**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

**REGULAR MEETING – September 9, 2003**

**MINUTES**

The School Board of St. Lucie County held a regular meeting in the School Board Room on September 9, 2003 at approximately 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: DR. JOHN CARVELLI, Chairman

Member Residing in District No. 3

(Dr. Carvelli arrived at 6:46 p.m. and chaired

the meeting from item #3 to adjournment.)

MS. CAROL A. HILSON, Vice Chairman

Member Residing in District No. 2

(Ms. Hilson chaired the meeting until

Dr. Carvelli’s arrival.)

DR. SAMUEL S. GAINES

Member Residing in District No. 5

MRS. KATHRYN HENSLEY

Member Residing in District No. 4

DR. JUDI MILLER

Member Residing in District No. 1

ALSO PRESENT: MR. MICHAEL LANNON, District Superintendent

MR. DANIEL B. HARRELL, Attorney to the School Board

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chairman Carol Hilson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Ms. Hilson opened the public hearing and asked for comments on the proposed adoption of the final millage and budget for 2003-2004.

There was one speaker, Mr. George Edwards, who had calculated that the discretionary mills had increased 55 %--he had just built a home and the value of his lot had almost doubled. Mr. Edwards noted that property values had gone up much more than inflation. He also stated he was not against teachers or schools but he was against inefficiency, improper use of money, astronomical cell phone bills, and psychiatrists for kids. The budget should be kept to a 3% increase. Mr. Bargeron, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, explained that the discretionary mills had decreased and was willing to meet with Mr. Edwards to explain the budget process. Ms. Hilson thanked Mr. Edwards for his comments. Dr. Gaines stated he appreciated receiving the comments and informed Mr. Edwards that the Board conducted budget workshops throughout the year, which he was welcome to attend—they were all open, public meetings. Dr. Gaines asked that Mr. Bargeron meet with Mr. Edwards to go over the budget and clear up any confusion. Dr. Gaines also referred to the recent OPPAGA review/report from which the district had received the highest rating in the state for best practices and fiscal stewardship. St. Lucie County did not have astronomical cell phone bills—this was not south Palm Beach County.

Superintendent Lannon indicated he would make sure Mr. Edwards received a full explanation. The OPPAGA report did provide St. Lucie County with the highest efficiency rating in the state of Florida. It met 89% of best practices. The money is efficiently used. The district’s books were audited annually and showed clean use of funds. Any community that has its property assessments raised this fast as in St. Lucie County, could expect an increase in cost. This year the fixed costs escalated faster than our cost rate so the district will have less than a 1% increase for all students. We always ask where will we get the funds. That’s a tough political issue.

Following comments, Ms. Hilson closed the public hearing and proceeded with the regular meeting agenda as follows.

**SEPARATE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM #27**

27. Five (5) Year Work Plan - The plan must be approved by the Board prior to its adoption of the final budget. Mr. Marty Sanders, Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance, explained that this was a tentative 5-year work plan to be adopted prior to the budget but some information required for the plan had not been received in timely fashion. Mr. Sanders indicated he would be revising the plan as information is provided by the Dept. of Education. A final plan would be brought back in October prior to the November 1, 2003 deadline.

Action: The superintendent recommended that the Board

adopt the Five Year Work Plan (Hensley/Miller/Carried 4-0).

**BOARD CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FINAL MILLAGE AND BUDGET FOR 2003-2004**

Mr. Bargeron read the resolution determining revenue and millage levied. The total millage rate to be levied exceeded the roll-back rate computed pursuant to Section 200.065(1), F. S. by 8.296 percent.

Action: The superintendent recommended that the Board adopt the

millages (total mills 8.5830) specified in the Resolution Determining

Revenue and Millage Levied (Miller/Hensley/Carried 4-0).

Action: The superintendent recommended that the Board adopt the

proposed budget totaling $298,301,490.34 of the St. Lucie

County School Board for the 2003-2004 fiscal year (Miller/Gaines/Carried 4-0).

**MINUTES**

Action: The minutes for the June 12, July 22, August 7 and

August 12 meetings were approved (Miller/Hensley/Carried 4-0).

**SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

1. Educational Lamp Award

The following employees were recognized for their outstanding effort in customer relations: Guletta Jane Britt at Morningside Elementary, Tamara Bryant at St. Lucie Elementary, Inez Zavela from Northport Middle, Holly Soles from HRD, and Linda Tapia from the Migrant office.

2. Recognition of United Way for “School Supplies for Students”

CEO Karen Knapp from the United Way of St. Lucie County, Inc., introduced her

staff members and described the School Supplies for Students campaign.

3. National HOSA Competition First Place Winner - Stephen Reuther

Chairman Carvelli had arrived and Ms. Hilson passed the gavel to him.

Ms. Dana Caputo, Carl Perkins Technology Teacher, and Ms. Lin Bushore, principal at Fort Pierce Westwood, introduced one of their students, Stephen Reuther, who was the National HOSA Competition First Place Winner.

4. Presidential Environmental Youth Award Winners - Fort Pierce Westwood Personal Computer Support Students

Maria Mosley from Fort Pierce Westwood High School introduced students who had become the winners of the Presidential Environmental Youth Award.

5. Fort Pierce Westwood High School Donations (Total Value $1,650.46)

Ms. Lettie Richardson recognized two recipients who received grants: Dana Caputo received $1,000 from Wal-Mart; and Shanna Mullins received $650 from the Florida Rest Association Foundation.

Action: The superintendent recommended that the Board accept

the total donation of $1,650.46 on behalf of Fort Pierce

Westwood High School (Miller/Hensley/Carried 5-0).

**STAFF REPORTS**

6. Curriculum Report - No report

7. Better Education for Students and Teachers (BEST) Legislation –

Mr. Tim Bargeron, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Mrs. Sue Ranew, Director of Personnel, and Ms. Clara Cook, President of CTA/CU, descried the newly implemented BEST legislation, specifically, the “Teaching Salary Career Ladder Program” and Appropriation 64A, which established the BEST plot program. Beginning with the 2004-2005 academic year, each district school board shall implement a salary career ladder for classroom teachers as defined in s. 1012.01(2)(a). Performance shall be defined as designated in s.1012.34(3)(a)1.07. District school boards shall designate categories of classroom teachers reflecting these salary career ladder levels such as: associate teacher, professional teacher, lead teacher, and mentor teacher.

Funds in Specific Appropriation 64A shall be used by the Commissioner of Education to identify and fund early innovator school districts that will establish best practices developmental models for implementation of the Florida BEST Teaching Program. To be eligible to participate in the best practices developmental models for the Florida BEST Teaching Program, a school board must adopt in an open meeting new, permanently established positions of increasing responsibility for teachers at each of the four salary career ladder positions as defined in s.1012.23(1), F.S. Since consensus had to be reached over a BEST developmental model by December 31, 2002, staff (and Mrs. Cook ) agreed not to pursue the funds at this time. Any remaining funds not distributed to participating school districts by March 1, 2004 shall revert. It was mentioned that next year the Commissioner of Education had a $50 million dollar line item for this. The House leadership was looking at $300 million dollars for this proposal. The district would pursue the proposal and come up with a plan to meet the March deadline.

8. Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Lannon discussed the 18-and-out option, the FSBA Certified Board Member Program School Finance Training Module, school visits, and his calendar.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Action: The superintendent recommended that the Board approve

consent agenda items #9 through #18, #20 through #26,

28 through #32, and addendum item #34 (Hensley/Hilson/Carried 5-0)

9. Personnel Agenda & Leaves

***Addendum 34. Educational Talent Search Job Descriptions: Program Director, Outreach Advisor (part-time/fulltime), Clerical Asst. II***

10. Bid #0408003 Digital Plate Setter

11. Amendment #1 to Interlocal Agreement for Agri-Science Education Center

12. Consulting Contract 2003-2004 with David Lycan

13. Renewal of Agreement with TSA Consulting Group, Inc.

14. Payment of Bills (May - July 2003)

15. Monthly Financial Reports - (May - July 2003)

16. Annual Financial Report 2002-2003

17. Professional Services Agreement with Sally Ann Wilkinson for Art Instruction

18. Learning for Life Character Education Program Grant Proposal

19. Lawnwood Stadium Operation Agreement **(Delete)**

20. Amendment to the Policy and Procedures of Specially Designed Instruction and Related Services

21. Authorization to Advertise for Public Hearing (10-14-03) the Revised Student Progression Plan (Adopted Under the 90-Day Emergency Rule)

22. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement with Clarence Lucas

23. ESE Professional Services Agreement for Hospitalized/Homebound with Laura E. Giraldez

24. ESE Professional Services Agreement for Hospitalized/Homebound with Betty R. Dawson

25. ESE Professional Services Agreement for Hospitalized/Homebound with Jeannine M. Budihas

26. ESE Professional Services Agreement for Physical Therapist Assistant with Pediatric Mobility, Inc.

27. Five (5) Year Work Plan (Deleted - pulled for separate vote)

28. Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) Ranking for Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Engineer

29. Professional Consulting Services with Culpepper & Terpening, Inc., for Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection’s

(FDEP) Natural Attenuation Monitoring at Ft. Pierce Elementary a/k/a/Fort Pierce Magnet School of the Arts

30. Professional Consulting Services with Culpepper & Terpening, Inc., for Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection’s

(FDEP) Site Rehabilitation Completion Order at North Transportation Facility

31. Continuing Services Contract with Mactec Engineering, Inc., (Formerly known as LAW Engineering and Environ-

mental Services, Inc.) for Professional Engineering Services for Roofing

32. Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) Ranking for Architect Selection for Alternative Education

Facilities

**OTHER BUSINESS**

33. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #297/NJ/09-05-85/0161/02-03

***Addendum 35. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #298/CC/10-17-87/0301/03-04***

***Addendum 36. Stipulated Findings of Fact, conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #299/JD/02-28-88/0161/03-04***

***Addendum 37. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #300/JG/11-27-89/0371/02-03***

***Addendum 38. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #301/CM/11-12-86/0301/03-04***

***Addendum 39. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #302/NM/10-02-88/0261/02-03***

***Addendum 40. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #303/TM/10-03-87/0161/02-03***

***Addendum 41. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #304/JP/01-01-88/0201/03-04***

***Addendum 42. Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order #305/SR/07-23-88/0371/02-03***

Action: The superintendent requested that the Board combine

item #33 with addendum items #35 through #42 into

one recommendation for approval of Stipulated

Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and

Final Order #297 through #305 (Miller/Hensley/Carried 5-0).

**FACILITIES REPORT**

Mr. Marty Sanders, Executive Director of Facilities & Maintenance, distributed a new project list for the Board’s review.

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

No report.

**CTA REPORT**

No report.

**CWA REPORT**

No report.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS**

Dr. Miller indicated she had a draft policy regarding family involvement for student achievement that needed to be approved. She suggested it be discussed at the September 23, 2003 meeting. Attorney Harrell suggested the Board may need to adopt the policy under the 90 day emergency rule and follow up with the public hearing process to fulfill requirements of the Department of Education. Mr. Lannon mentioned that everyone was asking DOE to delay implementation so a policy could be crafted.

Mrs. Hensley noted that board members had scheduled individual meetings with the Department of Education’s new Southeastern Region Field Director, Mr. Lamont Couch who is director contact with Secretary Horne.

Dr. Miller thanked Michelle Sjogren and her staff for helping with the media luncheon.

**UNSCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

There were no unscheduled speakers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After conducting all business scheduled to come before the Board, Chairman Carvelli adjourned the September 9, 2003 regular meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.