

RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

January 19, 2021

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – President Stone called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:30 p.m. on January 19, 2021. As the result of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19), on March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20. This order includes directives canceling large gatherings. The Executive Order also allows local legislative bodies to hold meetings via conference calls while still satisfying state transparency requirements. The Governor has also issued Executive Order N-33-20, prohibiting people from leaving their homes or places of residence except to access necessary supplies and services or to engage in specified critical infrastructure employment. The health and well-being of our students, staff and community members are the top priority for the Board of Trustee of River Delta Unified School District. To facilitate this process the meeting was held remotely via Zoom Webinar. Access was available to the public to attend with audio and video.

We have modified the meeting procedures while the Shelter-in-Place for Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) is active. President Stone gave instructions on how the public is to address the Board during public comment or on any agendized item.

2. **Roll Call of Members:**

Jennifer Stone, President

Marilyn Riley, Clerk

Dan Mahoney, Member

Rafaela Casillas, Member

Marcial Lamera, Member

Wanda Apel (Present - to complete the Oath of Allegiance)

Randall Jelly (Present - to complete the Oath of Allegiance)

Also, present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.

3. **Oath of Office – Katherine Wright, Superintendent**

- 3.1 Following the December 15, 2020 appointments, the District will “seat” the newly appointed Board members with the Oath of Allegiance: Wanda Apel and Randall Jelly – President Stone requested new Board members Wanda Apel and Randall Jelly to stand for the formal administration of the Oath of Allegiance. Member Apel and Member Jelly completed the Oath of Allegiance and were seated to complete the remainder of the meeting.

4. **Review, Approve the Closed Session Agenda and Adjourn to Closed Session**

- 4.1 Board President Stone announced items on the Closed Session Agenda

- 4.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items. – *None to report*

- 4.3 **Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session @ 5:34 pm**

Member Mahoney moved to approve, *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

5. **Open Session was reconvened at 6:36 pm**

- 5.1 Roll was retaken. All members were present.

Also, present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.

- 5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Stone

6. **Report of Action taken, if any, during the Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1)**

Board President Stone reported that during Closed Session, the Board gave Superintendent Wright a Performance Evaluation, and she recommends that Superintendent Wright’s contract be extended for an additional two years ending on June 30, 2024. President Stone stated that she appreciates all that Superintendent Wright has done for the District.

In open session the Board voted to extend Superintendent Wright Contract as recommended.

Member Riley moved to approve, *Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

7. Review and Approve the Open Session Agenda

Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Open Session Agenda. Member Riley requested that 10.1 Board Minutes December 15, 2020 be held for changes and moved to approve the remainder of the agenda, *Member Mahoney seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

8. Public Comment: Ms. Latimer greeted the Board and reported that there was one comment posted. However, it is the CSEA update and will be read at that time. There were no public comments submitted.

9. Reports, Presentations, Information

9.1 Board Member(s) and Superintendent Report(s) and/or Presentation(s) –

9.1.1 Board Members' report(s) Member Lamera reported that he had the opportunity to meet with several staff members from the district office to obtain the current status of the District. In addition to these meeting, he has toured many of the school sites and have met with the site principals. Social distancing and masks protocols were followed during all meetings. He will tour the remainder of the school sites during the following week.

Member Lamera mentioned that he attended the On Boarding Workshop for new Board members provided by Small School District's Association (SSDA). The workshop was very informative, putting his mind at ease with all the overwhelming information a new Board member is given.

Member Lamera reported that he attended a meeting with Amanda Beck, the President of the Friends of Clarksburg Service and Recreation. Mrs. Beck informed Member Lamera of the plans for the North Delta Region Park and Aquatic Center to revitalize the current park in Clarksburg.

9.1.2 Committee reports:

9.1.2.1 Facilities Planning Steering Committee – Jennifer Stone, Board President reported that there is nothing to report at this time, due to the committee has not met in over a year.

9.1.2.1.1 Establish a sub-committee for analysis of data related to facilities decisions – Jennifer Stone, Board President gave a brief summary of the purpose of the Board sub-committee.

Superintendent Wright reiterated the need for the Board to analyze the District's data in preparation of the Facilities Planning Steering Committee.

9.1.3 Superintendent Wright's report(s) Superintendent Wright mentioned that she hoped everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. She noted that, while hers was small and intimate, it was nice to spend some time together.

Superintendent Wright reported that the District support team has been working diligently with the site principals to follow the direction of the county to prepare a list of district staff members who would have the opportunity to receive the Covid vaccine and to prioritize the list of those who are at high risk, medium and low risk based on the amount of time spent interacting in-person with students, and co-workers.

The next project we have is to make sure that all employees have a current staff ID. Since our school site were not open this year, we did not have a picture day to receive all the pictures needed to make the IDs.

District office staff has dedicated time to understanding Governor Newsom's new Proposed School Budgets and analyzing the data to realize the impact it will have on the budget for River Delta. Superintendent Wright noted that this Friday CSBA will be providing a webinar to give school districts guidance. She asked the Board if anyone was interested in receiving the link to view the webinar. She noted that one of the governor's proposals has a deadline of February 1st to apply for funding to reopen school by February 15th. This proposal for River Delta USD is unobtainable. It would require our

district to renegotiate and agree upon a MOU with both bargaining units and the rewriting of several Covid plans such as the Covid-19 Protection Plan (CPP), the Covid Safety Plans (CSP) and the Covid-19 School Guidance Checklist all by the February 1st deadline.

Superintendent Wright reported that she attended two of the On Boarding Workshop for new Board members provided by SSDA so she could attend with all the Board members who were interested in attending.

Superintendent Wright mentioned that the District offered a Bond Oversight Committee training to inform the public of what the roles and responsibilities are of the committee. The training was strictly to provide information regarding the committee and there was no obligation to join the committee. She noted that there is an application on the District's website for those who would be interested in becoming a member of the committee.

She provided a reminder that the District has a Covid-19 Testing Center at Walnut Grove Elementary School every Thursday from 1:00-4:55pm each week. The test is free for any community or staff member and will be using the self-swabbing method of testing.

Member Mahoney asked, if all staff members received vaccinations would River Delta USD be able to reopen our schools? He also asked if the District would have to revisit the MOU process with the bargaining units, and how long would it take. Superintendent Wright indicated that the District would need to renegotiate depending on what color tier the county is in.

9.2 Business Services' Reports and/or Presentations on: Routine Restricted Maintenance; Deferred Maintenance; Maintenance and Operations; Transportation Department; Food Services Department; District Technology; and District Budget – Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer, Chief Business Officer; Ken Gaston, Director of MOT

9.2.1 Monthly Financial Report – Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer- Reported as submitted.
9.2.1.1 Timeline for preparation of the 2021-2022 District Budget and LCAP – Mrs. Silva presented the estimated timeline.

9.2.2 Discussion of the Annual Developer Fee Report – Sharon Silva, Chief Business Officer mentioned that the report was provided at the December 15, 2020 Board for review which is in accordance with the laws stating that within 180 days after the prior year financial books have been closed, an annual report is due to the Board of how developer fees are collected and how these funds were spent. This report provides the public information and is now being brought before the Board for discussion. The total fees collected for fiscal year 2019-2020 were \$214,139 out of these funds \$125,695 were collected from Encore Liberty – LGI Homes. Total funds expended were \$795,287 with a contribution of \$162,350 from the General Fund for the Shea Homes payment and the rental payments for the portable classrooms, as well as the expenditure for the D.H. White Elementary School modular classroom project of \$538,342.

9.2.3 Maintenance, Operations & Transportation Update, Ken Gaston, Director of MOT reported that the District has seen an uptick in vandalism and theft. Mr. Gaston mentioned that the last storm with the high winds and rain provided a few challenges with falling trees.

Mr. Gaston reported that he has been notified that the \$65,000 CARB grant has been awarded for the purchase of a large lawnmower that will be used at all sites. The funds should be received by the end of next month. His department will provide matching funds for the purchase of the lawnmower.

He provided an update on the DERA grant, which is a supplemental grant from the VW Grant. He hopes to receive \$265,000 in addition to the VW Grant of 2-2.5 million dollars. These funds would be for installation of power sources, upkeep of the batteries. The District has a virtual inspection of the Courtland bus yard where the electric bus site would be located.

Mr. Gaston announced that the bus drivers have resumed delivery of lunch and weekend take home meals to the students.

9.3 Education Services' and Special Education Reports and/or Presentation(s) - Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer and Tom Anderson, Director of Special Education

9.3.1 Educational Services Update – Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer reported that she is excited to announce that the District has received a donation of 100 laptops.

Ms. Latimer is pleased to see students and staff back on campus in small populations. She has been observing different 6th grade classes and will continue observing in all grade levels.

The Simulcast Remote Learning has begun after Winter Break for student who would be unable to return if we reopened schools. She thanked the staff members who are making this possible.

The admin team has been working with the District on identifying those students who are falling behind during distance learning and how to support them now and when school resumes for in person learning.

Ms. Latimer mentioned that she, Superintendent Wright and Tom Anderson delivered lunches to families. It was nice to see the students faces, but a reminder that we need to get these students back into school as soon as it is safe to do so. Superintendent Wright asked Ms. Latimer to tell the story regarding a SRL teachers. She received a message from a parent that their student was fearful of changing to a new class and wanted to opt out of the program. By the time she could return the phone message, the teacher had already reached out to the family, personally stopped by the student's home and dropped off supplies and introduced himself to the family and explained how the transition would work. The parents were extremely happy and made the decision to stay in the SRL Program.

9.3.2 Williams' Settlement Public Notification regarding sufficiency of teachers, facilities, and textbook and instructional materials – Second Quarter (October – December 2020) – Nicole Latimer, Educational Services Officer reported that there were no insufficiencies reported during the quarter.

9.3.3 Special Education Update – Tom Anderson, Director of Special Education spoke of the lunch deliver trip with Superintendent Wright and Ms. Latimer. He stated that it was amazing to see the smiles on the children's faces when they recognized these two ladies from the school.

The statewide vaccination system seems to be unpredictable from county to county. The District will continue to work and provide information as soon as it becomes available.

Mr. Anderson mentioned that a few of the small population groups had to be closed just before Winter Break due to Covid-19 outbreaks. Some of the sites are beginning reopen these small populated groups and allowing them back to campus. Superintendent Wright clarified that these outbreaks were not in our schools or cohorts but in the community.

Superintendent Wright noted that the lunch run was very impactful. They found that families were without heat and were extremely cold. Blankets and other basic needs are being donated for these families to help them keep warm and allowing them to sleep at night.

9.4 River Delta Unified Teacher's Association (RDUTA) Update – RDUTA President, Marsha Montgomery greeted the Board and reported that they will be busy during the next few weeks. They will be meeting to update next year's school calendar and coming back to the table to complete the union's contract. Mrs. Montgomery had a poor connection and was unable to respond to Member Mahoney's question on what she thought about the likelihood of returning to school.

9.5 California State Employee's Association (CSEA) Chapter #319 Update – CSEA President, Melinda Barkman reported that the CSEA negotiation team met last week to complete the items negotiation team started before the COVID-19 shutdown. She reported that the teams will be reconvening this Thursday to hopefully finish up negotiations for 2019-2020 then start up the negotiations for the 2020-2021 school year. She emphasized that COVID has definitely make things interesting, but we are working through it. She thanked the Board for their time.

10. **Consent Calendar**

10.1 Approve Board Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board – December 15, 2020

10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Report - As of January 19, 2021: Nothing to report

10.3 District's Monthly Expenditure Report

December 2020

10.4 Request to approve a Leave of Absence for Christina Snyder

10.5 Donations to Receive and Acknowledge:

Bates Elementary School

Courtland Fire Department – Christmas Baskets and gifts for six families

D.H. White Elementary School

Mingo Greco - \$20.00

Susan Whitesell - \$387.00

Jay Forbes - \$100.00

Derek Abel and Abel Chevrolet - \$200.00

Rio Vista Lions Club - \$500.00

Warren E. Gomes Excavating - \$100.00

Carolyn Azbell - \$100.00

RV Youth Services - \$200.00

Mark Esperson Farms - \$150.00

Wanda Apel - \$20.00

Lira's Welding Service - \$100.00

Spradling Construction - \$250.00

RV Auto Repair- James Witt - \$50.00

Jill Graham and Paul Graham Drilling - \$100.00

Blaine Johnson and Vanessa Beechler,

Financial and Insurance Services - \$100.00

Coughran Mechanical Services - \$250.00

R. Emigh Livestock - \$100.00

Kay and Jim Kelley - \$100.00

Dan and Christine Mahoney - \$100.00

Page Baldwin Farms - \$100.00

Susan Conklin - \$100.00

Vera Sunada, DDS - \$50.00

Sarah Donnelly - \$100.00

Victoria Turk - \$50.00

John and Jane Cronin - \$100.00

Theta Theta Sorority - \$200.00

Dolk Tractor - \$200.00

Howard and Mary Ellen Lamothe - \$25.00

Marilynn J Darlington Trust - \$25.00

Karolyn and E Ronald Kropacek - \$10.00

Katrina Musick - 48 cookies

Cheyenne Jahner - 150 cookies

Lira's Supermarket - 225 Cookies

District Office

Public Sector Partnerships Division of Office Depot – 100 Chromebooks

Member Riley requested to pull Consent Calendar item number 10.1 for review and moved to approve the remaining calendar items, *Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

Member Lamera moved to approve item 10.1 , *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

Member Stone recognized the donations and thanked them for their support.

Action Items -- Individual speakers shall be allowed two minutes to address the Board on any agendized item. The Board may limit the total time for public input on each agenda item to 20 minutes. With Board consent, the Board President may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comment, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard and the overall length of the agenda. The Board President may take a poll of speakers for or against a particular issue and may ask that additional persons speak only if they have something new to add. (BB 9323) Anyone may appear at the Board meeting to testify in support of, or in opposition to, any item on this agenda being presented to the Board for consideration.

11. Request to approve the second and final reading of the updated or new Board Policies, Administrative Regulations and Exhibits due to new legislation, mandated language and/or citation revisions as of October 2020 - Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Casillas moved to approve, *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

12. Request to approve the first reading of the updated or new Board Policies, Administrative Regulations and Exhibits due to new legislation, mandated language and/or citation revisions as of December 2020 – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Lamera moved to approve, *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

13. Request to approve Resolution #803 declaring the results of the school bond election held within the boundaries of School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (SFID #1) Measure J – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Mahoney moved to approve, *Member Riley seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

14. Request approval of Resolution #804 declaring the results of the school bond election held within the boundaries of School Facilities Improvement District No. 2 (SFID #2) Measure K – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Apel moved to approve, *Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

15. Re-Adjourn to continue Closed Session, if needed – Board President Stone reported that re-adjourning to Closed Session was not necessary.

16. Report of Action taken, if any, during continued Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1) - Board President Stone reported Closed Session was not necessary – no actions to report.

17. Adjournment: With no further business before the Board, Board President Stone asked for a motion to adjourn.

Member Casillas moved to approve, *Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays)*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm

Submitted:



Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:



Marilyn Riley, Clerk, Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder

End