

**AMENDED MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING GOVERNING BOARD  
GUSTINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MARCH 8, 2017**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The regular meeting of the Gustine Unified School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. The meeting was held in the Board Room, 1500 Meredith Avenue, Gustine, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. by Board President Crickett Brinkman. The Board went into Closed Session and reconvened to Open Session at approximately 6:39 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mrs. Crickett Brinkman, Board President, Mrs. Loretta Rose, Mrs. Pat Rocha, Mr. Kevin Cordeiro, and Mrs. Linetta Borrelli.

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Student Discipline - #2016-17-06, the Board voted unanimously uphold the decision of the Administrative Hearing Panel, 5-0.

Student Discipline - #2016-17-08, the Board voted unanimously to uphold the decision of the Administrative Panel to suspend the expulsion, 5-0.

Student Discipline - #2016-17-10, the Board voted unanimously to uphold the decision of the Administrative Panel to suspend the expulsion, 5-0.

Personnel – Public Employee Resignation, Discipline, Dismissal, Release, Employment –

In closed session, the Board took action to issue a notice of non-reelection to probationary classified employee #1069 pursuant to Education Code section 44929.21(b), effective March 9, 2017, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices. The roll call vote was as follows: 5-Ayes, 0-Nays, 0-Abstentions.

**REVISION/ADOPTION/ORDERING OF AGENDA**

Mr. Morones amended the agenda with the following change: In the February 8, 2017 Minutes, under ADJOURNMENT it should read seconded by Mrs. Rocha.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Rocha made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Student Report – Adriana Toste was absent.

B. School Site Presentation – GMS – Mr. Bunch and some sixth grade students presented some

highlights they are anticipating next week at Sixth Grade Camp. The students are so excited to have the ability to get out of the classroom to learn new things. They are really looking forward to their trip to Yosemite.

G. Board Reports – Mrs. Borrelli stated that seeing the GMS Student give their presentation reminds everyone that we are here for the kids.

Mrs. Rose attended the Annual Report on School in Los Banos. She sold newspapers for Kids Day in Santa Nella collecting \$201.33. She attended the Merced County School Board Association Meeting and let everyone know that the grants are out. She mentioned that GMS would be awarded a grant for music.

Mrs. Brinkman went to UC Davis Competition with FFA. Gustine won 1<sup>st</sup> place. The judges talked very highly about Gustine Students. Mr. Baffunno has pushed very hard to get the Food Science Competition at UC Davis and this year was the first time ever in the state of California. Gustine took 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

H. Superintendent Report – Mr. Morones attended the Learning & Brain Conference in San Francisco along with Mr. Petrone and some high school teachers. He also attended the Annual Report on School and this year its focus was special education. MCOE highlighted some of the special education programs in the County and Gustine was well represented. He congratulated Ms. Hanna for doing a great job with that. Last week they had their first District City Quarterly meeting with himself, a couple of Board Members, the Mayor and the new Interim City Manager. For Kids Day, which is a fundraiser for Children's Hospital in Madera, was a great day. All the schools participated including FFA and the Leadership Program at the high school. Last year they raised \$850 and this year the total was \$1,400. He congratulated the school sites and Kim Medeiros for coordinating it. Jon Isom, the financial advisor, will be providing an informational presentation at the end of this meeting regarding potential Bridge Loan for Measure P. He also invited members of the Citizen's Oversight Committee to observe this as well. Another update is RFQ has been posted on the District Website for a Project Manager for Measure P. It will be posted up until later this month. At that time, the District will start the process to hire a Project Manager for Measure P. The goal is to have a Project Manager in place before they convene the Ad HOC Advisory Committee. He thinks that it critical that they have the Project Manager in place first. For that committee there will be an application process. This committee will make recommendations to the Board for the next steps in Measure P. At the CBOC Meeting last week, he was asked by Mr. Brazil for the amount that was in the contingency fund. For Phase I of the Locker Room, the initial balance was \$137,462.00. The ending balance was \$141,021. The District received a little bit of a credit so we ended up with more money in the contingency fund than we began with.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Cordeiro made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Mrs. Rocha. Motion carried, 5-0.

## **INFORMATION**

None

## **COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Robert Borba, 5672 Whitworth Road, read a letter on behalf of Mr. Andrew Bloom to the Board where he voiced his concerns regarding Measure P and the Superintendent. The letter reads:

*Gustine Unified school district is at a cross roads. The five members of the board have the wheel. By turning one way you can begin to rebuild the trust of community members and staff at your schools. By continuing down the path you are on, the mistrust and abuse may take generations to forget.*

*Over the last 3 months, you as board members have been presented with some very serious problems I suspect your superintendent has lead you into. As I have stated many times over the past 2 months, the way these situations have been handled shows just how problematic things have become. The lack of communication between the superintendent and community members is appalling. I also suspect that the lack of communication between the superintendent and the board is following close behind.*

*I am taking this opportunity to address you in this public meeting and make sure these concerns I have are on official record.*

*How can you, as a board, continue to employ a superintendent who has failed to comply with a public records request made by myself and Marianne Martin over a month ago?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent that has tried to censor questions and concerns I have about bond usage from the rest of the Bond Oversight Committee?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent who has done everything in his power to not allow a technical advisory committee to be formed?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent who has openly admitted in writing that he failed to bid out a project at the high school because he was unaware of the laws?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent that has spent over \$21,000 of district funds to hire an "administrative coach" who has an employment history with your superintendent dating back at least 10 years?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent that I suspect has approved the hiring of one of his past students without board approval?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent who I suspect has verbally abused and made threats toward one of your board members?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent who is instructing a class at Stanislaus State while still partially on district time?*

*How can you continue to employ a superintendent who I suspect has knowingly violated the Brown Act on multiple occasions by conducting business with board members outside of public meetings?*

*While this list could continue, I believe you all get my point. You as board members are from Gustine and will continue to live in Gustine. You as board members will be left with this legacy, one that will never allow this community to pass another bond based on misuse of funds and the lack of trust that it will be spent correctly. You as board members, cannot allow great staff*

*members of the district to look for other jobs because of their work environment here; and if you believe that not to be true, you will be equally as responsible for them leaving. There will be a line drawn in the sand in the coming weeks as things unfold both civilly and legally. Let me remind you that there is a big difference between having someone under you commit illegal acts that you were made aware of and did not act on versus having no knowledge of the situation. You have all been made aware of these issues many times over, now the choice is yours; the consequences will be yours as well. As board members, you have a civic duty to act for the betterment of the district not for the betterment of yourselves. You must turn away from your pride and embrace your ethics and principals. Please do not make this district suffer for years to come because you think nothing is wrong and are being told nothing is wrong. Let me assure you, many things are wrong.*  
- Andrew Bloom

Mr. Jarrett Martin stated that there are big issues going on in the District. He thinks having a technical committee would avoid a lot of these problems. He stated that last week the Board discussed how to find utilities at the high school and tabled an item because the only way to do it was to dig it up. Then passes a proposal to approve someone that specifically said that they are not going to do that and submit change orders if needed. This committee could be an advisement on any construction. If you have it in place, you could avoid situations like that rather than spending \$15,000 and think you are good but in the end it costs more. If the advisory committee were in place, the Board would be informed. If you have members of the community that have the experience and are willing to donate their time then why not take advantage of it. He didn't think the District should hire a Project Manager first because this advisory committee should not just be for Measure P.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Warrants – Mr. Cordeiro had a question on the Spyglass warrant. If this company is going to save the District money, why does the District have to pay them \$22,000? Lizett explained that the services that Spyglass provided created savings in the District's AT&T bill. The amount credited from AT&T is about \$64,000 and the savings will be greater than what will be paid to Spyglass. The difference is about \$15,000. Mrs. Rose made a motion to approve the warrants as presented, seconded by Mrs. Rocha. Motion carried, 5-0.

B. Update Board Bylaws Policy 3515.7 (Firearms on School Grounds) – This item was tabled for a later date to give the Board some time to modify the language on Option #1.

C. PTA/Booster Clubs Insurance – The Board has agreed to reimburse half of the insurance premium for each PTA/Booster Club for the 2016-2017 school year. Each club must submit all paperwork including a financial statement and an invoice within the deadline to receive their reimbursement. Mrs. Rocha made a motion to approve PTA/Booster Clubs Insurance to reimburse these Booster Clubs right now half of the insurance premium cost with a review each year, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 4-1 (C.B.).

D. Approval of the E-Rate Proposals for WAN (wide area network) Connection – Mr. Alvarado from MCOE explained that the Districts existing telecommunication services or high speed

internet services that goes between each one of the school sites, back to the District and then from the District back to MCOE contract will be expiring the next fiscal year. Except for Romero Elementary's contract. This replacement service is for telecommunications within the school district. The contract would be for 5 years. Dark Fiber Service is where the carrier comes in and provides a connection that doesn't have a piece of equipment at the end of it. The District is responsible for putting the piece of equipment at the end of that. Right now, each one of the school sites has that piece of equipment so the District doesn't need to purchase additional equipment. It's just a matter of purchasing a module, which goes inside that equipment to make the Dark Fiber connection active. With Dark Fiber Services, there is a one-time cost initially with a small monthly reoccurring charge, which is about \$500.00 per month before any discounts. Right now, the GUSD is at 90% discounts. That means if this project is approved and eventually funded through E-Rate, E-Rate would offset 90% of the cost and the remaining 10% would be the District's responsibility. GMS school would be the hub site because it's at an ideal location for these high-speed services to be aggregated. With Zayo the District could lit that service at 10 Gigabit speed currently at 1 Gigabit with AT&T. From Mr. Alvarado's perspective, Dark Fiber is far more superior. There is a correction on the fiscal impact; the annual average cost is \$14,916.30 or \$74,581.49 for the entire 5 years. This approval would allow the District to enter into contract with either Zayo Networks as a 1<sup>st</sup> option and AT&T as a 2<sup>nd</sup> option for District connections and enter into contract with AT&T for the connection going back to MCOE. Mr. Cordeiro made a motion to approve Approval of the E-Rate Proposals for WAN (wide area network) Connection, seconded by Mrs. Borrelli. Motion carried, 5-0.

E. Independent Auditor Selection for District & Measure P – Mr. Morones is requesting the permission of the Board to contract Christy White Associates for auditing services of the District's books and accounts as well as for Measure P for the 2016-2017 fiscal year and the 2 successive years. Mrs. Rocha made a motion to approve Independent Auditor Selection for District & Measure P, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried 5-0.

F. CSBA Delegate Assembly Election for 2017 – Mrs. Rocha made a motion to elect Adam Cox (Merced City ESD) for the CSBA Delegate Assembly Election for 2017, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

G. San Jose University-Organization Contract – Mr. Morones explained that this contract is to approve a student counselor to work with the high school. Mr. Cordeiro made a motion to approve San Jose University-Organization Contract, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

H. 2016-2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim – Lizett Aguilar presented the Second Interim Report to the Board. The Second Interim Report is an overview of the financial and budgetary status and describes the District's revenue and expenditures for three years. Mrs. Aguilar reported deficit spending in 2016-2017 & 2017-2018. 2017-2018 deficit is new due to reduced LCFF funding projections. The deficit is projected to be eliminated in 2018-2019 with the increase to LCFF funding. The District needs fiscal prudence and caution on their budget planning and in incurring any additional expenses that are not currently budgeted for the next year. Reserve levels are still above the 3% required for all three years. Mrs. Rocha made a motion to accept the 2016-2017

2<sup>nd</sup> Interim, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

I. GES Renaissance Renewal Purchase – Mrs. Borrelli made a motion to approve GES Renaissance Renewal Purchase, seconded by Mrs. Rocha. Motion carried, 5-0.

J. Frontline – Staff Time & Attendance Software – Mr. Morones explained that this software will work in conjunction with Aesop, the absence and sub placement tracking software currently used. This software will streamline positive time reporting for staff (i.e. extra hours) and eliminate paper timecards. Mrs. Rocha made a motion to approve Frontline – Staff Time & Attendance Software, seconded by Mrs. Borrelli. Motion carried, 5-0.

K. Measure P - DSA Requirements:

1. Approval of Fire Sprinkler Design
2. DSA Plan Review fees for Gustine HS Science
3. CGS Plan Review fees for Gustine HS Science
4. DSA Plan Review fees for Gustine MS MP/Gym
5. CGS Plan Review fees for Gustine MS MP/Gym

Mr. Morones stated that approval for the DSA Requirements is needed in order to proceed with construction. All of this work needs to be done to continue to position themselves with the state matching funds. This approval is good for 4 years. The only item that was bid out was the fire sprinkler design and the District went with the lowest bid. All the others are set fees from the Division of State Architect. Mr. Cordeiro made a motion to approve Measure P - DSA Requirements, seconded by Mrs. Rocha. Motion carried, 5-0.

L. FFA Overnight Trip Request – The Gustine FFA Dairy Cattle Judging team is requesting permission to travel May 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> to Richmond Utah. Mrs. Borrelli made a motion to approve FFA Overnight Trip Request, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

M. AG Department Technology Purchase – Mrs. Rocha made a motion to approve AG Department Technology Purchase, seconded by Mrs. Rose. Motion carried, 5-0.

N. AG Department Purchase of Transit Vans – Mrs. Rose made a motion to approve AG Department Purchase of Transit Vans, seconded by Mrs. Borrelli. Motion carried, 5-0.

## **IX. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Jon Isom – Measure P Bridge Loan Presentation – Mr. Jon Isom, financial advisor for the District, gave his presentation regarding Bridge Loan Options. This option is for districts who want projects to continue but cannot access their bond money. There are two types:

1. Bond Anticipation Note (BAN's) – is a bridge loan that allows a district to access funds today through the issuance of a short-term note (five year limit) while repaying the note with a future Bond issuance; the security of the BAN is the future bond
2. Certificates of Participation (COP's) – is a longer-term debt that can exceed five years and is a facilities lease of the District; the security of a COP is a district's general fund but can be further securitized with other funds including bonds and developers fees.

Mr. Isom advised the District to wait until August/September 2017 for the 2017-2018 assessed valuation. It may allow the District to accelerate the 2019-20 issuance, thus saving the District on costs of issuance from a fourth financing.

**ADVANCED PLANNING**

- A. Masters of Governance Workshop, March 27, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
- B. Regular Board Meeting, April 12, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (If needed)**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 9:21 p.m.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 9:41 p.m.

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Rose made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Rocha. Motion carried, 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED**

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Loretta Rose, Clerk