

**MINUTES**

Work Session of the

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Corvallis School District 509J  
 1555 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Corvallis, OR 97333

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Rieck called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Administration Building, 1555 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis, Oregon. The secretary recorded those present as listed below.

<p><u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>                  Kari Rieck, Chair                  Donna Keim, Vice Chair                  Matt Donohue                  Helen Higgins                  Anne Schuster                  Blake Rodman                  Nell O'Malley</p> <p><u>STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT</u>                  Zachary Allen, Corvallis High School (CHS)</p>	<p><u>EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT</u>                  Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent                  Jim Hogeboom, Assistant Superintendent                  Fred Wright, Auxiliary Services Director                  Fred Kane, Corvallis Public Schools Foundation                  Director</p>
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A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Rieck led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

**III. TRAINING REGARDING CHARTER SCHOOL PROCESS**

David Turner, Oregon School Boards Association Senior Attorney, provided an overview of the charter school process in Oregon and answered Board questions on the topic. Each Board member received a packet of information that included regulations, timelines, and considerations for beginning an

Oregon charter school as well as information related specifically to the Muddy Creek Charter School application in process. (See Supplemental Item #IV-14 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

Mr. Turner related that the Muddy Creek Charter application had been determined to be fairly complete. The District now has 60 days in which to schedule a public hearing of which it has scheduled two: December 4 and December 14. There will be time for both the District and the applicant to make a presentation and time for public input. The Board then has 30 days after the hearing to decide to approve or deny the application.

Assistant Superintendent Hogeboom identified those on the District committee who would be reviewing the application, noting that an effort was made to include members who either had fiscal or curricular experience. Sharon Thornagle is serving as the committee's facilitator as well as being a member. She retired from the District having served most recently as its Student Services Director and prior to that as a principal and alternative education coordinator.

Assistant Superintendent Hogeboom commented that the crux of the matter is the value of charter versus its fiscal impact. Mr. Turner noted that that is typically where a lot of time will be spent.

Mr. Turner then answered Board questions. He commented that typically a charter school will contract for district services such as fiscal, food, and transportation and that they are not typically able to serve special education students so the district would be required to accommodate them at the charter school.

Mr. Turner confirmed that the District committee and the Board would each issue a report if the Board denies approval. The Board's would likely contain a lot of information that the committee and application provided.

Chair Rieck announced that any remaining questions should be directed to Assistant Superintendent Hogeboom and she announced a four-minute break which began at 7:26 p.m.

Director Higgins departed the meeting due to illness.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

#### **IV. SPECIAL REPORTS**

##### **A. WILDCAT PARK FUNDRAISER**

Mark Hoffman of the Wildcat Park Planning Committee provided an update stating that the contract with Leathers and Associates to provide playground structure and design services should be completed soon. Leathers will gather design ideas from the community on December 19 and construction is being

scheduled over 4-5 days near the last day of school. The committee's core of 15 people has been meeting nearly every two weeks for four to five months.

Mr. Hoffman stated that when the design and related budget estimates are received that fundraising methods can be set, though a fundraising run has already been scheduled for December 9 or 10<sup>th</sup>. At this time, the replacement park is expected to cost a minimum of \$171,161. Leathers is to provide a mock-up of the playground in mid-January

As Board approval is needed when a fundraising goal is over \$75,000, the Board will be asked to authorize permission at the December 4 meeting for fundraising to construct the park above the \$100,000 allocated from remaining District bond funds. Superintendent Tarzian stated that the Board needs to weigh against other fundraisers in the District and community. Auxiliary Services Director Fred Wright expressed that he is hoping to be provided with a base project that has alternates or phases so the funding can be arranged accordingly. The City is being asked to consider contributing as well. Mr. Hoffman stated that the amount of funding will determine the design, not the other way around. He added that the legwork is community-driven, not District-driven, and expects that the community will see that. Mr. Wright noted that other schools are fundraising for their playgrounds as well, such as Garfield.

Mr. Wright closed the presentation by stating that for almost 30 years he has had had the opportunity to work with many parent groups wanting to do various things. Mr. Hoffman's has been among the best.

## **B. BUDGET**

### **1. LOCAL OPTION LEVY CONSIDERATION**

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman asked the Board to consider how they would like to handle an expected increase in revenue over what was anticipated by the maximum levy of \$1.50 per thousand as approved in the election earlier this month. It had been anticipated that the levy would provide about \$3.2 million in 2007-08. The new property assessed value roll would generate almost \$5 million if the tax rate were \$1.50 for the local option levy. Options the Board could consider would be to levy at a lower tax rate to reach the original anticipated revenue amount or levy at the original rate using the additional funds in the same areas as described or setting them aside for a rainy-day fund. She recommended adopting a statement of intent to lower the property tax rate for the local option levy. She offered to prepare a statement for the Board that reflected their wishes.

Director Donohue noted that the State revenue is unknown so that would be a factor to consider. Ms. Rodeman added that she cannot remember when she has known the State's budget prior to July; though the Board must set the tax rate for the following year each June.

Chair Rieck noted that a decision was not needed at this time, that members could take time to think

and debate. A decision date will be put on a future agenda.

## **2. ONE-TIME ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Business Services Director Kathy Rodeman distributed a draft identifying \$3.5 million in additional one-time resources due to the additional Beginning Fund Balance (\$2.1 million) and Public Employees Retirement System litigation reserve (\$1.4 million). (See Supplemental Item #VI-1 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.) Possible uses, garnered from needs heard in recent years, were also listed. The choices totaled over twice as much as the available funds. She announced that staff would have a chance to review and provide input and then the Board would be asked to decide allocations at a future meeting. Superintendent Tarzian would provide her recommendation as well. It was noted that the upcoming community visioning and budget processes will be additional areas where prioritization and community wishes can be heard.

Board members were welcomed to suggest to Ms. Rodeman additional areas for the funds to be used but were asked to weigh the importance of their ideas against the listed items so the list does not become unwieldy.

Director Donohue noted that a good portion of the funds is due to prudent investing and savings of District personnel.

## **C. REAL PROPERTY**

Chair Rieck reminded that any discussion regarding specific negotiations should not be carried out in public and the information was being provided as information only at this time. (See Supplemental Item #VII-14 in the Official 2006-07 Board Minutes.)

Mr. Wright introduced the topic by stating that in Phase 2 of the Long-Range Facilities Master Plan approved by the School Board June 24, 2002, properties adjacent to the southeast of Corvallis High School (CHS) were identified for purchase as they became available. Due to that, he stated that administration feels an obligation to bring to the Board's attention any of those properties as they come for sale. The parcel under consideration tonight is the third one to have been brought to the Board under those parameters since the passage of the initial Phase I bond in November 2002. The first was a duplex which was purchased by the District, the second property was not purchased. Money to purchase this parcel could come from the District's land fund and remaining bond funds. He stated there are enough remaining bond funds to complete desired CHS projects and assist in purchasing this property. He noted that the property needs \$12,000 - \$15,000 in improvements prior to rental or sale, which would take over three years to recoup through rental fees. Alternatively, the advanced woodworking class could use the home as a project. The District's risk manager is looking into what type of insurance would be needed. If the Board has no collective objection, Mr. Wright will pursue negotiations per the direction provided in the Long-Range Facilities Master Plan, potentially bringing the Board a contract for their consideration in the future.

Though members raised some questions, no collective objection was heard and Chair Rieck asked that Board members direct further questions to Mr. Wright, copying Superintendent Tarzian and herself, so that their content could be shared at the meeting on December 4.

Director O'Malley departed the meeting at 9 p.m.

**V. OTHER BUSINESS – PREVIEW OF REVISED POLICY KG – COMMUNITY USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES**

Chair Rieck announced that members had been provided a copy of the significantly revised Policy KG – Community Use of District Facilities which will have its first official reading in December. At that time, the related Administrative Regulations will be complete, including a fee schedule. Members were asked to contact Chair Rieck with their comments and questions.

**VI. ADJOURN**

Being no further business, Chair Rieck adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

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Kari Rieck, Chair

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Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent

Prepared by Jolene Shute

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