

**MINUTES**  
**Special Called Meeting**  
Putnam County Board of Education  
March 18, 2010

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Putnam County Board of Education met at the Avery Trace Middle School Auditorium, Cookeville, Tennessee on Thursday, March 18, 2010. Chairman David **McCORMICK** convened the meeting at 6:05 PM.

<b>PRESENT</b> .....6	<b>ABSENT</b> .....0
Eric Brown	
Vern Crabtree	
Robert Hargis	
Dr. Ray Jordan	
David McCormick, Chairman	
Jerry Maynard	

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board would address approval of the agenda.

**ACTION:** Dr. **JORDAN** made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. **BROWN** seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** Mr. **CRABTREE** made a motion to amend the agenda to allow the Board to take action on zoning at tonight’s meeting.

Mr. **McCORMICK** requested clarification from Dan Rader, School Board Attorney, regarding adding to a Special Called Board meeting agenda; and Mr. **Rader** stated as long as the Board did not add anything substantial new to the agenda, the agenda could be modified.

**ACTION:** After clarification regarding Mr. Crabtree’s motion, motion failed for lack of a second.

**ACTION:** After amended motion failed for lack of a second, the following roll call vote was taken on the original motion:

- Mr. Crabtree – No
  - Mr. McCormick – Yes
  - Mr. Brown – Yes
  - Dr. Jordan – Yes
  - Mr. Hargis – Yes
  - Mr. Maynard – Yes
- Motion carried.

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board's appreciation for those attending tonight's meeting to hear the zoning presentation and/or to address the Board regarding zoning.

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board would address Agenda Item I., Consider approval of the Prescott South sewer easement, as submitted by Jim Shipley - Cookeville City Manager.

**ACTION:** (I.) Mr. **BROWN** made a motion to approve the Prescott South sewer easement, as submitted by Jim Shipley, Cookeville City Manager. Mr. **HARGIS** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board would address Agenda Item II., Consider approval of an agreement with Cockrill Design & Planning to complete a Feasibility Study for Monterey and Baxter Building Development Projects.

**ACTION:** (II.) Mr. **BROWN** made a motion to approve the agreement with Cockrill Design & Planning – Knoxville, Tennessee to complete a Feasibility Study for Monterey and Baxter Building Development Projects in the amount of \$17,500 to be paid from 179-91300-304 FEASB, Capital Projects. Mr. **HARGIS** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board would address both Agenda Item III., Prescott South School Opening Process Presentation; and Agenda Item IV., Zoning Presentation; and recognized Dr. Kathleen Airhart, Director of Schools.

Dr. **Airhart** made the following Prescott South School Opening Process Presentation:

- Prescott South Middle School 2010-2011
  - Current PCMS structure converts to 5-8 at present site
  - Enrollment determined through early registration
  - Administration reassigns teaching staff
  - Current teacher licensure evaluated
  - Shifting of personnel where required
  - Move to new location between August and October
  
- Prescott South Elementary School – Options
  - Delay opening of all schools until September 2010
  - Open schools and then reassign students September 2010
  - Delay opening of South Elementary until 2011

- Assign administration, staff, students and house in temporary location for 4-8 weeks
- Prescott South Elementary School 2010-2011
  - May 2010 – Interview/hire administrative staff
  - June 2010 – Interview/hire teaching & support staff
  - June-July 2010 – Assign class rosters to teaching staff
  - June-July 2010 – Assign teaching staff to available classrooms
  - July 2010 – Teachers and students begin school year
  - July-Sept 2010 – New administration – all assigned classes
  - Sept 2010 – Occupy new building

Dr. **Airhart** made the following Zoning Presentation:

- Historical - School Year 2006-2007
  - March 2007 was hired as Director – zoning discussed
  - Jere Whitson fire March 2007 (relocation of 350 students)
  - Algood School @ 147% capacity
  - Other schools less than 80% capacity
  - Little to no enrollment direction
- Historical – School Year 2007-08
  - Enrollment adjustments
  - Algood – enrollment frozen/suspended Kindergarten
  - Started shifting classes to fill schools
  - New building projects approved and started
- Historical Fall 2007 – Enrollment Management Committee
  - Reviewed zones/capacity/zoning issues
  - Suggested new zone lines Fall 2010
  - Recommended policy/Board approved
  - Policy 6.205 – Student Assignment (March 2008)
    - Priority Enrollment
    - Priority 1. - Students currently enrolled in a school
    - Priority 2. - Zoned residents
    - Priority 3. - Siblings of current students
    - Priority 4. - Out of zone students

- Historical School Year 2008-2009
  - Algood – opened enrollment to residents K-1
  - Algood – held all other grades to Priority 1
  - Capshaw – lottery held for Priority 4
  - Continued shifting population to balance enrollment
  
- Historical School Year 2009-2010
  - Algood Elementary – opened to all residents Priority 1-2
  - Algood Middle – held enrollment Priority 1-2
  - Capshaw lottery Priority 4 – Year 2
  - Baxter Elementary – restricted Priority 1, 2, 3
  
- Future School Year 2010-2011
  - Board authorized creation of new zone lines
  - Balance all schools to 80% capacity
  - Create feeder patterns from elementary to middle
  - Proximity to schools preferable pattern
  - Other issues to address
    - Opening of new schools – PSES/PSMS
    - Shifting all middle schools to 5-8
    - Zoning information on-line/accessible
  
- Reviewed Zone Plan – Proposed March 2010
  
- Reviewed Maps
  - Current Elementary School Zones
  - School Locations
  - Student Locations Elementary
  - Student Locations Middle
  - Proposed Elementary Zones
  - Proposed Middle School Zones
  
- Advantages to Planned Enrollment
  - Better management of limited tax dollar resources
  - Providing equity between schools
  - Planning for teaching assignments
  - Equal distribution of federal dollars

- Concerns
  - Siblings
  - Middle School equity
  - Middle School feeder pattern
  - Children of staff
  - Proximity to work
  - Mapping adjustments
  - Some zoning map “tweaks” may be needed
  - Cookeville city zoned children zoned to Algood Middle
  - Cookeville city zoned children zoned to Cornerstone Middle
  - Baxter zoned children to a Cookeville elementary school
  - Overfull schools in some zones in first years of plan

The Board briefly discussed hard and soft line zoning; present zoning policy; and No Child Left Behind issues.

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board would address Agenda Item V., Public Comments regarding Zoning, noting twenty-two (22) individuals had signed up to address the Board and stated each person would be given three (3) minutes to address their concern(s).

Mr. **McCORMICK** stated the Board appreciated everyone that came to share their concerns noting the Board’s first concern was not to upset the children.

**ACTION:** (V.) Mr. **HARGIS** made a motion to put the sibling issue to rest tonight and allow Dr. Airhart to follow the rules and regulations that had been set aside prior to this meeting and allow these siblings to attend the same school as their brothers and sisters were attending right now; and if a student was attending a K-8 campus school, they be allowed to continue their education on that campus.

Mr. **McCORMICK** requested clarification from Dan Rader, School Board Attorney, regarding the motion.

Mr. **Rader** stated if the Board wanted to amend the agenda to accept a motion on this agenda item, the Board could act on it; or Dr. Airhart could be requested to place this motion as one of the first to be considered on the April 1, 2010, Regular Board agenda.

**ACTION:** After Mr. Rader’s clarification, Mr. Hargis withdrew his motion.

**ACTION:** Mr. **BROWN** made a motion to adjourn. Dr. **JORDAN** seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 7:50 PM.

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Date

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Chairman

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Director of Schools