

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chickasha Public Schools
Chickasha, Okla.
Special Meeting
January 29, 2018

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 1-001, Grady County, Oklahoma, met in special session Monday, January 29, 2018. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Chickasha Middle School Auditorium, 1000 South 9th Street, Chickasha, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE **SPECIAL MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CHICKASHA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT I-001, GRADY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, WILL BE HELD IN THE CHICKASHA MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, 1000 SOUTH 9TH STREET, CHICKASHA, OK 73018, ON **JANUARY 29, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M.** WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED:

If participation at any Board of Education meeting is not possible due to a disability, notification to the Board Clerk at least 24 hours prior to scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. The Board of Education may discuss, make motions, vote to approve, vote to disapprove, vote to table, or decide not to discuss any item on the agenda. Except for items one through three, any agenda item may be considered and acted on in any order.

Members Present

Doug Brown
Julie Badgett Sinn
Julie Hibbard
Ginny Howell
Shawna Covington
Dr. Jack Herron, Superintendent
Cindy Schmidt, Assistant Superintendent
Laura Martin, clerk and non-member

Members Absent

ITEM 1 - Call meeting to Order

Mr. Brown opened the special meeting at 6:02 p.m. Notice of the meeting had been properly announced and posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Oklahoma.

ITEM 2 - Roll Call

Members present: Brown, Covington, Hibbard, Howell, Badgett Sinn

Members absent:

ITEM 3 - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

ITEM 4 - Due Process Hearing for Pam Huggins, an Administrator

ITEM 4A - The board's first vice president, or designee, will convene the hearing, state the purpose of the hearing, introduce the parties and administer an oath to all individuals who will testify. Upon the request of either party, the vice president may exclude from the hearing room the witnesses not at the time under examination. A party to the proceeding and his/her designee shall not be excluded.

A statement was read by Doug Brown and the Oath of Office was administered to the witnesses that were present.

ITEM 4B – Preliminary hearing motions and argument affecting the hearing.

Mr. O'Carroll said there were no new motions from the Administration. Mr. Glass said there were none from Mrs. Huggins.

ITEM 4C – Opening statement by superintendent (references to superintendent refer to the former interim superintendent), or designee.

Mr. O'Carroll gave his opening statement.

ITEM 4D – Opening statement by Ms. Huggins, or designee

Mr. Glass gave his opening statement.

ITEM 4E - Presentation of superintendent's witnesses and evidence, followed by cross-examination of witnesses by Ms. Huggins, or designee.

Mr. O'Carroll called Kim Nelson to the witness stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 7:45 p.m. to 7:57 p.m. At 7:57 p.m., the board returned.

Mr. O'Carroll called Michelle Pontikos to the stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 9:00 p.m. to 9:11 p.m. At 9:11 p.m., the board returned.

Mr. O'Carroll called Cindy Schmidt to the stand where she was questioned.

Mr. O'Carroll called Pam Huggins to the stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 11:00 p.m. to 11:14 p.m. At 11:14 p.m., the board returned.

Mr. Burns had no cross-examination questions for Mrs. Huggins but reserved the right to call her back for direct questioning.

Mr. O'Carroll said the administration rests.

ITEM 4F - Questions by board members or board's counsel may be asked following the presentation of each witness.

ITEM 4G - Presentation of Ms. Huggins's witnesses and evidence, followed by cross-examination of witnesses by the superintendent, or designee.

Mr. Glass asked for a demurrer to evidence (a motion to dismiss filed by the defendant after the plaintiff has rested his/her case, on the ground of insufficiency of evidence.)The Board of Education declined the demurrer to evidence and decided to proceed with the case.

Mr. Burns called Sandra Brown to the witness stand as an expert witness. The witness was administered the oath before being seated. Mrs. Brown was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to reconvene at a later date.

At 11:47 p.m., on a motion by Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Covington, the board voted to reconvene for a continuation of the due process hearing for Pam Huggins on Thursday,

February 1, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the same location (1000 S. 9th Street, Chickasha, OK). Voting AYE: Badgett Sinn, Hibbard, Covington, Howell, Brown

Feb. 1 2018, Reconvene Due Process Hearing for Pam Huggins

Members Present

Doug Brown
Julie Hibbard
Ginny Howell
Shawna Covington
Dr. Jack Herron, Superintendent
Cindy Schmidt, Assistant Superintendent
Laura Martin, clerk and non-member

Members Absent

Julie Badgett Sinn

Call meeting to Order

Mr. Brown opened the special meeting at 5:03 p.m. Notice of the meeting had been properly announced and posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Oklahoma.

Roll Call

Members present: Brown, Covington, Hibbard, Howell
Members absent: Badgett Sinn

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

CONTINUATION OF ITEM 4G - Presentation of Ms. Huggins's witnesses and evidence, followed by cross-examination of witnesses by the superintendent, or designee.

Mr. Burns called Kieran Brennan to the witness stand where he was questioned and then cross-examined.

Mr. Burns called Terry Jones to the witness stand where he was questioned and then cross-examined.

Mr. Burns called Travis Parish to the stand. The witness was administered the oath before being seated. The witness was questioned and then cross-examined. After his testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 6:30 p.m. to 6:41 p.m. At 6:41 p.m., the board returned.

Mr. Burns called Misty Joyner to the witness stand where she was questioned.

Mr. Burns called Sharita Brown to the witness stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 7:23 p.m. to 7:31 p.m. At 7:31 p.m., the board returned.

Mr. Burns said the defense rests.

ITEM 4H – Questions by board members or board's counsel may be asked following the presentation of each witness.

ITEM 4I – Presentation of rebuttal witnesses and evidence, as necessary.

Mr. O'Carroll called William Teeter as a rebuttal witness. Mr. Teeter was administered the oath before being seated. The witness was questioned and then cross-examined.

Mr. O'Carroll called Kim Nelson to the stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined.

Mr. O'Carroll called Michelle Pontikos to the stand where she was questioned and then cross-examined. After her testimony, the board decided to take a 10-minute break. The break went from 8:38 p.m. to 8:48 p.m. At 8:48 p.m., the board returned.

ITEM 4J – Closing argument by the superintendent, or designee.

Mr. O'Carroll presented his closing arguments.

ITEM 4K – Closing argument by Ms. Huggins, or designee.

Mr. Burns presented his closing arguments.

ITEM 4L – Motion, consideration, and vote to convene in executive session as authorized by OKLA. STAT. tit. 25 § 307 (B)(1) to deliberate on the recommended dismissal of Ms. Huggins.

i. Executive session of the board.

On a motion from Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Covington, the board voted to convene into executive session at 9:08 p.m. Voting AYE: Hibbard, Covington, Howell, Brown

ii. Motion and vote to return to open session.

On a motion from Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Covington, the board voted to return to open session at 9:58 p.m.

iii. Board officer's statement of executive session minutes.

Mr. Brown read the Executive Session Compliance Statement.

ITEM 4M – Motion and vote on motion to accept or reject the superintendent's recommendation of dismissal of Ms. Huggins and findings of fact upon which the board's decision is based.

Mr. Brown read a prepared statement. He suggested that the board reject the superintendent's recommendation to dismiss Pam Huggins. On a motion from Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Covington, the board voted to reject the superintendent's recommendation to dismiss Pam Huggins. Voting AYE: Hibbard, Covington, Howell, Brown

ITEM 5 – Motion and vote to accept any employee resignations that have been submitted since the last board of education meeting or enter into any resignation agreement submitted since the last board of education meeting including the resignation agreement for Pete Bush. The board reserves the right, pursuant to OKLA. STAT. tit. 25 § 307 (B)(1) and (7) to vote to go into an executive session to discuss any tendered resignation or agreement. If the board does go into executive session it will take the following actions prior to any motion and vote:

No Action

ITEM 5A – Motion and vote to convene in executive session to consider employee resignations and/or agreements.

No Action

ITEM 5B – Motion and vote to return to open session.

No Action

ITEM 5C – Board officer's statement of executive session minutes.

No Action

ITEM 6 – Motion and vote to approve a resignation agreement between the School District and Pete Bush.

On a motion from Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Howell, the board voted to approve the resignation agreement between the School District and Pete Bush. Voting AYE: Hibbard, Covington, Howell, Brown

ITEM 7 – Motion and vote to approve any other resignation agreement between the School District and any other district administrator whose agreement could not be finalized until after the posting of the agenda.

No Action

ITEM 8 – Motion to Adjourn.

On a motion from Mrs. Hibbard, seconded by Mrs. Howell, the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m. Voting AYE: Hibbard, Covington, Howell, Brown

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This agenda was posted at 4:30 P.M. on the 26nd day of January, 2018, on the east and west doors of the Administration Building, Chickasha Public Schools, 900 W. Choctaw, Chickasha, OK, and on the exterior auditorium doors at Chickasha Middle School, 1000 S. 9th Street, Chickasha, OK. Notice of the meeting was given to the Grady County Clerk at 4:08 p.m. on the 25th day of January, 2018.

Notice to reconvene was given to the Grady County Clerk at 4:06 p.m. on the 30th day of January, 2018. Notice to reconvene was posted on the east and west doors of the Administration Building, Chickasha Public Schools, 900 W. Choctaw, Chickasha, OK, and on the exterior auditorium doors at Chickasha Middle School, 1000 S. 9th Street, Chickasha, OK on the 30th day of January, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Board President _____ Laura Martin
Chickasha Board of Education _____ Board Clerk

Special Meeting
State of Oklahoma
Grady County

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Board of Education of Chickasha School District I-001, of Grady County, Oklahoma; do hereby certify that at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, notice of the date, time, place, and agenda of this meeting was posted in prominent public view at the location of the meeting.

Witness my hand and seal of this school district this _____ day of _____, 2018

Clerk, Board of Education