

MINUTES
CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 11, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Tina Gomez, President, in the Caro Middle School Media Center.

Pledge of Allegiance – Moment of Silence

Roll Call: Brunet (arrived 6:08 PM), Curtis, Holder, McComb, Sawyer (arrived 6:01 PM), Gomez

Absent: Moore

Also Present: Branding, Bringard, Moyer, Warren, LaBerge, Kitchen, R. Moore, Weijola, Henry

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the November 4, 2024 minutes, as written.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

Sawyer arrived at 6:01 PM.

2. Approval of Bills:

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the bills as follows:

Payroll: \$1,162,550.26

General Fund: \$321,403.15

Food Service: \$53,354.76

Total: \$1,537,308.17

Ayes: Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Rebecca Warden – Teacher Comment

IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Bond Presentation:

Julia Krieger from IDI was present to update the Board on the Bond process.

Brunet arrived at 6:08 PM.

2. Sale of 2024 School Building and Site Bonds, Series I and Topographic Survey:

Bids for the Series I bonds were due on November 7th where twelve brokerage firms submitted bids. The lowest interest rate was offered by TD Securities at 3.785175%. IDI issued a Request for Proposal and collected bids for a topography survey of the Hooper Street campus. Five bids were received with the lowest bid of \$18,900 from Nederveld Inc.

V. TOPICS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION:

1. Moved by McComb, supported by Brunet, to approve the resolution ratifying the sale of bonds.

Ayes: McComb, Sawyer, Brunet, Curtis, Holder, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Moved by Brunet, supported by McComb, to approve the bid of \$18,900.00 from Nederveld Inc. for a site topographic survey of district property on Hooper Street.

Ayes: Sawyer, Brunet, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

3. Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to approve the retirement of Janet Swarouth as High School Teacher effective December 31, 2024, with best wishes.

Ayes: Brunet, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez

Motion carried.

VI. BUILDING REPORTS:

The Board received updates from administration and had an opportunity to ask questions.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

The final unaudited enrollment information for the Fall count day was shared with the Board with a total FTE of 1367.66 which is a decline of 21.46 from the previous February count. Mr. Rierson shared information about the new Filter First Program passed into state law that requires all schools to have a Drinking Water Management Plan (DWMP), install lead reducing filters on all consumptive fixtures, and test filtered water. The district is working on possible grants to assist with the cost of implementation. He shared that the athletic department is still looking into options for the replacement of the Middle School's scorers table as it is in need of replacement. The Athletic

Director looked into relocating the High School's scorers table to the Middle School and purchasing a new scorers table for the High School. Superintendent Rierson thanked all that helped with the veterans program at McComb and for the important opportunity the students had to learn more about the priceless service the veterans provided.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Curtis: Mrs. Curtis shared about her time in the Schall classroom and all of the great things the staff are doing in that building. She also praised the cross country team for their participation in the McComb Halloween parade.

Holder: Mrs. Holder congratulated Janet Swarthout and expressed her appreciation for all of the years of service provided at Caro Schools and for the impact Janet made in many lives including her own.

Gomez: Mrs. Gomez mentioned the upcoming committee and possibly special meeting for superintendent evaluation.

IX. CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DUE PROCESS REINSTATEMENT HEARING:

Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to go into closed session at 6:37 PM for the purpose of due process reinstatement hearing.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Brunet, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to return to open session at 7:29 PM in the Middle School Media Center.

Ayes: Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Brunet, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the November 11, 2024 closed session minutes.

Ayes: McComb, Sawyer, Brunet, Curtis, Holder, Gomez

Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to follow the administration's recommendation that pursuant to 1311(1) of the Revised School Code, that Student 020096628 be reinstated at Caro Community Schools not earlier than the start of the second trimester of the 2024-25 school year with strict behavior contract and safety plan.

Ayes: Sawyer, Brunet, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

X. OTHER:

Sawyer had a question for Superintendent Rierson.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Ayes: Brunet, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez

Motion carried.

Brian McComb, Secretary