

Minutes of the Board of Education
Emery County School District
September 7, 2005
Castle Dale Elementary School, Castle Dale, Utah

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other board members present were Royd Hatt, Marie Johnson, Rue Ware and Sam Singleton. Other present were Superintendent Kirk Sitterud, and Business Administrator Ross Huntington.

J.J. Grant, Secondary Supervisor, Jeneane Warren, Director of Child Nutrition, LeRoy Maxfield, Director of Building and Grounds, and Roger Swenson, Director of Transportation were also present. Betsy Johnson and Colleen Bott from Castle Dale Elementary (CDE) were in attendance. Larry Davis, Principal at Canyon View Jr High School, who has been assisting the District with public relations was also present. Carol Ediger represented the Emery Education Association. The press was represented by Patsy Stoddard of the Emery County Progress. In addition there were several members of the community present.

A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the warrants and the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Principal Ralph Worthen was excused from the meeting for a personal family matter. Betsy Johnson, Special Education Teacher at CDE, filled in for him and gave the Principal's report. She told about the exceptional high quality of teachers at CDE and welcomed two teachers who are new to the school, Robyn Saupan and LuAnn Jensen. She told about the reading programs and the great support from the community. She thanked the PTA for all the work they do to help. She went on to explain that CDE is a "Gold Medal" school as recognized by the Utah State Health Department for promoting good eating habits as well as exercise. Since the program began at CDE the student have walked over 50,000 miles. CDE also has a Positive Action Program where students are rewarded with pink slips for doing something good. Pink slips are put in a box and once a month there is a drawing for small prizes.

Farren and Tina Hunsaker who have recently purchased property in Emery Town were welcomed to the meeting. They requested the Board grant them a utility easement through District owned property which is adjacent to their property. After careful review of the matter, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to grant the easement provided the Hunsaker's agree to pay all costs associated with the transaction and that Emery Town agree to quit claim an existing utility easement that had been reserved by Emery Town when Emery Town deeded the property to the District. The motion passed unanimously.

Board member Royd Hatt presented information about, and emphasized the need for, a new gymnasium to be built at Green River High School. After assurance from the business administrator that funding was available without incurring debt and some questions from other board members, a motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to pursue the matter by contacting coaches to determine a the most desirable design. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Justice, President of the Castle Valley Pageant, was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Justice thanked the Board and District employees for their support of the pageant. He added that the use of buses and the volunteer drivers add a great deal to the success and enjoyment of all who attend.

Superintendent Sitterud recommended the following people for hire for this school year: Dale Roundy, Science Teacher, Green River High School; Jarrett Gilbert, English Teacher, San Rafael Jr. High School; Schaly Ungerman, 6 hour Preschool Education Assistant at Cottonwood and Ferron Elementary Schools; Emilie Nelson, 3 hour Preschool Educational Assistant, Book Cliff Elementary; Dedra Watterson, 3 hour

Guidance Education Assistant, Green River High School; and, Sally Washburn, bus driver. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Marie Johnson to approve the recommendation.

Informational items covered by the Superintendent were: the Enrollment report, the Reading Plan Report, a letter from Emery Town indicating support for a swimming pool near Emery High School, the Utah Legislator's Back-to-School Program, and a brief discussion about rising fuel costs.

LeRoy Maxfield explained to the Board about damage being caused to the track at Emery High School by tree roots. A motion was made by Rue Ware and seconded by Royd Hatt to allow the removal of the trees. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Swenson informed the Board about the difficulty we are having recruiting new bus drivers. One of the problems is the low beginning wage of \$9 per hour, which has been the beginning wage for an unknown number of years. He recommended the beginning wage for new bus drivers be increased to the wage at Grade 7, Step 1, which for this year is \$12.23 per hour. A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Sam Singleton to approve the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Marie Johnson and seconded by Royd Hatt to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel issue. The motion passed unanimously.

After returning to general session, a motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Laurel Johansen to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.