

The May 2016 meeting of the Emery County School District Board of Education, held at Huntington Elementary School, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President Laurel Johansen. Other Board members present were Vice-President Royd Hatt, Sam Singleton and Julie Wilson. Member Marie Johnson was absent. Superintendent Kirk Sitterud and Business Administrator Jared Black were also present.

Mrs. Johansen welcomed all in attendance and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentation (B1):** President Johansen announced the recent selection of Mr. Larry Davis as the Superintendent of Emery County School District, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. She mentioned that the selection was made based on candidate screenings & recommendations from a stakeholder committee, as well as interviews held by the Board of Education. She acknowledged how pleased the Board of Education was with the overall quality of applicants. She expressed her congratulations to Mr. Davis.

**Presentation (B2):** Superintendent Sitterud mentioned that two teachers were recently presented with the Apples for Teachers award. The presentations were made in the classroom of each teacher:

- Pamila Hunt                      Book Cliff Elementary School
- Justin Thornley                  Emery High School

He expressed his congratulations to these teachers. Members of the Board added their congratulations.

**Presentation (B3):** Green River High School Interim Principal Kayce Fluckey presented information related to a proposal to move the GRHS schedule to a 10-period block format. Ms. Fluckey discussed the purposes and anticipated results of such a change. She reviewed data from schools now on a block schedule, indicating that test scores have improved in these schools. Each teacher at GRHS has submitted a plan for revised teaching strategies. The community council have also given their input to the proposal. Ms. Fluckey feels strongly that a block schedule would be the best solution to improve test scores and provide better instruction and more diversified opportunities to the students in Green River.

Members of the Board of Education thanked Ms. Fluckey for her presentation, indicating that she should work with Superintendent Sitterud and incoming Superintendent Davis to finalize the proposal prior to bringing it to a future meeting for consideration of approval.

**Board Action Item (C1):** Board members considered the warrants, minutes of the April 2016 meeting, and financial reports for April 2016. A motion was made by Sam Singleton and seconded by Julie Wilson to approve the warrants, minutes and financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C2):** Superintendent Sitterud recommended to the Board that the following individuals be approved for the positions indicated:

<i>Tifnie Hansen:</i>	<i>Cheer Advisor</i>	<i>Canyon View Junior High</i>
<i>Anjelena Behling:</i>	<i>Cheer Advisor</i>	<i>San Rafael Junior High</i>
<i>Jeff Winget:</i>	<i>Teacher, English</i>	<i>Emery High School</i>

Julie Wilson motioned to approve the hiring recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Royd Hatt and passed unanimously. All approvals are subject to the completion and review of a background check.

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**Board Action Item (C3):** Superintendent Sitterud presented Land Trust plans for each school, noting that these plans are developed by school administration and school community councils, but also require approval of the Board of Education. Member Wilson asked a clarifying question about carryover amounts. Superintendent Sitterud explained the allowances and uses of carryover funds. Following brief discussion about the plans, Royd Hatt motioned to approve the Land Trust Plans as presented. Julie Wilson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C4):** Superintendent Sitterud presented a request that the Board approve District participation in the SHARP (Student Health and Risk Prevention) survey. He explained that the survey is completed every other year and Emery School District has participated for many years. The survey provides useful information for understanding our students. He asked the Board to approve the request to participate in the 2016-17 school year. Royd Hatt motioned to approve participation in the survey. Julie Wilson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Board Action Item (C5):** Mr. Black presented the following policy action to the Board of Education for consideration and approval:

- **DIE—District Audit Committee:** Revision updating the policy to meet new standards for committee composition and responsibilities. Two board members will need to serve on the committee, with one acting as chair. Three community members will also need to be appointed to the committee.

Board President Johansen indicated that she would be willing to serve on this committee. Member Wilson added that she would serve on the committee. President Johansen indicated she would visit with Member Johnson prior to making final committee assignments. Julie Wilson made a motion to approve the policy action as recommended. Royd Hatt seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Report Item (D1):** Principal Garth Johnson welcomed the Board of Education to Huntington Elementary School. He thanked them for their ongoing support and also mentioned his gratitude for retiring Superintendent Kirk Sitterud, noting that he is highly appreciated and will be missed.

**Report Item (D2):** Mr. Black reported that the budget is progressing, insurance options are being discussed with the District benefits committee, and good progress is being made with the annual capital projects. He thanked the maintenance staff for their efforts in this regard.

**Report Item (D3):** Superintendent Sitterud congratulated Mr. Davis on his appointment as incoming Superintendent. He mentioned that the District staff are going to be working together with Mr. Davis to facilitate a smooth transition. Mr. Sitterud also announced that the following employees have submitted a letter of intent to retire (or resign) at the end of the current school year or contract period:

- Kerry Olsen (Retire): Head Custodian at Emery High School
- Lisa Behling (Retire): Teacher at Ferron Elementary School
- Leslie Larsen (Resign): Teacher at Emery High School

Members of the Board of Education expressed thanks to all of these employees for their years of dedicated service to the students of Emery County.

Superintendent Sitterud noted that Melissa Anderson, a volunteer at Ferron Elementary School was recently awarded the Huntsman Award for Volunteer Service. This is a significant award and he expressed his thanks to Melissa for her years of service to the students in Ferron. He added that this week is National Teacher Appreciation Week as well as National Child Nutrition Employee Week. The District has sent a letter to teachers thanking them for their commitment to students, and distributed a proclamation to recognize our child nutrition employees.

**Public Comments (E):** Neal Peacock indicated that the teachers association is ready to begin negotiations. He also mentioned that the EHS drama team recently finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state 2A competition. Members of the Board congratulated the drama team on this accomplishment.

Julie Johansen made a comment indicating that a block schedule at GRHS would likely help students to miss less time due to extracurricular activities. She has noticed this with rodeo students she is familiar with.

Alice Wadley asked if there is a District policy on transgender restroom use. Superintendent Sitterud indicated that the District has yet to receive any guidance on this matter from the State Office of Education.

**Closed Meeting (F):** At 7:55 p.m., a motion was made by Julie Wilson and seconded by Royd Hatt to move to a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion related to the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Member voting on this motion was as follows:

- Laurel Johansen           Aye
- Royd Hatt                    Aye
- Marie Johnson           Absent
- Sam Singleton            Aye
- Julie Wilson                Aye

### **Certification of Closed Executive Session (Utah Code 52-4-206)**

I, Laurel Johansen, President of the Emery County School District Board of Education, certify and swear that the sole purpose of the above closed executive session was to review and discuss the character and professional competence of individuals. Under the code referenced above, a closed executive session discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual is exempt from recording requirements and therefore, this closed executive session was not recorded.

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Laurel Johansen

The closed meeting was held in the Faculty Room at Huntington Elementary School on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, beginning at approximately 8:00 pm. All Board members except Marie Johnson were in attendance as well as Superintendent Sitterud, Larry Davis, Jared Black, Jed Jensen and Ralph Worthen.

**Adjournment (G):** A motion was made by Royd Hatt and seconded by Sam Singleton to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.