ashley Howard nominated Susan Riding for Vice President of the board. Katrina Doherty seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Susan Ridings nominated Tonia Sledge for Treasurer. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Susan Ridings nominated Ashley Howard for Secretary. Katrina Doherty seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Terms

Dr. Hubbell had each board member draw for board terms. Tonia Sledge – 1 year; Susan Ridings – 2 years; Nick Cranford – 3 years; Ashley Howard – 4 years; Katrina Doherty – 5 years.

Minutes

Ashley Howard made a motion to accept the minutes as read for the May 9, 2022 meeting and Susan Ridings seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial Statements

Norman Hill was present to give the end of the year financial report. He reported that the district wasn't moving money to the building fund this year. Expenses were down for the 2020-2021 school year but activities were normal for the 2021-2022 school year so the expenses were up. He reported that we will be able to break even due to ESSER funds. The state paid teacher raises last year but won't be paying anything this next school year. If the state mandated raises are funded by ADM the state will pay for raises.

Mr. Hill told the board members he would have a financial workshop for the new board members if they wanted one.

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Mr. Hill told the board he would have the 2021-2022 final reports at the August board meeting. He will present the 2022-2023 budget at the September meeting.

Susan Ridings made a motion to accept the May financial statements. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Rhonda Lawson stated there were no updates regarding federal funds.

Old Business

A representative from Scenic Hill Energy was present to answer questions about the solar energy panels. The county has offered to use some their public land for the solar panels. The City of Fordyce and Dallas County have already agreed to the contract and are waiting for the school district to decide. In 6 ½ years the solar plant can be purchased. We have an option for buy out.

Susan Ridings explained to the new board members about the solar panels. The district will receive Energy bills as usual and will receive one bill from Scenic Hill Solar Energy.

Dr. Hubbell recommended the board enter into the contract with Scenic Hill. Susan Ridings made a motion to enter into the contract. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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 Susan Ridings seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell made a recommendation to approve two students to go to Sheridan on school choice. Ashley Howard made a motion to allow the students go to Sheridan. Tonia Sledge seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Sunni Mathews explained the annual health survey that was in the board members packets.

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to approve the MOU with Virtual Arkansas. Susan Ridings made a motion to approve the MOU with Virtual Arkansas. Tonia Sledge seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to approve the MOU with SEARK Educational Cooperative for bus driver testing services. Susan Ridings made a motion to approve the MOU with SEARK Educational Cooperative for bus driver testing services. Katrina Doherty seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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Dr. Hubbell asked the board to approve the retirement of the list of fixed assets in their folder. Susan Ridings made a motion to approve retiring the list of fixed assets. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell made a recommendation to move the assistant superintendent to the same index as the high school principal index. Susan made a motion to have the same index for the assistant superintendent as the high school principal. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell recommended the board give Rhonda Lawson, Assistant Superintendent, the same \$1200 stipend the superintendent receives for a cell phone. Susan Ridings made a motion to give Rhonda Lawson the \$1200 stipend. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell recommended the board approve the legislative audit for the 2020-2021 school year. Susan Ridings made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 legislative audit. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Executive Session

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to have an executive session. Susan Ridings made a motion at 6:23 p.m. to enter into executive session. Tonia Sledge seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Susan Ridings made a motion at 6:31 to end executive session. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Certified

Dr. Hubbell made a recommendation to reassign Chase McCollum to ALE principal grades 7-12, Director of In School Suspension (ISS) grades 7-12, Director of Credit Recovery grades 9-12, Director of the school store, Director of Teacher Recruitment and Retention, Grant Writer for the district, will be in charge of all bus discipline, and Apptegy System Administrator. His salary will remain the same as high school principal. Reassign Niki Shaddock from high school science to 4th grade teacher at FES. Reassign Rebecca Cash from high school social studies to Dean of Students, grades 7-12. She will remain head softball coach. Susan Ridings made a motion to accept the reassignments as recommended by Dr. Hubbell. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell recommended the board accept the resignations of Ronald "Captain" Smead, Amber Jones Ryan, Laura Orlando, Paris Bell, Connie Skinner, Nicole Coffel, Kaitlyn Maloney, and Shannan Sorrells who is retiring. Susan Ridings made a motion to accept the resignations of the employees. Katrina Doherty seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell made a recommendation to hire Kourtney Williams, 6th grade math; Steven Barnett, head girls' basketball coach, head girl's track coach, and health teacher at FHS; Leslee Smith, 7th and 8th grade reading and dyslexia; Casey Wilson, AP Science at FHS. Tonia Sledge made a motion to hire the 4 teachers recommended by Dr. Hubbell. Susan Ridings seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell recommended the board hire the following employees: Ruth Wylie, Paraprofessional at FES; Mildred Askew, Child Nutrition Director and ELL tutoring and translating; William "Griffin" Hubbell, Certified School Security officer (CSSO) for the district; Cassandra Warren, Paraprofessional at FES; Twala Danner, Paraprofessional at FES; Ashley Tanner, Paraprofessional at FES; Melissa King, 12 month

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custodian; Kimberly Foster, 12 month custodian; Darren Brazil assistant boys’ basketball (stipend only); and Jolantha Keys, Secretary at FES. Katrina Doherty made a motion to hire the classified employees that were listed. Tonia Sledge seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to approve the transfers of the following employees: Leslie Broughton from paraprofessional to secretary at FES; Stacey Gray from secretary at FES to administrative assistant to superintendent; Cheryle Highsmith from secretary at FES to receptionist in central office; Cassidy Kelly from paraprofessional at FHS to attendance clerk, assistant girls’ basketball coach (stipend); and assistant girls’ track (stipend) at FHS-nine month position; Dena Trammell from attendance clerk at FHS to office aide at Patterson Elementary. Katrina Doherty made a motion to accept the recommended transfers. Ashely Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to accept the resignation of Katrina Doherty as a paraprofessional at FES. Susan Ridings made a motion to accept the resignation of Katrina Doherty. Tonia Sledge seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Ms. Doherty couldn’t vote on her resignation.

Adjournment

Susan Ridings made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Ashley Howard seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Date

President

Secretary