

MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

March 20, 2007

MINUTES

The Mena School Board met in regular session on Tuesday night, March 20, 2007 with the following members present: Robby Hines, Leon Myers, Robert Crawford, Harold Smith, Will Robbins and Edd Puckett.

President Robby Hines called the meeting to order and asked Harold Smith to open the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the February Board meeting were reviewed. Harold Smith made a motion to approve the February minutes as read. Will Robbins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In the superintendent's report, Mr. Ponder told the Board the MHS Quiz Bowl team placing second in the regional competition and the success of the softball team in winning the Horatio Tournament. The Mena School District compliance report from the Arkansas State Department of Education was reviewed. The district received full accreditation with no cites. The board also was informed the new bus garage was now in full operation and invited anyone interested to tour the facilities. The last item in his report was scheduling a meeting with Beardsley Finance Company to provide a financial workshop for board members.

The first item on the agenda was Mena High School Cheerleading Proposal. A group of concerned parents against the class and a group of concerned parents in favor of the class were present. Ms. Laura Bunch spoke on behalf of the parents against the class. Ms. Donita Crawford spoke on behalf of the parents for the class. Both groups had very good reasons in their presentations. After a lengthy discussion, Robert Crawford made a motion to accept Ms. Davis's recommendation that you can not be sports and cheerleading. There was no seconded so Mr. Crawford withdrew his motion.

Mr. Crawford then made a motion to have cheerleading after school but you have to choose if you want to cheerlead or play in conflicting sports such as basketball and volleyball. Leon Myers seconded the motion. Voting for the motion was Robert Crawford and Leon Myers. Voting against the motion was Will Robbins, Harold Smith, Edd Puckett and Robby Hines. The motion failed by a vote of 4-2.

After further discussion, Harold Smith made a motion to table the cheerleading proposal until they could get more information. There was more discussion on the subject and Harold Smith amended his motion to leaving it like it is and to look at it again at the December meeting. Edd Puckett seconded the motion. Voting for the motion was Leon Myers, Will Robbins, Harold Smith, Edd Puckett and Robby Hines. Robert Crawford abstained. The motion carried.

The next item of business was to extend the lease of the preschool building at Hatfield to the Headstart Program for ten years. Leon Myers made a motion to lease the facility at Hatfield to the Headstart Program for ten years. Harold Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Financial reports were reviewed. No action was necessary.

After reviewing the February bill list, Leon Myers made a motion that bills be paid. Robert Crawford seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The Board went into executive session to discuss personnel.

Upon returning to regular session, Mr. Ponder recommended the Board accept the resignations of Shirley Guinn 3rd Grade Teacher at Holly Harshman, Elinor Thomas Gifted and Talented, Felicia Wilson Librarian at Louise Durham, Christy Brotherton 6th Grade Science Teacher at Middle School, renew certified contracts for the 2007-2008 school year as listed and make Brad Lyle Sr. & Jr. Volleyball, Heather Clark Sr. Girls Basketball/Girls Tennis, and Tommy Johnson Jr. Girls Basketball/Sr. Girls Soccer. Leon Myers made a motion to accept Mr. Ponders recommendations. Robert Crawford seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Leon Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Harold Smith seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robby Hines President

Leon Myers, Secretary