

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT PANEL
VENICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3
FEBRUARY 25, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rudy Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Rudy Wilson, Chairman
Dennis Brueggemann, Member
Absent: Mary Kane, Member

Also present:

Debby Vespa, ISBE – via Phone
Carl Holman, ISBE
Dr. Cleveland Hammonds, district superintendent
Shirley Davis, district principal
Carol Reinhardt, district bookkeeper
Toni Chandler, district secretary
Janet Wiley, Venice board president

REPORTS

There was no Superintendent's Report.

For the Principal's Report, Ms. Shirley Davis, interim principal, updated the Panel Members on the district's use of the "Thinklink" software and the smartboards present in each classroom. She then proceeded to introduce Ms. Victoria Schultz, classroom teacher, who provided a demonstration to the Panel on the software. This software enables the classroom teachers to track the educational progress of each child in their classroom. Ms. Schultz then fielded questions from the Panel.

There was no Financial Administrator's Report.

For the ISBE's Report, Ms. Vespa, updated the Panel on the proposed FY2010 State Budget and the proposed phase out of the General State Aid Hold Harmless Funding for school districts. One proposal would eliminate GSA HH Funding over three years, 50% in the first year, then 25% for years two and three. The latest proposal consists of phasing out the Hold Harmless over the next five years with 20% being reduced each year. The Venice School District receives approximately, \$470,354 of Hold Harmless funding for FY2009 out of \$937,000 total General State Aid.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from January 21, 2009 was made by Dennis Brueggemann. Seconded by Rudy Wilson. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS – February 19, 2009 BOE Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the February 19, 2009 Accounts Payable list in the amount of \$113,885.18 and January 2009 payroll in the amount of \$98,315.89 was made by Dennis Brueggemann. Seconded by Rudy Wilson. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

Motion to approve asbestos removal bid from Envirotech in the amount of \$30,000.00 was made by Rudy Wilson. Seconded by Dennis Brueggemann. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

Motion to approve exterior doors and fire alarm replacement bid from Limbaugh in the amount of \$177,893.00 was made by Rudy Wilson. Seconded by Dennis Brueggemann. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

Motion to approve the consulting proposal from Assessment Professional Services, Inc. (APSI) in the amount of \$26,385.00 for the asbestos abatement project was made by Dennis Brueggemann. Seconded by Rudy Wilson. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

Motion to approve the bid from Overhead Door Company in the amount of \$684.00 to remove the gate from upstairs and install it downstairs outside the cafeteria to secure the cafeteria was made by Dennis Brueggemann. Seconded by Rudy Wilson. Unanimously passed by voice vote.

PERSONNEL – February 19, 2009 BOE Regular Meeting

No Action necessary since there was no personnel action taken by the Venice Board of Education at its February 19, 2009 Regular Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

OTHER BUSINESS

The Panel discussed the district's request that would allow the Venice Board of Education members to attend the National School Board Convention in San Diego in April of this year. The approximate cost per individual BOE member would be \$3,000. Due to the uncertainties in state funding and the overall budget concerns, the FOP members would not allow any of the BOE members to attend the National event this year. The FOP members expressed their concerns to Ms. Janet Wiley, Venice BOE President.

Ms. Wiley updated the FOP on the status of the Board's Superintendent's search. The BOE will be convening a special BOE meeting on March 10th to review the applications. The deadline for applications closes on March 1st.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Dennis Brueggemann at 5:44 p.m. Seconded by Rudy Wilson. Unanimously passed by voice vote.