

2007 Board Meeting Minutes Archive

Called Board Meeting Minutes

July 2, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education held a called meeting on Monday, July 2, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was held at the Board Conference Center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper, Georgia. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Jerry Chastain, Shane Neighbors, G. Mark Mitton, and Ervin Easterwood. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

There was a motion made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to delete executive session, include surplus property, board comments and to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to surplus .12 acres of property on the corner of Martin Road and Harmony School Road and deed it to Mac Martin.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Easterwood commented on our taxation method concerning the budgetary process.

There was a motion made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, July 12, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Shane Neighbors, Ervin Easterwood, Jerry Chastain, and Mark Mitton. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Vice-Chairman Chastain called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. Chastain read the mission statement.

Neighbors entered the meeting.

Mitton led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to add and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) update.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

Mrs. Patricia Boutwell and Mr. Greg Owens spoke to the board referencing the changes they would like to be made in the 07-08 school dress code.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY07 general fund expenditures at 96.94% and revenue collected at 106.53%. The June SPLOST II balance was 1,405,150.10 and interest paid was \$3,783.79. The June SPLOST III balance was \$1,002,481.14, interest paid was \$2,840.12, and revenue was \$440,189.42.

Superintendent Mike Ballew reported that all Pickens County Schools and the system made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the June 14, 2007 and July 2, 2007 minutes as submitted.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve revisions to policy BBFA Local School Councils and to abolish policy IKDB Graduation Ceremonies. (See attachments.)

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the surplus property submitted as surplus.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve a spending resolution for August. Burgess read resolution into record.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve Policy JCDA Student Code of Conduct. (See attachments.)

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to pursue SACS/CASI Accreditation for the Pickens County School district.

A motion was made by Chastain, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to go into executive session at 5:55 p.m. to discuss the future acquisition of real estate; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)) to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)) to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (OCGA 50-14-2).

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 6:59 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Chastain reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Mitton said congratulations to staff, students, and parents for our schools and system making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). He introduced and welcomed Bruce Godfrey and Chris Williams in their new positions as principals. He welcomed and introduced Tommy Qualls in his new position as Assistant Superintendent.
- Easterwood said he would like for our school board to be a board of distinction through Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA).

Mitton made a motion, seconded by Neighbors, to adjourn at 7:04 p.m. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Called Board Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education held a called meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was held at the Board Conference Center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper, Georgia. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Shane Neighbors, G. Mark Mitton, and Ervin Easterwood. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to include tentative budget approval for FY08.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve a tentative budget for FY08. (See attachments.)

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to set the millage rate at 14.47.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the state facilities funding to assist with the Pickens High School additions and renovations and Tate Elementary School roof and air conditioning for the gym.

There was a motion made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to

adjourn at 5:10 p.m.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Called Board Meeting Minutes

July 31, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education held a called meeting on Tuesday, July 31, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was held at the Board Conference Center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper, Georgia. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Jerry Chastain, Shane Neighbors, G. Mark Mitton, and Ervin Easterwood. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to include a discussion referencing student code of conduct/dress code.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to enter into executive session at 5:06 p.m. to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)) and to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (OCGA 50-14-2).

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 7:50 p.m.

Chairman Trammell reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to amend the current dress code.

There was a motion made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, August 9, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Shane Neighbors, John Trammel, Ervin Easterwood, Jerry Chastain, and Mark Mitton. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Mitton led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed on a 4-0 vote to approve the agenda as submitted.

Superintendent Mike Ballew presented the board with certificates from the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) for the six hours training sessions the board participated in.

Career Technology Director Mr. Shannon Gable recognized Related Vocational Leadership (RVI) winners Jack Robbins; he placed first in state in restaurant design. Gable recognized Casey Ray who won second place in state in woodworking. The advisor is Connie Cagle.

Board member Jerry Chastain entered meeting.

Reverend John Baptist spoke to the board referencing a way to exempt seniors over 65 from paying school taxes. Also, Baptist requested one of the board members to volunteer to sit on the Pickens County Tax Reform Committee in which Baptist is the Chairman.

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented total enrollment for the fifth day of school as 4318 and drop-outs as 8.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board. Jasper Middle Schools seventh grade hall ceiling and lighting was completely renovated. Chairman Trammell said thank you to the maintenance department for their hard work.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY07 general fund expenditures at 97.43% and revenue collected at 107.10%. The July SPLOST II balance was 1,393,570.86 and interest paid was \$4,041.41. The July SPLOST III balance was \$826,050.75, interest paid was \$4,851.73, and revenue was \$402,189.45. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest paid was \$36,515.09 and the balance was \$8,148,391.34.

There was a motion by Neighbors, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the July 12, 17, and 31, 2007 minutes as submitted.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the resolution on class size. Ballew read resolution into record. (See attachments.)

There was a motion made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the Career/Technical local Plan.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to

approve the surplus property submitted as surplus.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the amendment to the FY07 budget as presented. (See attachments.)

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to go into executive session at 5:50 p.m. to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)) to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (OCGA 50-14-2).

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 6:29 p.m.

Chairman Trammell reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Trammell stated that issues brought forward by Reverend Baptist were beyond the school boards control. He was grateful that the board was able to lower the millage rate.
- Easterwood said that the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) along with the Georgia School Superintendents Association (GSSA) was holding a legislative inforum on Sept 6, 2007 in Gordon County.

Mitton made a motion, seconded by Chastain, to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Called Board Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education held a called meeting on Tuesday, August 28, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. This meeting was held at the Board Conference Center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper, Georgia. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Jerry Chastain, Shane Neighbors, G. Mark Mitton, and Ervin Easterwood.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to enter into executive session at 5:05 p.m. to review an appeal from a Student Disciplinary Tribunal [Hearing Officer, Panel]; (OCGA 20-2-757) to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)).

In executive session a motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to uphold the decision of the tribunal.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 5:37 p.m.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

There was a motion made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, September 13, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Shane Neighbors, John Trammel, Ervin Easterwood, Jerry Chastain, and Mark Mitton. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m.

Mitton led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the

agenda as submitted.

Superintendent Mike Ballew presented the principals with certificates from the Georgia Accrediting Commission, Inc. certifying that all Pickens County Schools are accredited with quality. The principals were recognized by the school board.

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented total enrollment as 4351 students and 1 student with 15 or more absences and drop-outs as 17. Mr. Kirk Garner with ACE Hardware presented a banner to Principal Chris LeMieux for the 2006-2007 highest percentage of attendance at 96.86%.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board. Maintenance and Food Service building is up and will be ready to move into around November. Transportation has four new buses to put into use next week.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY07 general fund expenditures at 97.57% and revenue collected at 107.06%. Final numbers for FY07 will be presented in October. Burgess reported FY08 general fund expenditures at 5.02% and revenue collected at 8.71%. The August SPLOST II balance was 1,235,705.78 and interest paid was \$3,898.02. The August SPLOST III balance was \$457,803.86, interest paid was \$2,643.82, and revenue collected was \$326,112.66. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest paid was \$36,460.46 and the balance was \$8,184,851.80. Assistant Superintendent Tommy Qualls was added to our accounts this month. Burgess reported that audit would be here in November.

There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, no vote was taken to approve the minutes for August 9, 2007. Chairman Trammel requested to amend the minutes for August 9, 2007 under board comments to read that he and the board were grateful to have been able to lower the millage rate. There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the minutes for August 9, 2007 as amended and to approve the August 28, 2007 called board minutes as submitted.

There was a motion made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to nominate Jerry Chastain as the Georgia School Boards Association (GSBA) Legislative Liaison to represent Pickens County Schools. There was a motion by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to nominate Shane Neighbors as an alternate (GSBA) Legislative Liaison.

There was a motion by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the FY09 Capital Outlay Project for Pickens County Middle School. State funds will be \$586,269.00 and required local funds as \$146,567.00.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as amended. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Chastain congratulated Principal Dr. LeMieux on the 2006-07 attendance of 96.86%. Chastain also thanked Attendance Officer Cantrell for keeping up with that.
- Neighbors said congratulations to the principals for their schools receiving accreditation with quality from the Georgia Accrediting Commission, Inc.
- Easterwood said that he, Chastain, Neighbors and Ballew participated in the (GSBA) Legislative Inforum at Sonoraville, Georgia. Easterwood asked for people to remember the Fountain family due to the loss of Amon Fountain and that we have several employees who are a part of that family.

Mitton made a motion, seconded by Neighbors, to adjourn at 5:55 p.m. The vote to adjourn was

unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Shane Neighbors, John Trammel, Ervin Easterwood, and Jerry Chastain. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

Easterwood led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

Superintendent Mike Ballew presented a Governors Cup Trophy to Principal Chris Williams and Assistant Superintendent Tommy Qualls. This trophy was presented to Pickens High School for the highest three year gains in Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores in Region 7AAA. The board congratulated Williams, Qualls, and all their staff for this achievement.

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented total enrollment as 4332 students and 5 students with 15 or more absences and drop-outs as 24.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board. Roll up doors were installed in the Maintenance and Food Service building. The construction crew at Pickens High School ran into some rock in the orchestra area and that took some time to clear. Some of the steel beams have been set. Transportation has four new buses to put into use next week.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY07 general fund expenditures at 97.57% and revenue collected at 107.06%. Burgess presented the Final numbers for FY07. Chairman Trammell said this was a good report. Burgess reported FY08 general fund expenditures at 14.46% and revenue collected at 7.76%. The September SPLOST II balance was 877,182.50 and interest paid was \$3,242.28. The September SPLOST III balance was \$884,438.88, interest paid was \$1,767.62, and revenue collected was \$439,394.24. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest paid was \$33,827.53 and the balance was \$7,718,679.33. Burgess reported that she would send out Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) loan bids out to all the banks located within the county.

School Improvement Specialist Susan Reeves presented a quarterly technology update.

Superintendent Mike Ballew reported to the board referencing Georgia leadership Institute School Improvement (GLISI). The Pickens County GLISI team met in Stone Mountain, Georgia and Ballew said the meeting was very positive and involved. The GLISI team from each school met

and the information was given and there was a very positive reaction.

There was a motion by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the minutes for September 13, 2007.

There was a motion made by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the surplus property submitted as surplus.

There was a motion by Trammell, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve a field trip to Disney World in Orlando Florida for the Pickens band, chorus, and dance class in December.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded Easterwood, which passed unanimously to go into executive session at 5:56 p.m. to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (OCGA 50-14-2).

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 6:51 p.m. Chairman Trammell reported no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as presented. (See attachments.)

A motion was made Neighbors, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to accept the confidential agreement on pending litigation as presented in executive session.

Board Comments:

- Easterwood requested to terminate the committee referencing Senior Citizen Tax which Easterwood was a member. Easterwood said there were no links to the Pickens County Board of Education. The Senior Citizen Tax information would be an act of the County Commissioner.
- Chairman Trammell said regardless of the rumors that have been spread the intentions are to renovate or add a better more accommodating facility for the agriculture department at Pickens High School.
- Neighbors said he was looking forward to the principals presentations dealing with their school spirit applications.

Neighbors made a motion, seconded by Easterwood, to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the

Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Mark Mitton, Shane Neighbors, John Trammel, Ervin Easterwood, and Jerry Chastain. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Chastain led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

Superintendent Mike Ballew presented the 2007 School Bell Award to Hill City Elementary School Principal Dr. Carlton Wilson. The School Bell Award is provided by Georgia Educational Leadership (GAEL) for innovative programs.

Ballew presented a banner to Pickens County Middle School Principal Dr. Chris LeMieux from the Office of Student Achievement for receiving the Gold Award. The Gold Award was received for making the greatest gains in student achievement. LeMieux said that the PCMS sixth grade Math Dragons placed first at the Berry College Fall math contest. Ballew said that Jasper Middle School sixth grade math team placed second. PCMS student Heather Stargel spoke at a state dinner for Title I Distinguished Schools. She represented PCMS. She was the only Middle School student to speak in the state of Georgia

Attendance Officer Shelley Cantrell presented total enrollment as 4315 students and 26 students with 15 or more absences and drop-outs as 36.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board. A new topography map was ordered for the new gym and lunchroom at Jasper Elementary School. Shaddix also gave an update on the Pickens High School project. The records room will now be located at the new M&O building.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY08 general fund expenditures at 22.72% and revenue collected at 12.6%. The October SPLOST II balance was \$868,618.16 and interest paid was \$2,727.09. The October SPLOST III balance was \$1,204,686.20, interest paid was \$4,490.98, and revenue collected was \$373,160.34. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest paid was \$32,378.45 and the balance was \$7,751,057.78.

Easterwood asked Ballew to meet with the Commissioner referencing taxes paid by the school system to the county.

There was a motion by Easterwood, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the minutes for October 11, 2007.

Burgess reported that a loan may be necessary to cover expenditures through November and December until the tax revenue is received. Ballew opened the sealed bids and presented the bids as follows: Regions Bank 3.58% fixed, Chestatee Bank 4.22% fixed, Crescent Bank 4.95% variable, Jasper Banking Company 4.5% fixed, Community Bank of Pickens County 4.8%, United Community Bank 3.46% fixed, and Bank of North Georgia 4.1% variable. Burgess reviewed the notices. Ballew recommended accepting the bid from United Community Bank at a fixed rate of 3.46% and approve a loan resolution authorizing Chairman Trammel and Ballew to execute the loan documents. There was a motion by Chastain, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to accept the bid from United Community Bank at a fixed rate of 3.46%. (See

attachments.)

A motion was made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the railroad crossing contract with Georgia Northeastern Railroad.

A motion was made by Chastain, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as presented. (See attachments.)

Board Comments:

- Chairman Trammell said he was looking forward to hearing the Principals presentations referencing school pride.
- Easterwood thanked those for the preparations at the Teacher of the Year Banquet. He said it was a very nice and he enjoyed the banquet.
- Chairman Trammell thanked Chastain for presenting the award to the Teacher of the Year for him for he had a previous engagement.

Mitton made a motion, seconded by Chastain, to adjourn at 6:41 p.m. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Called Board Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education held a called meeting on Wednesday, November 28, 2007, at 5:22 p.m. This meeting was held at the Board Conference Center on D.B. Carroll Street in Jasper, Georgia. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: John T. Trammell, Jerry Chastain, Shane Neighbors, G. Mark Mitton, and Ervin Easterwood. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

This called board meeting was preceded by a workshop which began at 4:30 p.m.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to amend the agenda to include approval of H. Lloyd Hill Architects & Associates, Inc. contract and approve the agenda as amended.

A motion was made by Trammell, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to enter into executive session at 5:44 p.m. to discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee; (OCGA 50-14-3 (6)).

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Easterwood, which passed unanimously to return to open session at 6:24 p.m.

Chairman Trammell stated that no action was taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to accept the superintendent's recommendation for approval of H. Lloyd Hill Architects and Associates, Inc. contract for the facility projects.

There was a motion made by Easterwood, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2007

The Pickens County Board of Education met on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Center on D. B. Carroll Street for the regular monthly board meeting. The following board members were present and received per diem compensation: Mark Mitton, Shane Neighbors, John Trammell, and Jerry Chastain. Board Attorney Phil Landrum III was present.

Chairman Trammell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Mitton led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Neighbors, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

Jasper Middle School Principal Bruce Godfrey recognized the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math teams coached by Tammy Duncan which took 2nd place at the Berry College math competition. Godfrey recognized the JMS FFA Middle School Chapter for the following honors: 2006-2007 Middle School Chapter of the Year 2nd year, 2006-2007 State Gold Emblem Chapter, 2006-2007 National Three Star Chapter Award winner, runner up to National Middle School Chapter of the Year. Mr. Todd Dobson is the JMS FFA Chapter teacher and sponsor. JMS student Courtney Chapman won the Northwest District FFA Junior Floral Design this fall. She will go on to compete at the state competition later this year.

Pickens County Middle School Principal Chris LeMieux recognized the band students for making the 9th District Honor Band.

Superintendent Mike Ballew presented certificates from the Georgia Department of Education to Special Education Director Christine Barker. The awards were for students who met or exceeded state achievements for math, reading/english language arts, for reducing the amount of students who drop out of school, for graduates with a regular education diploma, and educating children in the least restrictive environment.

Ballew presented total enrollment as 4312 students and 70 students with 15 or more absences and drop-outs as 44.

Supervisor of Operations Lloyd Shaddix presented a maintenance update to the board including

an update on the renovations and additions to Pickens High School.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Burgess presented the financial report. Burgess reported FY08 general fund expenditures at 30.98% and revenue collected at 19.32%. The November SPLOST II balance was \$730,274.26 and interest paid was \$2,269.66. The November SPLOST III balance was \$577,307.44, interest paid was \$2,207.20, and revenue collected was \$430,887.16. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest paid was \$29,537.14 and the balance was \$7,780,594.92.

There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to approve the minutes for November 8 meeting and called board meeting minutes on November 28, 2007.

A motion was made by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the surplus property submitted.

There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to schedule the January board meeting for January 10, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. and set the 2008 board meeting schedule as the second Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

There was a motion by Chastain, seconded by Neighbors, which passed unanimously to approve the eighth grade Washington D.C. field trip for both Pickens County and Jasper Middle Schools.

There was a motion by Mitton, seconded by Chastain, which passed unanimously to table the Pickens County Middle School band field trip to the Disney Performing Arts Workshop until the January meeting.

A motion was made by Chastain, seconded by Mitton, which passed unanimously to approve the superintendent's personnel recommendations as presented. (See attachments.)

Mitton made a motion, seconded by Neighbors, to adjourn at 5:49 p.m. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

John Trammell, Chairman

Michael L. Ballew, Secretary