

**AGENDA  
PULASKI COUNTY  
SCHOOL BOARD AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
JOINT MEETING**

**Pulaski Elementary Elementary School**  
**March 1, 2010, 6:00 p.m.**

**1. Welcome**

- Resolution for a Multi-jurisdictional Major Crime Scene Memorandum of Understanding

**2. Budget Situation** – Both Boards have reviewed the statement of needs resulting from state cutbacks. Making up for the estimated \$5 million in state funding loss for education alone (not including an additional \$600,000 for constitutional officers), on an annual basis, would require a \$0.17 cent, or a 33%, increase in the real estate rate. As an alternative, the personal property tax rate would have to be increased by \$1.94, or 91%.

**Enclosed** is a summary describing limited options available to the Board in raising significant additional revenue. Also **enclosed** is a draft budget plan. It is recommended that the budget schedule be amended as shown in bold italics in the **enclosed** schedule in order to allow maximum time for determination of state funding levels.

It is suggested that the Board join with each other in addressing the matter at the state level while working together to reduce operating costs. The steps are recommended:

- a. **Legislative Efforts** – Continuation of joint visits to legislators is suggested, as is researching the statewide number of teachers affected by state cuts in comparison with reductions in the state workforce. It may also be helpful to enlist the assistance of local plant managers (in part through the Corporate Roundtable), human resource officers, chambers of commerce and others affected by the quality of the state education system in addressing the funding situation.
- b. **Initiation of a Joint Efficiency Study** – Participation in, and expansion of, the state school efficiency study program is recommended to include both school and county operations. It is recommended that the \$20,000 - \$30,000 cost of this system be considered for possible funding through reserves since this would be a one-time costs resulting in possible long-term savings. Implementation of the proposed efficiency study would be conditional on conferring with other localities that have conducted efficiency studies to determine that a study could be conducted without recommending initiatives that are costly to the locality.
- c. **Joint Services Oversight Board** – It is recommended that both Boards appoint two representatives each to serve on a Joint Services Oversight Board. This step was recommended in the **enclosed** report and also called for in the original agreement included on page 27 of this enclosure.

- d. **Expansion of Joint Services Concept to include Regional Agencies and Non-profit Organizations** – Pulaski County is host to a number of regional authorities and non-profit organizations. The County also has a history of establishing regional partnerships and is surrounded by localities with similar financial difficulties. These factors combined with quality staff and programs provides the Board of Supervisors and School Board the opportunity to reduce net costs by charging for support services we can provide to others such as information technology, financial accounting, vehicle repair, emergency dispatch, and similar “back office” operations.
  - e. **Maximizing the Use of Existing Buildings** – A discussion regarding the use/reuse of existing buildings is suggested as a way of making the best use of space while reducing operating costs.
3. **Update on Current Initiatives** – We would like to provide both boards with a brief update on the following items:
- a. **Facilities and Transportation** – Ronnie Nichols plans to provide an update regarding operations, transportation, county garage and PSA including the reuse of the lower level of the Bob White building. Scheduling of individual, or a group tour(s), is suggested.
  - b. **Grant for School Emergency Preparedness Planning** – Pam Frasier, who has been contracted to write grants for the County, school staff and County emergency management staffs have submitted a \$150,000 grant to be used to update and coordinate various individual school emergency plans, purchase additional communications radios and provide National Incident Management System training for key employees. Ronnie Nichols can provide an update and answer questions regarding this effort.
  - c. **Telecommunications** – Tim Barnes plans to provide an update regarding telecommunication issues in the county and schools and is to be commended for improving responses to the help desk.
  - d. **Finance and Health Insurance** – Updates regarding the budget forecasts for Pulaski County Public Schools and for the Board of Supervisors will be provided. Staff will also provide a summary of Health Insurance options.
  - e. **Office Locations** – **Enclosed** is an updated timeline for improvements to the Maple Shade building.
  - f. **Other Initiatives** – Your staffs would appreciate suggestions from Board members for other means of working together in serving the public during these difficult economic times.
4. **Next meeting** – 6:00 p.m. Monday, October 4, 2010 unless Board members would like to meet sooner.
5. **Adjournment**