

**RIO HONDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**215 West Colorado Street**

**Rio Hondo, Texas 78583**

**April 23, 2007**

**The Board of Trustees of the Rio Hondo Independent School District met in a Regular Session on Monday, April 23, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, 215 W. Colorado Street, Rio Hondo, Texas, with Mrs. Garza, President, presiding.**

**TRUSTEES:**

**PRESENT -**

**President  
Secretary**

**Noemi Garza  
Susan G. Lopez  
Linda V. Alaniz  
Richard A. Serra  
Xavier Hernandez  
Rene Alfaro**

**ABSENT -**

**Vice President**

**Rolando Alfaro**

**SUPERINTENDENT:**

**Anneliese McMinn**

**RECORDER:**

**Florence Landry**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**J. Montez, K. McKinney,  
M. Everett, I. Stevens,  
Elda Garza, R. Lopez,  
R. Savage**

**VISITORS:**

**See Attached List**

**Items 1 & 2 Mrs. Garza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., after noting a quorum was present and that the meeting notice had been posted as required by law.**

**Item 3 ROTC Color Guard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Item 4 Welcome/Open Forum:**

**Mrs. Garza welcomed everyone and invited comments from the audience. There were none.**

**Item 5 Student/Staff Recognition**

**Junior High Art Teacher Dina Garza recognized her students for their participation at the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show, March 9-18, 2007, Mercedes, Texas. A mural drawn by six students earned them First Place at the Seventh Annual Agriculture Art Mural Competition sponsored by the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show and the Texas Department of Agriculture. Their mural entitled "Showcasing Youth and Agriculture" was used on the program cover, Ms. Garza proudly reported.**

**High School Teacher Julia Olson displayed art projects and recognized the students for their accomplishments at the South Texas Youth Show, January 18-21, 2007, and the Rio Fest competition April 20-22, 2007.**

**Item 6 Report From Junior High School Principal**

**Junior High Principal Ida Stevens called on Band Director David Noyola. Mr. Noyola recognized the Junior High Band students for doing an excellent job at the Texas Music Educators Association Region Band Auditions January 13, 2007. Mr. Noyola reported that 38 students earned chair placements in the All-Region band. Band Director Juan Bendavides reported that the Symphonic Band competed in the UIL Concert and Sightreading contest on April 3, 2007. The Symphonic Band earned a first division award in Sightreading and the Honor Band earned first divisions in both events.**

**Item 7 Superintendent's Report:**

**Superintendent McMinn reported on the following:**

**•TSTC/UTB/Dual Credit**

**Superintendent McMinn introduced Mr. Pat Hobbs from Texas State Technical College (TSTC) and Linda Fossen from University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC). Mr. Hobbs and Ms. Fossen gave an overview of the services they offer to students and informed the Board of all the opportunities available to the students through the Dual Credit curriculum.**

**•Maintenance Plan for Chillers**

**Maintenance Director Joel Carmona informed the Board on the plans for preventive maintenance for the High School Chilled Water System once they are installed.**

**Item 7 Superintendent's Report: (Continued)**

**•Update on TAKS**

Elementary Curriculum Director Rita Lopez reviewed the TAKS scores for 5<sup>th</sup> grade math and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts exit level re-tests.

**•Payment of Bills on Web**

the Superintendent McMinn informed the Board that the Payment of Bills are already on Web.

**•Update on Governor's Excellence Grants**

Assistant Superintendent Elda Garza reported that the District received notification from the State regarding the Governor's Excellence Grants. The application submitted by the District required only minor adjustments, Mrs. Garza stated.

**Item 8 A motion was made by Mr. Hernandez to approve consent agenda items 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. Seconded by Mrs. Alaniz, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 9 \*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 26, 2007, and Called Meeting of April 5, 2007, approved.**

**Item 10 \*Statements of Monthly Financial Report, Cafeteria Report, Tax Collection Report, and Property Tax Refunds, approved.**

**Item 11 \*Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) for SAS ABEDAA07 (Increase), Adult Ed.-English Literacy & Civics Education, Section 231, accepted.**

**Item 12 \*Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) for SAS #: SSIPAA07 (Increase), Accelerated Reading Instruction & Accelerated Math Instruction, accepted.**

**Item 13 \*Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) for SAS #: SSIPAB07 (Increase), Intensive Reading Initiative, accepted.**

**Item 14 \*Budget Amendment #4, approved.**

**Item 15 A motion was made by Mr. Serra to approve Accelerated Testing Dates for the 2007-2008 School Year, as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Lopez, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 16 A motion was made by Mrs. Alaniz to approve the School District Calendar for the 2007-2008 School Year. Seconded by Mr. Serra, the motion carried unanimously.**

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**Item 17** A motion was made by Mr. Hernandez to approve the Summer Schedule for District staff. Seconded by Mrs. Alaniz, the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 18** Kevin Mercer from ACR Engineering, Inc., Scott Nabb, Representative from TRANE, and Art Roel, Representative from Southern Services, addressed the Board on the High School Chillers and Compressors project.

A motion was made by Mr. Hernandez to hire ACR Engineering, Inc. to oversee and prepare specifications for the Chiller System at the High School, and to oversee the project for all four phases, subject to submission of contract for approval by the School District. Seconded by Mr. Rene Alfaro, the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 19** Discuss and Consider Health Insurance for the 2007-2008 School Year

A motion was made by Mr. Serra to remain with the South Texas Health Coop for Health Insurance for the 2007-2008 School Year. Seconded by Mr. Rene Alfaro, the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 20** A motion was made by Mr. Rene Alfaro to approve Board Policy FMH(LOCAL), Academic Achievement: Graduation. The motion was not seconded. The motion failed.

**Item 21** A motion was made by Mrs. Alaniz to approve the payment of expenses for newly elected board members to attend the Annual Spring Conference, South Padre Island, May 18-19, 2007. Seconded by Mr. Hernandez, the motion carried unanimously.

**Item 22** Report on any cuts in programs or personnel that have taken place or are being contemplated in the near future because of budget constraints.

Superintendent McMinn shared with the Board a report on preliminary possible program cuts/personnel due to budget constraints. Mrs. McMinn explained the EL Civics program funding and the reason the District would not be continuing the program.

- Item 23 Mrs. Garza closed the regular session at 10:05 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The regular session resumed at 10:15 p.m. Personnel items were as follows:**

**Personnel:**

**a. Consider Accepting Resignations**

**A motion was made by Mr. Hernandez to approve the resignation, as recommended by the Superintendent, from:**

<b>Vara, Elvia</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math</b>
<b>Gough, Charles Edward (Retiring)</b>	<b>High School Special Education Teacher</b>

**Seconded by Mr. Serra, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 23 (CONTINUED)**

**b. Consider Employment of Personnel**

**A motion was made by Mr. Hernandez to offer a contract for the 2007-2008 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent, to:**

<b>Cavazos, Paula</b>	<b>Secondary BCIS/Spanish Teacher</b>
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**The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alaniz. Votes in favor: Mrs. Alaniz, Mrs. Garza, Mr. Hernandez, and Mr. Serra. Votes against: Mr. Rene Alfaro and Mrs. Lopez. The motion carried.**

**c. Consider Approving Addendum to the Substitute Teacher List  
for the 2006-2007 school year.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Serra to approve the Addendum to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2006-2007 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. Seconded by Mr. Hernandez, the motion carried unanimously.**

- Item 24 There being no further business before the Board, Mrs. Garza adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.**

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**Noemi Garza, President**

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**Susan G. Lopez, Secretary**

