

Panel Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2010

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT PANEL
VENICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3
MAY 13, 2010
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rudy Wilson called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present:

Jeff Endres, Financial Administrator
Deby Vespa, ISBE Consultant
Dr. Cullen Cullen, district superintendent
Carol Reinhardt, district bookkeeper
Toni Chandler, district secretary
Shirley Davis, district principal/curriculum director
Venice Board of Education members
David Mannix, district attorney

REPORTS

Deby Vespa, ISBE Consultant, led the discussion with the FOP members and the Venice BOE members regarding the transition benchmarks for the district that were established by the FOP at a special meeting in March 2010. The benchmarks were categorized into the following areas: financial stability, administrative leadership, board of education, teaching & learning, and labor relations. The FOP had established indicators in each of these areas that can be used to measure the progress of the district in each area. Financial reporting has been greatly improved during the course of this fiscal year and now timely reports are prepared for the board each month as well as for the FOP. The district has shown great improvements thus far during this fiscal year as a result of the administrative leadership of Dr. Cullen. He continues to address the current needs of the district at all levels and prepares the board of education with the information that is needed for them to make informative decisions. The Board of Education has started a self-evaluation program through IASB and has also started a continuing board development program through IASB. The Venice teaching staff has continued to make progress toward achieving state and federal academic proficiency goals under the direction of Ms. Davis. Contracts have been settled this year and Dr. Cullen communicates with the unions on a regular

basis. In summary, the FOP has seen considerable improvements in all of the benchmark areas under the direction of Dr. Cullen and is pleased to see the efforts of all Venice employees.

Rudy Wilson, FOP chairman, commented that layoffs were occurring throughout the state but not at Venice District #3 and that he was happy about that. He also mentioned that he has a concern about wiring issues in the building and would like to see something done in that area.

Caroline Wilson, Venice BOE president, stated that she would like to have more joint meetings with the FOP in the future as she feels that this is a productive way for the Venice BOE to know what's going on with the FOP.

Janet Wiley, Venice board member, also said that she would like to hold more meetings like this one with the FOP as she felt like this was very informative for the Venice BOE and would help them in future decisions.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Dennis Brueggemann at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Mary Kane. Unanimously passed by voice vote.