

## JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

At a joint meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors and the Pulaski County School Board held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the community meeting room of the Pulaski Elementary School, the following Board of Supervisors members were present: Charles Bopp, Vice-Chairman; Ranny L. Akers; and Dean Pratt. Chairman Joseph L. Sheffey and Board member Frank Conner were unable to attend the meeting. County staff present included; Peter Huber, County Administrator; Shawn Utt, Community Development Director; Diane Newby, County Finance Director; and Gena Hanks, Clerk to the Board of Supervisors. School Board members present included Paul Phillips, Chairman; Jeff Bain; Pam Chitwood; and Rodell Cruise. School Board member John Wenrich was unable to attend the meeting. School Board staff present included: Dr. Robert Becker, Superintendent of Schools; Heather Freeman, School Board Clerk; Mr. Tim Barnes, Director, Information Technology; Lal Harter, School Finance Director; Dr. Greg Brown, Director of School Human Resources; Ron Nichols, Director of Operations, Transportation and Maintenance; and Toni Elitharp, Director of Special Education.

### 1. Welcome

Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairmen Bopp and School Board Chairman Phillips welcomed those in attendance. Mr. Bopp and Mr. Phillips expressed appreciation for the opportunity for the two boards to meet jointly.

### 2. Action Items

#### a. PCHS Heating System

Mr. Nichols described a meeting in which Honeywell officials confirmed that the financing for energy savings measures was independent of their work in doing the project. As reported in the Board packet, the return to Honeywell for both engineering and construction management services was 15% of contracted costs and that they bid projects based on a selection of prequalified contractors needed for doing large design-build projects.

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Bopp.

Voting no: none.

Not present: Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey.

Staff recommended adoption of a memorandum of understanding for design work only at a cost of approximately \$43,000 and have asked for a proposal for the work required to address the switch from resistance electric heat to natural gas. Authorization to proceed with the design work and both design and construction of the electric to gas work at the high school is recommended with the cost of the project to be funded from reserves.

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Akers and carried, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding for Technical Energy and Water Savings Audit at a cost of \$43,000 allowing for the design work and both design and construction of the electric to gas work at the Pulaski County High School.

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Bopp.

Voting no: none.

Not present: Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey.

b. Purchasing Policy

Mr. Harter reviewed a draft joint purchasing policy which had been prepared for consideration by both Boards. He advised a common purchasing policy would greatly simplify procurement for those who purchase on behalf of both boards, on finance staffs, auditors and legal counsel, as well as vendors providing goods or services.

Mr. Huber suggested that the draft policy be presented to the Board of Supervisors at its September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting for review and consideration for adoption by the Board. With each Board individually adopting the revised policies.

3. Information Updates on Current Initiatives

a. Facilities and Transportation

Ronnie Nichols provided an update on the operations, transportation, county and PSA departments.

b. Regional Fiber Grant

Tim Barnes provided an update on the fiber grant advising of ongoing work with Citizen's Telephone Cooperative to ensure lower cost connections to all schools are implemented as part of a \$9.2 million grant to be matched locally with \$600,000 in funding from the Board of Supervisors. He described the worldwide shortage of fibers due to the tsunami in Japan, noting there are other projects that can be done until then; connecting fibers to many schools, county and community agencies and buildings;

Mr. Barnes advised Pronet is selling out to another provider. He advised New River Valley Unwired has been interested in providing service to Pulaski County.

Mr. Barnes provided an update regarding service to the Water Treatment Plant and the replacing of phone equipment at Pulaski County High School and Sheriff's Office.

c. Efficiency Study

Dr. Becker provided an update on the efficiency study. He advised the interviews by DecideSmart were scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>, with a community forum to also be scheduled.

4. Other items for Future Discussion

Mr. Huber advised of the following items for future discussion by the Boards with comments noted as appropriate.

- a. Personnel Policy Revisions
- b. Transfer of Leave Accruals
- c. Building Maintenance
- d. Shared Garage

Mr. Nichols provided details of the potential joining of the school and county garages and the cost savings to both the county and schools. He also described the efficiencies that could be gained from the joining of the two garages, including the use of the same parts, buying in bulk, personnel advantages and the consolidation of the fuel system. Mr. Nichols advised a report will be provided in the future on additional findings and needs.

Mr. Bain requested consideration to cleaning up the entrance to the existing county garage, particularly due to the close proximity of the Veteran's Cemetery.

Mr. Akers requested the plans for the shared garage include long range needs, including how the facility will be equipped. Mr. Akers also requested consideration to a secure area for working on Sheriff's vehicles. Mr. Nichols advised the shared garage would have automated gates into the facility allowing for securing Sheriff's vehicles.

Mr. Huber advised the two boards were not being asked to provide approval at this time; however, staff would appreciate knowing concerns of board members before proceeding with the development of more detailed plans.

e. Other Initiatives

Mr. Akers, Mr. Bain and Mr. Bopp thanked the board members, staffs and others in attendance for the long standing cooperative efforts of the two boards. Mr. Phillips expressed appreciation for the opportunity for the two boards to meet jointly.

5. Next meeting

By consensus, the Board of Supervisors and School Board scheduled its next meeting for Monday, March 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., pending no change in the 2012 regular meeting dates for both the School Board and Board of Supervisors.

6. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Akers and carried, the Board of Supervisors adjourned its special meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the residence of Attorney Tom McCarthy for the purpose of holding a "board social". The next regular meeting of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, September 26, 2011 beginning with a Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. and regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the County Administration Building, 143 Third Street, N. W., in the Town of Pulaski.

Voting yes: Mr. Akers, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Bopp.

Voting no: none.

Not present: Mr. Conner, Mr. Sheffey.

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Joseph L. Sheffey, Chairman

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Peter M. Huber, County Administrator