

Minutes of the Wyoming School Facilities Commission Meeting

Natrona County Cooperative Extension Service
2011 Fairgrounds Road
Casper, WY
June 16, 2009

Chairman Gilpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Present: Chairman Gilpatrick, Commissioner Goodson, Commissioner McBride and Commissioner Marsh

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Goodson made a motion to approve the agenda as modified. Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Marsh made a motion for approval of the May meeting minutes. Commissioner McBride seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

Merle Smith, Assistant Deputy Director of Finance, presented the SFC Capital Construction Financial Report as of May 31, 2009.

Current Business

Select Committee Meeting Update

Ken Daraie, Director, discussed the outcome and future expectations that resulted from the Select Committee meeting held in Casper on June 10, 2009.

APPA Meeting Update

Taner Norton, Project Manager, Jim Lowham, Deputy Director, and Mike Moeller, Director, Maintenance & Operations for ACSD #1, presented an update on the Wyoming Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) meeting which was held on June 5-6, 2009.

Procurement Process Update

Rex Schultze, Attorney and Nancy Thomson, Deputy of Planning & Operations, presented a procurement process update to the Commission. Rex Schultze, Nancy Thomson, Mike O'Donnell, and Brandon Finney are developing a step-by-step procedure for the procurement of

architectural and general contracting services relative to Design-Bid-Build, Construction Manager Agent and Construction Manager At-risk Delivery Methods.

Permanent Rule Making Process

Michael O'Donnell, State's Counsel, presented the proposed modifications to Chapters 3, 6, and 8 of the School Facilities Commission Rules and Regulations as a result of the enactment of HB 299 during the last legislative session.

Commissioner Marsh moved the Commission permit the SFC staff to move forward with the permanent rule-making process to make changes and additions to Chapters 3, 6, and 8 of the School Facilities Commission Rules and Regulations as presented on the SFC website and modified herein to streamline and clarify the new rules. The modifications may be found in green in this meeting packet. Commissioner Goodson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Daraie noted that the proposed rules were posted on the website and inquired whether or not comments or input had been received. Donna Murray, Deputy Director of Administration & Finance, stated that, to date, SFC had not received any comments on the proposed rules, and also stated that there would be a forty-five (45) day public comment period once the formal process begins.

Sheridan 1 (Big Horn) – Big Horn Jr./Sr. HS – Synthetic Turf

Nancy Thomson, Deputy of Planning & Operations, Sue Belish, Superintendent, and Jeremy Smith, Business Manager, presented a request for approval to use Major Maintenance funds for installation of synthetic turf.

Dave Engels of the Sheridan Area Water Supply Joint Powers Board presented the history of the overall water delivery system to rural areas including the Big Horn schools. Commissioner Marsh asked Mr. Engels to explain irrigation systems and well depth for the school.

Commissioner Goodson stated that the school existed when the system was designed and inquired whether or not the usage rate at the school was used as part of the design parameters in the original design system. Mr. Engels stated that there were at least two or more wells being utilized by the school at that time, there were no meter directors for full blown usage, and the system was designed according to a two inch tap request for water service.

Commissioner Goodson asked Superintendent Belish if there had been any inadequacies to date with the water service at the school. Superintendent Belish confirmed that there have been irrigation problems with regard to the football field.

Jeremy Smith stated that the design criteria for the new schools are significantly higher in terms of tap size. Mr. Smith also stated that because of their student population the district had requested and will be receiving three inch, two inch, and three quarter inch taps for their schools.

Commissioner Goodson pointed out the statute states that disbursement of funds can only be used on educational facilities and he felt that the football field was part of the school and a teaching station. Commissioner Goodson also stated that he was unable to justify the expenditures required for a synthetic turf and that he disagreed with Mr. Coleman's analysis. .

Commissioner Marsh indicated he agreed with Commissioner Goodson and asked for clarification regarding the abandoned wells. Mr. Smith stated that the wells were physically abandoned.

Chairman Gilpatrick stated he was unable see SFC paying for a synthetic turf and did not have a problem with the District funding the synthetic turf as an enhancement, with SFC paying the cost of a grass field and the district paying the difference.

Superintendent Belish stated that she believed the district had presented good cause for the Commission to consider the district's request.

Commissioner Marsh stated he faulted the SFC staff for misleading Superintendent Belish that the project was well engineered.

Director Daraie stated if the Commission voted against the artificial turf, SFC will then need to hire someone to design an irrigation system, drill and test wells, and configure costs.

Commissioner Goodson stated that there are thirty-eight (38) school districts with various needs and the Commission has to prioritize. Chairman Gilpatrick agreed with Commissioner Goodson. Commissioner Marsh agreed with Commissioner Goodson and stated that the way the issue was presented to the Commission was to provide justification for the artificial turf solution and an in depth analysis for other solutions was not provided.

Commissioner Goodson moved the Commission deny the request for the installation of synthetic turf at Sheridan 1 Big Horn Jr./Sr. HS and that the staff working with the consultants provide alternatives including the installation of a natural turf surface. Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion.

Superintendent Belish referenced the language "the consultants" in the motion and asked for clarification. Commissioner Goodson stated he had talked with the engineers of the project regarding different alternatives and he felt that there was a family of options available to the district.

Chairman Gilpatrick stated that the district was before the Commission because the SFC staff made a mistake and they should have never addressed the use of major maintenance funds on the installation of synthetic turf and he felt there are other alternatives the district should explore.

Commissioner Marsh called for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

*Commissioner Marsh made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 2:15 p.m.
Commissioner Goodson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*