

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF INFORMAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
April 10, 2007

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in informal session duly called at 8:30 a.m. in Conference Room E, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Virginia S. Childs, Chairman; Janie S. Williams, Vice-Chairman; F. Wesley Eubank, and Eileen Roy, members; and W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent. Mrs. Pinkoson was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Childs.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the minutes of the following meetings/workshops:

February 14, 2007 – Curriculum/Transportation Workshop

February 20, 2007 – Policy Workshop

March 13, 2007 – Informal School Board Meeting

Mrs. Roy clarified for the record that she has strong objections to the February 20, 2007, Policy Workshop minutes, dealing with the proposed policies related to the evaluation of each board member, as far as effectiveness, and also with the policies dealing with communications between board members, administrators and ESPs.

The question was called on the minutes as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

GENERAL
DISCUSSION

Mrs. Roy made the following comments:

- DOAH Case No. 06-3812 —Expressed dismay that the Board wasted \$5,000 on a case with no merit and lack of credible evidence. Encouraged the administration not to bring cases to the Board without merit.
- Springhills Development—Asked fellow Board members how the district will finance new schools that are needed? Noted that the Board has promised the High Springs community and the Oakmont area a new school if they donate the land.
- Health Fair for Employees
- FEN Workshop
- Biodiesel fuel for district school buses

Mr. Eubank stated that the Board never promised Oakmont a school and he is not interested in voting to accept a piece of property with conditions.

Mrs. Roy agreed that the Board should not accept property with conditions and requested that the Superintendent look into establishing a “Land Bank.”

Chairman Childs noted that the school system already has a history of land donation.

Mrs. Pinkoson felt the Board should wait and see what happens in the Legislature before discussing further.

Chairman Childs stated that at this point there are only four (4) Board members who are in support of the sales tax to support new schools and Mrs. Roy is opposed. Until that changes there is no reason to discuss further.

Mr. Eubank made the following comments:

- Concern with Kanapaha Middle School renting out their facility to a car dealer for car sales, which is against Board policy.
- Rezoning—make adjustments soon

Mrs. Pinkoson made the following comments:

- Reported on her recent visit to Tallahassee and noted that she shared concerns with several members of the Alachua County Legislative Deletion.

Mrs. Williams made the following comments:

- Expressed several concerns with the Horizon Center related to attendance, curriculum, suspensions and staff.

Superintendent Boyd updated the Board on the STAR Plan. He noted that the district is working with ACEA and will be moving forward with a STAR Plan rather than a new plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The Informal School Board meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.