



Duval County Public Schools

July 31, 2012, Special Board Meeting

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman
Ms. Martha Barrett
Ms. Becki Couch
Mr. W. C. Gentry
Mr. Tommy Hazouri
Ms. Paula D. Wright
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Karen Chastain, Office of General Counsel, Ms. Betty S. Burney, Board Chair, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman and Board members present: Ms. Martha Barrett, Ms. Becki Couch, Mr. W. C. Gentry, Mr. Tommy Hazouri and Ms. Paula D. Wright, present.

Call Meeting to Order

[1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes: The Chairman called the Special Budget meeting to order at 5:09 p.m.

[2. INVOCATION](#)

Minutes: A *"moment of silence"* was held.

[3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

[4. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 31, 2012, AGENDA](#)

Comments From Audience

Reports

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

[1. PUBLIC HEARING - 2012-2013 TENTATIVE PROPOSED MILLAGES AND TENTATIVE BUDGET](#)

Attachment: [Resolution Adopting Tentative Budget 2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Resolution Adopting 2012 millage.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent said regarding the 2012-2013 Tentative Proposed Budget that we are recommending the Board to approve this evening, there are several important points I'd like the public to know. The district has made \$96.2 million dollars in spending reductions over the past four years. The state this year provided \$19 million dollars additional revenue to Duval County. This was less than what they had taken away from the year before but it is a plus in a positive direction in terms of filling the hole that has been created over the last four years. While the state required millage rate increased .047 mills to a total of 7.6 mills from the prior year, property values decreased, therefore, property owners on the average will see a decrease in school taxes. On average, this is approximately a 4% reduction in taxes to homeowners from the prior year. As I said, this increase in millages required by the state is called the Required Local Effort in order for us to participate in the Florida Education Finance Program where we receive more than half of our funds.

The portion that the district has discretion over is called the Discretionary Millage. The Board has been recommended by me to have the same millage as last year for the Discretionary which will generate fewer dollars because the base, the property values in the district, have been reduced. Therefore, the portion over which the Board has authority, the millage has stayed the same, the dollars coming in from that source has dropped, contributing to this 4% reduction overall for taxpayers.

The total budget for the district is decreased by \$64.4 million dollars from \$1.707 billion to \$1.641 billion dollars. Our conservative business practices have enabled us to continue some of our most important programs including art, music, physical education and media and the Board has voted to increase the number of guidance counselors at our schools so there will

be a minimum of one counselor in each school. Sports and JROTC will be able to be maintained this year without having to go to the community for funding assistance. The district did not increase health insurance premiums maintaining a non-contributory health plan for employees and no increase in premiums for dependents. This is because of our great collaboration with our representatives from various employee organizations.

I feel the Board has been very prudent in terms of focusing on those things that are of highest value to students and parents and brings in a balanced budget that is extremely difficult. I'd like to add that in the next 2-3 years, it will be extremely challenging for the Board to be able to continue to provide the same level of service due to higher costs and lower revenues. Thank you.

Motions:

Vote 1 - Vote on Required Local Effort millage levy of 5.3520 mills, which includes prior period funding adjustment millage, for the Operating Fund. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Martha Barrett

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

Vote 2 - Vote on Capital Outlay millage levy of 1.5000 mills for the Capital Projects Fund. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: Fred Lee

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

Vote 3 - Vote on Basic Discretionary Operating millage levy of 0.748 mills for the Operating Fund. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: William Gentry

Martha Barrett - Aye

Betty Burney - Aye

Rebecca Couch - Aye

William Gentry - Aye

Thomas Hazouri - Aye

Fred Lee - Aye

Paula Wright - Aye

Motions:

Vote 4 - Vote on 2012-2013 Tentative Budget. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: William Gentry

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

Vote 5 - Vote on final Public Hearing date and time for the 2012-2013 Final Millage Levies and 2012-2013 Final Budget. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri

Second: William Gentry

Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Motions:

Vote 6 - Vote on acceptance of 2012 Certification of School Taxable Value for Duval County and authorize the Superintendent to complete and execute the form. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Thomas Hazouri	
Second: William Gentry	
Martha Barrett	- Aye
Betty Burney	- Aye
Rebecca Couch	- Aye
William Gentry	- Aye
Thomas Hazouri	- Aye
Fred Lee	- Aye
Paula Wright	- Aye

Discussion

For The Record

[FOR THE RECORD](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Lee said "congratulations" to Fletcher High School's Robotic Team who placed 2nd in the entire nation in Hawaii. We're very proud of you!

Mr. Hazouri said we have two Mandarin cheerleaders who are performing in the 2012 Olympics in London and I'm very jealous that I couldn't sponsor them.

Mr. W. C. Gentry said on behalf of all of us, I want to congratulate Board Member Wright who will receive her Master's Degree next weekend.

Ms. Burney said I haven't had the opportunity as Chair to congratulate the Superintendent and staff for the great work done on the FCAT performances this year. Our schools did a tremendous job and we want to thank all of you for your assistance and support.

Adjournment

[ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The Special meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman