

RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

January 9, 2024

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – Board President Lamera called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:33 p.m. on January 9, 2024, at Rio Vista High School, Rio Vista, California.

2. **Roll Call of Members:**

Marcial Lamera, President
Jennifer Stone, Vice President
Randall Jelly, Clerk
Marilyn Riley, Member
Rafaela Casillas, Member (Absent)
Wanda Apel, Member
Dan Mahoney, Member (Absent)

Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent

3. **Review, Approve the Closed Session Agenda**

- 3.1 Board President Lamera announced items on the Closed Session Agenda
- 3.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items. – None to report

4. **Approve Closed Session and Adjourn to Closed Session**

- 4.1 Board President Lamera asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourned the meeting to **Closed Session @ 5:31 pm.**

Member Riley moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

5. **Open Session was reconvened at 6:33 pm**

- 5.1 Roll was retaken. Members Mahoney and Casillas were absent. All the other members were present. Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Tammy Busch, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; Nancy Vielhauer, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder

- 5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Lamera

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

Board President Lamera reported that the Board received information; no action taken during Closed Session.

7. **Review and Approve the Open Session Agenda**

- 7.1 Board President Lamera asked for a motion to approve the Open Session agenda

Member Riley moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

8. **Public Comment:** Brandon Harding, parent, introduced himself and expressed his opinion that the Board, Superintendent and Administrators failed to listen and pay attention to the parents or conduct a proper investigation regarding his son and other students taking a picture in jest. Stating that taking this picture and posting it to his son's private page is their first amendment right. He noted that the students were punished by suspension for bullying and vulgarity. He made the statement that his son is not a racist. His son decided to take the post down from his page, however, he believes someone took the picture and posted it to a different page. Mr. Harding has the opinion that his sons didn't receive their due process. After the incident, when they arrived at the school, they were given the suspension paperwork along with an Intra-district revocation letter prior to finishing their statements with their responses. From his perspective, their meeting with the Superintendent didn't go well. He stated that they were asked to leave the premises and that the meeting was over. Mr. Harding added comment on a separate and unrelated incident that happened at school in the FFA classroom prior to the Winter Break.

Trinette Pierce, parent, mentioned that this situation is very emotional for them. She noted that her husband who spoke prior was speaking on behalf of their son, Sullivan. She will be speaking on behalf of their other son, Killian. She stated that Killian was also photographed in the picture that Mr. Harding had referenced. She has the opinion that they didn't receive their due process. She said it is heartbreaking to have the children taken from the community that they have been in since the first grade. However, she indicated that her children remain active in 4-H in Clarksburg. In relationship to the incident, Ms. Pierce stated that 16-year-

olds make mistakes. Ms. Pierce feels that they are being painted in a picture that is not them. She stated again that it was a joke. They are being called racists and it is very hurtful. This situation is causing a lot of stress for their family. She mentioned that there are rumors that are untrue that her sons were saying the word "Chinc", calling people "Beaners" and "Nigger". She doesn't believe they would do that. She said that her son, Sullivan, was bullied at the end of the previous year for six months and that she made many trips to the administration office regarding the issue.

Athena York, representing D.H. White Elementary Parent Teacher Club (PTC), expressed her thoughts on the modernization projects on the D.H. White Elementary School campus. She has the opinion that all the school service providers need their own space to provide services to the students and is very excited that these projects will allow the providers to have a safe space for the students. She is very happy with the modular classrooms that have already been added in the past few years and is looking forward to the completion of the administration building. She mentioned that, being part of PTC, they are required to share a space with others. Ms. York mentioned that the PTC is trying to host a fundraising Poker Tournament. She stated that they have lined up the food and a venue at the Veteran's Hall. The company is lined up to facilitate the tournament but they haven't chosen a date. Their last step is to get the Board's approval for the fundraising event. Member Stone asked if they have submitted the paperwork for this approval. Mrs. Gaston informed Member Stone that the paperwork was submitted earlier in the day and would be brought to the next meeting for approval.

Yi Chhour, D. H. White Elementary School Counselor, announced that she was in attendance to advocate for the modernization project at her school site. Currently, she is sharing the space with other service providers and is very excited to have a private room when meeting with students.

Mary Weather, Delta High School Secretary, thanked the District for her continued employment. She noted that she is in her 29th year of working in the District. She expressed her gratitude toward the administration team at Delta High and Clarksburg Middle Schools, noting that they have made a positive school environment and a safe place to be on the campuses. She stated that she enjoys working with the administrators, as they always find ways to bring out the best in the students, whether it be in academics, or extracurricular activities. Mrs. Weather made comment that the administrators are supportive of both staff and students; these campuses are a place you want your students to attend.

Sabrina Bouncristiani, Riverview Middle School Secretary, thanked the Board and mentioned that she is very grateful that Riverview Middle School has been chosen to receive renovations during the 2024-2025 school year. She mentioned that the boiler, which she believes is original to the building, fails to work on many occasions. They are looking forward to modernization projects that will enhance the overall educational experience of the students.

Shane Cooper, Delta High School English teacher and coach, spoke of the positive programs and extra-curricular opportunities at both Delta High School and Clarksburg Middle School. He noted that the administration and teachers are working as a team collaborating with a concentrated effort focused on student and staff engagement. Mr. Cooper is of the opinion that the current administration team has solidified a competent and skilled teaching staff who are creating positive relationships and a high-quality education for the students.

Chandra Drury, Wind River Adult School Secretary, stated that her office is located on the campus of D.H. White Elementary School and is in complete support of the modernization projects taking place. She stated that, as the Booster Club President, she is very excited in a particular project at Rio Vista High School, which is the gymnasium. She noted that, prior to Covid, the Booster Club has been fundraising to upgrade the athlete lockers in the locker rooms. She has been told that the current lockers were installed the year she was born. She thanked the Board for approving the funds to update the gym.

Alicia Fernandez, Clarksburg community member, former RDUSD Board President and member for over 14 years and a K-12 student of River Delta USD. Ms. Fernandez greeted the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, district staff and the public. Ms. Fernandez stated that, as a former Board member, she thanked the current members for the hours and days they dedicate to the students and district staff. Ms. Fernandez stated that she assumes that the Board members have done their due diligence when making difficult discussions related to students and staff by seeking advice from legal counsel. She noted that schools need to be a safe environment for students and staff, noting that there should be zero tolerance for any activities that negatively singles out any group of individuals, either current or historical. She mentioned high school can be hard enough without acts of bullying that greatly impacts the mental health of the students and staff. Everyone should be respectful to others and be sensitive to others' struggles and histories. She stated

that you don't have to say anything to be a bull. She stated that actions speak louder than words. She stated that there are stressful situations and is sympathetic. However, she believes there are hard lessons for students to learn. She mentioned that she was grateful and relieved when her children graduated from high school, as it was a difficult time.

Mandi Freidel, Teacher at D. H. White Elementary School, shared her gratitude for the new modular classrooms that were put in last year. She stated that they are looking forward to the renovation projects that includes the main office and other office spaces. She noted that they are making do with what they have but the renovations will make things much better. She stated that she is very appreciative and excited for what's to come.

9. Special Presentations, Reports, Information

9.1 Special Presentation(s)

9.1.1 Schedule of Events for the Next Bond Issuances – Rich Malone, Governmental Financial Services, JPA, started with a brief review of the School Facility Improvement Districts (SFID) and Measures J and K. Mr. Malone spoke of the Measure K, Series 2023 of Bond Sale results and tax levies, the upcoming Measure J, Series 2024 Bond Issuance Plan and the recommended method used in relation to the issuance of these bonds. Mr. Malone reviewed the primary legal documents and disclosures related to the process. He ended his presentation with the next steps and tentative timeline for in the 2024 Bond Issuance for Measure J. He announced that, at that the March 12, 2024 Board meeting, the Board will consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing issuance of Measure J, Series 2024. The planned sale date is April 16, 2024 for the Measure J, Series 2024 Bonds; April 30, 2024 the closing and proceeds are deposited with the County. At the May 14, 2024 Board meeting, the results of the of the sale of Measure J, Series 2024 Bonds will be presented to the Board.

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

9.2.1 Board Members' report(s) No reports given.

9.2.2 City of Rio Vista 2 X 2 report(s) – Member Jelly reported that it was a very small and short meeting as many of the members were spending time with family over the holidays. She met with Council Member Dolk and the City Manager Kristina Miller. They did not discuss the Brann Ranch development as it is currently in the negotiation process. Council Member Dolk announced that the City had found alternative potential site to use in a land swap with the District as they would like a small piece of land located on the campus of Rio Vista High School to be used as a water well site.

9.2.3 Superintendent Wright's report(s) Superintendent Wright welcomed all in attendance. Mrs. Wright announced that over the Winter Break she had several meetings with the negotiation team for the Brann Ranch Agreement. She thanked all who participated in the negotiations, noting that things went well. However, she announced that the agreement expired on January 7, 2024. Both negotiation teams have made a commitment to continue to work toward finalizing the agreement they have been working on for the past four years.

The District has been working with the construction management company on current and future Bond related projects allowing them to keep moving forward. Superintendent Wright noted that one project that they have been focusing on is interim housing for the students and staff during construction. Although sacrifices will need to be made and will be challenging during the construction period, the outcome will be a good reward.

9.3 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 – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

9.3.1 Business Services' Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

9.3.1.1 ADA/Enrollment Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, reported that a decrease in enrollment of 25 compared to the same month last year and a decrease of 4 compared to last month. Average daily Attendance (ADA) has seen a decrease of four compared to the same month last year and a decrease of thirty-six compared to last month.

A public comment was made by Tuesday Perkins, Special Education Advocate. She announced that she was present at the meeting because she believes only a reliable, responsive, driven and compassionate school board can help students succeed. Ms.

Perkins stated that her experience with this school board has been disappointing. She announced that she did not intend to include this as part of her speech; however, she has the opinion and finds it disturbing that people planted to speak at the meeting are related to members of the Board and reiterated that she finds this a disturbing tactic. She stated that she intends to report this to the California Department of Credentials and the Office of Civil Rights, who are investigating the current Board and Administrators for their behavior.

Ms. Perkins implied the roles and responsibilities of a Board, indicating her opinion that they have made biased decisions that do not align with California Education Code. She has the believe that they have made decisions that violated ADA, IEP and 504 Plans. These decisions have placed River Delta Unified School District in financial and legal jeopardy. Ms. Perkins noted that the Board and administration is a byproduct that can only be described as dysfunction among its members. She believes they lack leadership and understanding of their role. The lack of skills was shown when the decision was made to suspend and revoke the inter-district permits for these students. She has the opinion that this Board is not qualified to do anything.

9.3.1.2 Monthly Financial Report – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, began her report, however, Ms. Perkins interrupted the report by re-entering the meeting room, offering an unsolicited comment in an escalated voice, stating that a Board member’s parent who she believes was planted to speak at the meeting, was laughing as she and a few other individuals left the meeting room. As Ms. Perkins continued to speak and interrupt Board President Lamera while being repeatedly asked by President Lamera to leave the meeting room as her public comment time had ended and she was out of order.

Ms. Busch began her report again stating that each month the Asst. Superintendent of Business Services prepares a monthly financial summary report showing both budgeted and actual revenues and expenditures for each of the District's funds for the prior month. A monthly cash flow chart indicates the monthly ending fund balances over the past five years.

9.3.1.3 Timeline for Preparation of the 2024-2025 District Budget and Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services, reported that the budget calendar is the outline of the steps and timeline for the Board and administration to be used in preparation of the new fiscal year Budget and LCAP culminating in the adoption of both documents in June 2024. The Local Control Accountability Plan is a component of the state funding model, along with the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Districts are required to describe how they intend to meet annual goals for all pupils. The District’s Budget and LCAP must be aligned.

Denise Morgan, Walnut Grove community member, thanked the Board for their service. Ms. Morgan stated that she has lived in Walnut Grove for 45 years and is a graduate of Delta High School. Her children have been students in River Delta USD. However, after the pandemic, her son chose to stay in the remote learning environment and finished his schooling in Elk Grove. While her son was enrolled in the Elk Grove USD she was a member of the LCAP Planning Committee. Ms. Morgan mentioned that she held other positions or served on other committees that would be helpful to the district. Her main focus is on student literacy. She has interest in participating in the development of the River Delta USD’s LCAP or in another role and perhaps supporting in literacy programs.

9.4 Education Services’ Reports and/or Presentation(s) - Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services

9.4.1 Educational Services Update – Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services, reported that this last month has gone by quickly. Ms. Vielhauer noted that she met and had a very productive meeting with the Differentiated Assistance team. The Educational Services Department has been working on the Office of Civil Right data collection for the 2021-2022 school year. She announced that the California Health Kids Survey will be done in the next few weeks for grades 5, 7 9 and 11. Results will be shared with the Board when completed.

9.4.2 Williams' Settlement Public Notification Regarding Sufficiency of Teachers, Facilities, and Textbook and Instructional Materials – Second Quarter (October – December 2023) – Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services, reported that the district has not received any complaints during this quarter. Ms. Vielhauer asked the Board to receive this information fulfilling part of the Williams Settlement requirement.

9.4.3 Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) First Quarterly Williams Review Report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 – Nancy Vielhauer, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services, reported that SCOE provides the district with a quarterly report regarding the results of the school site visits and reviews for submission to the district's governing board. Riverview Middle School is required to receive Williams visits and reviews. The SCOE staff visited Riverview Middle School during the first quarter of FY2023-24 and found that Riverview Middle School has sufficient instructional materials and was in exemplary condition. Reviews of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC), teacher vacancy or misassignment were not conducted. There were no complaints filed in the district under the Uniform Compliant Procedure during the first quarter.

9.5 River Delta Unified Teacher's Association (RDUTA) Update – Chris Smith, RDUTA President, wished everyone a Happy New Year. Mr. Smith didn't have a RDUTA update. However, he noted that he just came from wrestling practice at the gym at Rio Vista High School, which was freezing. He commented on the new Culinary Arts and Science classrooms that are under construction and is excited that the gymnasium renovation is to begin in the Spring. He is proud that the community saw fit to make improvements to the facilities.

9.6 California State Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 319 Update – Patty DuBois, CSEA President, no update given.

10. Consent Calendar

10.1 Approve Board Minutes

Special Meeting of the Board, December 6, 2023

Regular Meeting of the Board, December 12, 2023

10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Reports

As of January 9, 2024

10.3 District's Monthly Expenditure Report

December 2023

10.4 Request to Approve the Overnight Field Trip for the Delta High School (DHS) Wrestling Team to Attend the California Invitational Wrestling Tournament Held on January 18-21, 2024, at Morro Bay High School in Morro Bay, CA – Craig Cornelson, Principal

10.5 Request to Approve a Three-Year (3) Agreement with DataPath for Firewall Security and Annual Endpoint Advanced Threat Protection - \$127,498.44 (Firewall) approx. \$14,235 (Endpoint), General Fund – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

10.6 Request to Acknowledge that the River Delta School District Applied for Continued Funding for the District's California State Preschool Program for Fiscal Year 2024-25– Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

10.7 Donations or Receive and Acknowledge

D.H. White Elementary School

Page Turners Club of Rio Vista – Children's books (\$300 value)

President Lamera acknowledged the donations and thanked them for their continued support.

Member Apel moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

Action Items -- Individual speakers who have submitted a Comment Card shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on any agenda item. The Board shall limit the *total time* for public presentation and input on *all items* to a maximum of 20 minutes including the Public Comments made previously in this meeting. The Board will follow the process for Public Comments listed above.

11. Request to Approve Resolution #858 to Provide Workers' Compensation Coverage for Authorized Volunteers – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services

Member Jelly moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote: 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

12. Request to Approve the Job Descriptions for the Director of Accounting, Supervisor of Maintenance & Operations, Supervisor of Transportation and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) – Katherine Wright, Superintendent
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
13. Request to Approve the Proposal for Fuel Pumps and Cardlock System from Donlee Pump Company to Replace the Fueling Systems at a Total Cost Not to Exceed \$59,540, Transportation Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Riley moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
14. Request to Approve the Purchase of a Pre-owned 2011 Thomas Built HDX 80 Passenger School Bus at a cost Not to Exceed \$59,594.44 Plus Applicable Fees, Transportation Funds and with this Approval and Purchase, Requesting the Approval to Surplus Two Buses (#22 and #25) to Offset the Cost – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
15. Request to Approve the Contract with F3 & Associates, Inc. to Provide Professional Land Surveying Services (Topographic Survey, Topographic Survey Map, Utility Locating) for the Rio Vista High School Fence Project - \$7,780, Measure J Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Jelly moved to approve, Member Apel seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
16. Request to Approve the Contract with F3 & Associates, Inc. to Provide Professional Land Surveying Services (Topographic Survey, Topographic Survey Map, Utility Locating) for the Isleton Elementary School Fence Project - \$5,840, Measure J Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Apel moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
17. Request to Approve the Proposal from Alta Fence Co., Inc. for Fence Installation for the Riverview Middle School Modernization Project - \$16,273, Measure J Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
18. Request to Approve the Proposal from Steve Smith Electric for Entry Intercom for the Riverview Middle School Modernization Project, \$5,820, Measure J Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
19. Request the Approval and Award the Contract to Steve Smith Electric for the Replacement of the Switchgear & Distribution Panel for Delta High School, \$14,040, Measure K Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
20. Request to Purchase a Switchgear from Hi-Line Electric Company for Delta High School, \$32,588.88 Measure K Bond Funds, Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Riley moved to approve, Member Stone seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
21. Request to Approve Change Order #2 to Bobo Construction, Inc. for the Delta HS/Clarksburg MS Cafeteria Modernization Project - \$19,353.21 Measure K Bond Funds – Tammy Busch, Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
Member Apel moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

- 22. Request for Future Board Agenda Items from Board Members – Board President Lamera asked the Board of Trustees for input on adding items to future Board agendas. There were no items requested by the Board of Trustees.
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)
- 23. Re-Adjourn to continue Closed Session, if needed – Board President Lamera reported that the Board would not be reconvening to Closed Session.
- 24. Report of Action taken, if any, during continued Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1) –Board President Lamera reported that reconvening to Closed Session was not necessary and there is nothing to report.
- 25. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Board, Board President Lamera asked for a motion To adjourn.
Member Stone moved to approve, Member Jelly seconded. Motion carried 5 (Ayes: Stone, Jelly, Riley, Apel, Lamera): 0 (Nays): 2 (Absent: Mahoney, Casillas)

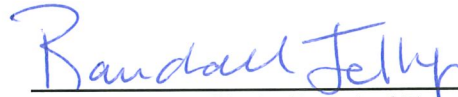
The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Submitted:

Approved:



Katherine Wright, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Trustees



Randall Jelly, Clerk, Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder
End