

**MONTECITO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
Special Board Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, special procedures were followed for the board meeting and the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Board present via Zoom from their respective locations: Board President, Mrs. Kate Murphy, Mrs. Susannah Osley, Clerk, Mrs. Marilyn Bachman, Member, and Mr. Peter van Duiwyk.

Absent: Board member Mr. Chad Chase.

Staff present via Zoom from their respective locations: Mr. Anthony Ranii, Superintendent, Ms. Virginia Alvarez, Chief Business Official, Dr. Nick Bruski, Principal, Mr. Rusty Ito, Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Autumn Noe, Executive Assistant.

**Call to Order**

Board President, Mrs. Kate Murphy called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

**Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

There was no public comment on Closed Session Items.

**Closed Session**

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code §54957.6) Agency Designated Representative: Kate Murphy, Board President Unrepresented Employee: Superintendent

Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Superintendent's Goals 2019-2020 (Government Code Section 54957), Title: Superintendent

**Reconvene to Open Session**

**Report Out of Closed Session**

The Board reconvened to Open Session and Board President, Mrs. Kate Murphy reported that there was no action taken in Closed Session.

**Opening Business**

**Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

There was no comment.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Marilyn Bachman made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Peter van Duiwyk seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duiwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence reported.

**Montecito Union School Foundation Presidential Report**

Mrs. Tara Fergusson was present and reported that the foundation has a meeting scheduled for August. The Board welcomed Mrs. Tara Fergusson as the new Foundation president. She explained that they are currently working on the annual budget.

***Strategic Initiative #6. Financial Sustainability (Ensure financial sustainability now and into the future through intentional spending and the building of reserves over time.)***

**Public Hearing: 2020-2021 Proposed Budget**

Mrs. Kate Murphy opened the public hearing at 4:09 p.m. for the Montecito Union School District 2020-2021 Budget. School districts governing boards are required to adopt a budget for the upcoming year by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the current year. The Chief Business Official and the Superintendent have presented drafts and discussed the budget to the Board at the April and May board meetings. No public comments were made; the hearing was closed at 4:10 p.m.

**2020-2021 Budget Adoption**

Ms. Virginia Alvarez presented the 2020-2021 proposed budget and highlighted the changes from the last draft presented. She also explained the impact of the State Budget economic crisis due to the impacts of COVID-19, the shutdown, the growing unemployment rates and revenue losses. The actual reductions may not be known until the Fall when the State has a better idea of the personal tax revenues after the July 15<sup>th</sup> filing deadline. Because of this unknown the budget presented was prepared with projected cuts of approximately 10%. There was also an additional budget item created for COVID-19 related purchases. She also highlighted that the staffing levels do not include any new positions and that the projections also include projected increases in Special Education costs, step and column movement on the salary schedules, increases in health benefits and CalSTRS and CalPERS. With the increase in operations and revenue reductions, there was a transfer to Fund 40 for Buildings D and E in the amount of \$400,000 in 2020-2021 and the next subsequent two years. Ms. Virginia Alvarez also noted declining student enrollment and the trend for the coming year which could impact the number of classrooms each year and staffing levels.

Mrs. Susannah Osley made the motion to approve the 2020-2021 Budget. Mrs. Marilyn Bachman seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duinwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

**Annual Report and Approval of the Education Protection Act Spending Plan 2020-2021**

Ms. Virginia Alvarez explained that the Education Protection Act (EPA) provides local education agencies with State aid funding pursuant to Proposition 30 and Proposition 55. In order to receive these funds, school districts must prepare a spending plan on how they will use these monies. She reported that this money will be spent on partially funding the Reading Specialist position.

Mrs. Marilyn Bachman made the motion to approve the Annual Report and Approval of the Education Protection Act Spending Plan 2020-2021. Mrs. Susannah Osley seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duinwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

***Strategic Initiative #3. Environmental Stewardship (Expand community-wide environmental literacy, advocacy, and leadership opportunities. Make decisions through a sustainability lens. Initiate programs to be carbon free and to minimize our resource consumption. Consistently reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost, striving for zero waste.)***

**Approval of Power Purchase Agreement**

Mr. Anthony Ranii reminded the Board that Ameresco was selected for a large-scale solar project after a public request for proposals. He explained that the Power Purchase Agreement was pending review by the attorney that specializes in facilities. Mr. Peter van Duinwyk asked for clarification about hidden costs, warranty, maintenance or anything that would cost the District any fees in the future.

Mr. Peter van Duinwyk made the motion to approve the Power Purchase Agreement. Mrs. Marilyn Bachman seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duinwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

Mr. Anthony Ranii explained that Power Purchase Agreement would be brought for the Board's final review once approved by legal counsel.

## **Governance**

### **COVID-19 Response and Planning**

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board an update on a mandate that was published by Santa Barbara County for school districts to follow. He gave a brief explanation of the five phases and possible restrictions: Phase 1- no restrictions, Phase 2-restriction of gatherings of 50 or more, Phase 3- 6 feet whenever possible, and face coverings for adults and children, Phase 4- no more than 12 students in any classroom, Phase 5- stay at home order. With these phases he reported that they have made plans to design classrooms with 6 feet of social distancing, utilize resources as best we can, and are planning for 25 classes instead of 21. The additional classrooms will have teachers that were serving as specialists and have created different models for Art and Music. He explained that teachers will go to where students are, use technology, but guided by health. Lunch will be outdoors with plexi-glass partitions and additional individual desks are being recommended. Additional personal protective equipment has been purchased for the nurse.

The Board continued to discuss possible recommendations for families in order for students to attend in person. Mr. Anthony Ranii reported that he is still waiting on what the county will be recommending.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Anthony Ranii gave the Board an update to the last week of school with the Zoom held 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation, the reverse parade, and materials pick up and drop off. He also reported the upcoming facility projects planned; science lab conversion, laser cutters installed, ball wall installed and completed, deep cleaning, tree trimming, and fire alarm installation. He updated the Board on the plans for Summer school with all staff hired and Mrs. Holly Noble as the summer school Principal. There is high interest from families to attend in person.

### **Board Reports**

There were no board reports.

### **Resolution #19/20-11 Order of Election, (Board Seats) Ordering Governing Board Member Election & Notice to Consolidate and Resolution #19/20-12 Candidates' Statements**

Mr. Anthony Ranii explained that the resolution is to call the election for two Board of Trustee seats. These seats will be open on the November 2020 ballot. He explained the dates and the filing deadlines necessary at the election's office. Mrs. Kate Murphy explained that the deadline happens over the summer and that the staff are helpful in gathering information to the process.

Mrs. Susannah Osley made the motion to approve Resolution #19/20-11 Order of Election, (Board Seats) Ordering Governing Board Member Election & Notice to Consolidate. Mr. Peter van Duinwyk seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duinwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

Mr. Anthony Ranii also explained that Montecito Union School District can have the District or the candidates pay for printing and mailing candidates statements. The Board agreed to continue the process for the 200-word statement to be paid by the candidate.

Mr. Peter van Duiwyk made the motion to approve Resolution #19/20-12 Candidates' Statements. Mrs. Marilyn Bachman seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duiwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

### **Consent Agenda**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes - May 19, 2020  
Special Board Meeting Minutes – May 29, 2020  
Personnel Action Items  
Warrants (May 11, 2020 – June 4, 2020)  
Williams/Valenzuela Uniform Complaints  
2020-2021 Santa Barbara Unified School District Lunch Program Vendor Agreement

Mr. Peter van Duiwyk approved the consent agenda. Mrs. Marilyn Bachman seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duiwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

### **Closing Business**

#### **Suggested Agenda Items for Future Board Meetings and Board Business**

Unaudited Actuals  
Resolution to Adopt the Gann Limit  
Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

### **Board Evaluation of the Meeting**

The Board discussed that the August meeting could be in person following the socially distanced guidelines of being 6 feet apart and holding the meeting outdoors.

### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Marilyn Bachman adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m. Mr. Peter van Duiwyk seconded. Motion carried 4-0, members Bachman, Murphy, Osley, and van Duiwyk. Absent: Member, Chase.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mrs. Susannah Osley  
Board of Trustees Clerk