

eAgenda

June 17, 2013 Special School Board Meeting

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Special Meeting –June 17, 2013
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
School Board Room
4204 Okeechobee Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34947

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

1. [Welcome](#)

Minutes:

The School Board of St. Lucie County held a Special Meeting in the School Board Room on June 17, 2013, at approximately 9:00 a.m. Members present were Chairman Debbie Hawley (residing in District No. 1), Vice Chairman Donna Mills (residing in District No. 3), Member Kathryn Hensley (residing in District No. 4), Member Carol A. Hilson (residing in District No. 2), and Member Troy Ingersoll (residing in District No. 5). School Board Attorney Daniel B. Harrell also attended the meeting.

Chairman Hawley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. It was noted that many in attendance had participated in the five superintendent search candidate interviews either as a community member, a District Advisory Council member, or a Superintendent Search Advisory Committee member.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

2. [Discussion with Consultant - Superintendent Search Interviews with Candidates \(Revised\)](#)

Minutes:

Consultant Jim Huge presented a followup report on the superintendent search candidate interviews held on June 3 and 4, 2013. The five candidates who had been interviewed by the Board, staff and community members were Scott Bailey, Michael (Scott) Flowers, Darci Mohr, Agnella Perera, and Mark Rendell.

Mr. Huge first informed the Board he had received a letter of withdrawal due to personal health reasons from Scott Bailey. Secondly, he outlined options available to the Board, namely: (1) select one of the four candidates, (2) extend the search for 3-6 months and confirm candidates' continued interest, (3) make inquiries to see if other people are now available to enter the search process, (4) shut the process down and re-open it in September/October to recruit others to interview in December, (5) ask Acting Superintendent Genelle Yost to become Interim Superintendent until her retirement in 2.5 years.

Board discussion ensued and based on the diversity of comments, opinions and community feedback each member had received, Chairman Hawley reflected the consensus by stating the Board was not ready to move forward with a final decision. Mr. Huge said this happens frequently and reiterated the Board could go back out to gather additional applications and information. Mrs. Hensley favored widening the pool of candidates. Dr. Mills indicated she would like to keep two of the four current candidates and concurred with extending the pool of candidates if the applicants are strong. Ms. Hilson favored looking for (other) strong candidates and wanted to ask follow-up questions of two current candidates. Mr. Ingersoll suggested shutting the process down and picking it up in September. Mrs. Hawley indicated she was still considering the options, e.g., shut down and start over, keep the four current candidates and look for others, or narrow the number of current candidates. The question then came up about narrowing the four candidates down to two and consequently, the following action was taken after a brief period of discussion.

Action: Mrs. Hensley moved that the Board name the top two choices [from the current pool of candidates] and give direction [to consultant] to reach out further for other names [of potential candidates] (Hensley/Mills/Carried 3-2; Ingersoll, Hawley against). At different times during discussion, Mrs. Hawley and Mr. Ingersoll indicated they favored shutting down the process and re-opening at a later date.

After voting, board members stated the names of their top two candidates as follows: Mr. Ingersoll named Mark Rendell (no second). Dr. Mills named Darci Mohr and Agnella Perera. Mrs. Hawley named Darci Mohr (no second). Ms. Hilson named Darci Mohr (no second). Mrs. Hensley named Mark Rendell and Agnella Perera. At that point, Mr. Huge indicated he would (1) go back and talk with Mark Rendell, Darci Mohr, and Agnella Perera to find out if they would stay or withdraw, (2) contact Mr. Flowers to let him know he was not part of the process at this point, and (3) discuss community input and follow-up questions with each candidate so that he could pass the information back to individual board members.

As a result of the Board's action, Mr. Huges clarified that he was being directed to determine if current candidates Mark Rendell, Darci Mohr and Agnella Perera wish to continue in the superintendent search process, make inquiries of other available potential candidates, report back to the Board on his findings, and if it becomes necessary, propose a timeline to re-open the search process. Chairman Hawley added that the three current candidates were not the only ones--the Board was ready to move forward to seek new candidates.

On a final note, the Board determined it had, by resolution, already designated that the Deputy Superintendent, Mrs. Genelle Zoratti Yost, would step into the Superintendent's position upon his departure effective July 1, 2013 (Superintendent Lannon's retirement was effective June 30, 2013).

In summary, Chairman Hawley reconfirmed the Board's commitment to find the right person. She thanked all of the many community members for everything they had contributed and asked them to continue to do so. Mrs. Hawley advised people to not be concerned about the time for the process was moving forward and a decision will be made with complete consensus so that we will all be able to stand totally behind the Superintendent.

Motions:

Mrs. Hensley moved that the Board (members) individually name the top two choices (confirm they want to be part of continued process) and direct Mr. Huges to reach out further to other interested candidates (Hensley/Mills/Carried 3-2; Ingersoll, Hawley against). - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: KATHRYN HENSLEY

Second: DONNA MILLS

DEBORAH HAWLEY - Nay

KATHRYN HENSLEY - Aye

CAROL HILSON - Aye

TROY INGERSOLL - Nay

DONNA MILLS - Aye

ADJOURNMENT

3. [Time Adjourned](#)

Minutes:

Discussion ended and Chairman Hawley adjourned the June 17, 2013 Special Meeting at approximately 9:58 a.m.

Note: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the School Board regarding any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he/she will need a record of the proceedings. For this purpose, an individual should ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, at his/her own expense, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Sec. 286.0105 F. S.). In compliance with ADA requirements, special needs can be reasonably accommodated by contacting the School Board of St. Lucie County at least ten (10) working days prior to the meeting. Contact the Board's Assistant by phone 772-429-3914, fax 772-429-7559., or harrisonc@stlucie.k12.fl.us. Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD) is available at 772-429-3919. This agenda may be amended from time to time on an as needed basis and shall be published on June 3, 2013.