

HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

January 22, 2013

5:30 p.m.

Central Magnet School

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Rhonda Allen
Commissioner Carol Cook
Commissioner Will Jordan
Commissioner Jeff Phillips
Commissioner Chantho Sourinho
Commissioner Brad Turner
Commissioner Jeff Jordan, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess
Teresa Jolly
Jeff Sandvig
John Ash
Helen Blankenship
Terry Hodge
Central Magnet Students
Dana Garrett
Don Odom
Gary Clardy
Madison Tracy
Becky Shelton

Chairman J. Jordan presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Allen, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Dana Garrett presented the Health Department report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner J. Phillips moved, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the Health Department report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Ms. Garrett next presented the annual agreement with the State of Tennessee, Department of Health, advising Finance Director Nolen has reviewed the numbers contained in the agreement and they are the same as approved in the budget process. Following discussion,

"Commissioner W. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner Cook, to approve the agreement with the Tennessee Department of Health and forward the same to the Budget Committee. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

COMMUNITY CARE REPORT:

Chairman J. Jordan presented the January 3, 2013 Community Care minutes for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Sourinho moved, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the Community Care report. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT:

Teresa Jolly presented the Special Projects report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Sourinho, to approve the Special Projects report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT:

The Committee was first provided a Capital Projects Fund budget amendment of \$125,000 from Committed for Educational Capital Projects in order to fund the changes needed at the LaVergne and Smyrna High stadiums for seating for disabled people in attendance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Following discussion,

"Commissioner W. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the amendment of \$125,000 from Committed for Educational Capital Projects, Account 34685, to Other Contracted Services, Account 91300-399, to fund seating for the disabled at the LaVergne and Smyrna High stadiums. This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

Superintendent Odom next reviewed the five year building program with the Committee advising Rutherford County is one of twenty-one "Exemplary" school systems this year and the sixth largest school system in the State. Since 2008, the Commission has funded three new middle schools and a high school with renovations or additions at seven more schools. Even with these projects, the County still utilizes 149 portable classroom spaces. During the past five year period Rutherford County schools have increased student enrollment by 3,968 with the largest increase this year of 1,000. The Committee was provided growth data for 2012/13 and information on per pupil funding being advised the State provided 52.0% local funds with a State average of 46.5%. Federal funding is 9.7% and local funding is 38.2% with \$8,098 per pupil.

The pros and cons of year round schools was discussed as well as statistics and history of districts that have done year round schools which do not support year round schools.

Chairman J. Jordan advised the Smyrna Primary administration felt it had to change its computer room into a classroom and they are desperate due to the make up of their student body to get their computer room back.

The five year plan provides for additional bleachers, restrooms and concessions at LaVergne and Smyrna High Schools. The Committee was advised football, basketball and some baseball supports other sports programs such as swimming and volleyball. Commissioner J. Phillips inquired why the cost of a ticket shouldn't be increased at LaVergne and Smyrna to pay for the improvements and was advised that would meet with resistance in that the other County high schools already have the larger facilities which were funded by the County. Commissioner W. Jordan pointed out Oakland and Riverdale did not have stadiums for twenty-five years and Smyrna and LaVergne had them when they opened. The Committee was advised tax dollars are only used when the schools are opened or when students are moved. Otherwise, the activities are paid for by the programs or boosters. Additionally, most of the bigger crowds at the games are due to in-county rivalries.

The five year plan as presented was for the use and information of the Committee with further discussion at the next meeting regarding the Blackman Middle and Smyrna Primary additions with a vote. The Finance Director will be ask to attend the next meeting. Mr. Odom advised the School Board was looking for seats. Chairman J. Jordan advised it would be helpful in making a decision if the Committee could have the Stewarts Creek opening costs at the next meeting.

Chairman J. Jordan reminded the Committee the May meeting has been changed to May 21 and will be the joint meeting with the School Board and Budget Committee for presentation of the budget.

Chairman J. Jordan also advised during the recent meeting with the legislators a concern was mentioned that utility bills are not being checked during student registration. Mr. Odom advised they do not knowingly admit students from other counties. However, on occasion if a student moves mid-year that student will be permitted to finish the year at his/her current school. Since there are some new principals, Chairman J. Jordan ask Mr. Odom to send a letter to principals on registration guidelines and checking utility bills. Mr. Odom advised the Federal Homeless Act trumps all other regulations. Commissioner Allen advised she works registration at her child's school and in past years the wheel tax registration was also checked but this past year it was not.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman J. Jordan declared the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

JEFF JORDAN, Chairman