

MINUTES

WILLIAMSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

July 9, 2009

A. Call to Order

The Williamson County Board of Education met in special called session on Thursday, July 9, 2009, in the Carolyn Campbell Conference Room at the Administrative Complex. Chairman Pat Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present12

D'Wayne Greer	1 st District	Susan Graham	7 th District
Janice Mills	2 nd District	Pat Anderson	8 th District
Janine Moore	3 rd District	Barry Watkins	9 th District
Tim McLaughlin	4 th District	Bill Peach	10 th District
Gary Anderson	5 th District	Mark Gregory	11 th District
Terry Leve	6 th District	James Bond	12 th District

Members Absent0

B. New Business

1. Discussion and Possible Vote: Proposed Commission Resolution 7-09-2 re: Prohibition of Handguns in County Parks, etc. and Its Impact on School Activities

At the request of Chairman Anderson, Staff Attorney Jason Golden explained the new law passed by the General Assembly allowing handguns in parks and discussed the ramifications of that law in relation to school district activities.

Bill Peach moved to recommend support of the County Commission resolution 7-09-2 opting out of the new law. Janice Mills seconded the motion.

Chairman Anderson called on Parks and Recreation Director Doug Hood who discussed the long, ongoing relationship between the Parks Department and the School District and shared information regarding the frequent and varied use of county parks for school events and activities.

Chairman Anderson presented for discussion a draft resolution which had been prepared by Mr. Golden at her request.

There was discussion about the draft resolution and changes were suggested.

Interim Superintendent Heath discussed steps by the District that would be necessary related to school activities and events if guns were allowed in the parks.

Barry Watkins moved to amend the motion by adding the resolution drafted by Mr. Golden with additional editing as discussed. Janice Mills seconded the motion.

A RESOLUTION OF THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Board of Commissioners is scheduled to meet in regular session on the 13th day of July, 2009 to consider whether to opt out of the provisions of Public Chapter 428 of the 2009 Public Acts of the 106th General Assembly, amending T.C.A. §39-17-1311; and

WHEREAS, said Act removed the prohibition against carrying handguns in public parks but allowed county governments to prohibit, by resolution, the carrying of handguns while within a public park or other recreational area that is owned or operated by a county; and

WHEREAS, Most Williamson County schools use Williamson County parks for recreational and academic purposes; and

WHEREAS, Many Williamson County high and middle schools rely on the use of Williamson County parks for interscholastic athletic purposes; and

WHEREAS, T.C.A. §39-17-1309 prohibits the carrying of firearms on any property used by a board of education; and

WHEREAS, when a school uses a county park where handguns are allowed, T.C.A. §39-17-1309 and T.C.A. §39-17-1311 conflict with each other; and

WHEREAS, to resolve this conflict, schools can not use a public park where handguns are allowed; and

WHEREAS, if the Board of Commissioners does not opt out of the said Act, Williamson County Schools must either cancel its use of public parks for all purposes or obtain alternate facilities to serve school activities at substantial expense;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Board of Education supports any resolution passed by the Williamson County Board of Commissioners that adheres to the provisions of T.C.A. §39-17-1309 to avoid any potential disruptions to the integrity of the district’s athletic and academic programs due to financial, Title IX, and access to adequate facilities and authorizes its Chair to sign below, this ____ day of July, 2009.

.....

Bill Peach withdrew his earlier motion and Janice Mills withdrew her second. Subsequently, the amendment to Mr. Peach’s motion by Barry Watkins and seconded by Janice Mills was also withdrawn.

Gary Anderson moved to approve the resolution as revised above. Tim McLaughlin seconded the motion.

There was further discussion about the issues involved.

Janice Mills called the question.

Chairman Anderson asked for a recommendation from Interim Superintendent Heath, who recommended approval of the motion.

Chairman Anderson called for a roll call vote on the motion to approve the resolution.

D'Wayne Greer	Yes	Susan Graham	Yes
Janice Mills	Yes	Pat Anderson	Yes
Janine Moore	Yes	Barry Watkins	Yes
Tim McLaughlin	Yes	Bill Peach	Yes
Gary Anderson	Yes	Mark Gregory	Yes
Terry Leve	Yes	James Bond	Yes

Action: Yes, 12; No, 0; Abstain, 0; Motion Carried.

2. Discussion of Zoning Appeal Request to be presented July 20, 2009

Chairman Anderson called on Interim Superintendent David Heath, who presented information regarding a request for an appeal to the district zoning policy which will come to the School Board at the regular July 20th board meeting.

3. Request by Mr. Cagle for Attorney Client Meeting, tentatively set for July 20, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in Training Center

Chairman Anderson reported the request from Board Attorney Chuck Cagle for an attorney-client meeting, and suggested 6:00 p.m. on July 20 prior to the regular Board meeting.

The Board agreed to the 6 o'clock time for the meeting with Mr. Cagle.

C. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Patricia B. Anderson, Chairman

Dr. David Heath, Interim Director of Schools