

Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

Meeting Location:

To support Governor Brown's executive orders for social distancing, the Board of Directors conducted the special session meeting virtually, through Cisco Webex.

Board Members Present

Julie Craig
Carrie Douglass
Shimiko Montgomery
Caroline Skidmore
Melissa Barnes Dholakia
Amy Tatom
Stuart Young *arrived at 6:10 p.m.*

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Co-Chair Craig, roll call followed.

Public Input

Co-Chair Craig noted the Board received public input in written format and read comments on the following:

- Support for School Resource Officer (SRO) Program:
 - Adam & Katy Bowles, Sara & Dan Hobin, Krstin Watson, Hilary Lahey, Neil Lahey, Odette Adair, and Don DeLisi
- Support of Black Lives Matter at School Curriculum:
 - Shelley Phillips, Jen Jennings
- Racial Justice in Schools: Janet Llerandi
- Community-based restorative justice and culturally-responsive curriculum to create inclusive environments at schools: Naomi Crummett

Co-Chair Craig thanked those who submitted written public comment and clarified there has been no discussion of dismantling the School Resource Officer program. Melissa Barnes Dholakia added, considering the current societal focus, she wishes more comments would have been written about equity in schools and our community. Shimiko Montgomery agreed and noted the central theme of safety in relationship to supporting our School Resource Officer program. The program is an area she will be seeking a better understanding of and how it benefits our schools, students and promotes safety.

Board Statement

❖ **Resolution 1901 : School Board Commitment to Equity**

Amy Tatom read Resolution 1901 and Co-Chair Craig entertained a motion.

Melissa Barnes Dholakia moved to approve Resolution 1901 : School Board Commitment to Equity. Carrie Douglass seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Co-Chair Craig thanked Barnes Dholakia for her efforts in authoring Resolution 1901 and appreciates all Board members were able to contribute. Board members shared thoughts on the importance of culturally responsive curriculum and how this resolution could further impact Executive Limitations, governance and Ends policies.

Discussion ensued on how to communicate the Resolution, on ways to hold the Board and district accountable and opportunities to partner with community agencies leading this work. Caroline Skidmore, Shimiko Montgomery and Co-Chair Craig agreed to support communication efforts alongside district staff.

Public Hearing

Co-Chair Craig recessed the regular board meeting and called the 2020-21 Budget Hearing to order at 5:50 p.m. There was no public testimony. Co-Chair Craig closed the hearing and called the regular meeting back to order at 5:51 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Amy Tatom moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Stuart Young seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Action Items

- ❖ **Resolution 1899 : 2020-21 Budget Appropriations**
- ❖ **Resolution 1900 : 2020-21 Impose Tax**

Brad Henry noted the summaries for both resolutions in the Board packet and said this is the final step in the budget approval process. He shared there is no additional information at this time about SIA funding and is expecting a legislative special session to be called to discuss and adopt funding.

Carrie Douglass moved to approve Resolution 1899 and 1900: the assessment of the permanent tax rate of \$4.7641 per \$1,000 of assessed value in support of the general fund, to approve a tax of \$36,821,292 in the Debt Service Fund for the purpose of payment of bonded debt owed by the school district, and to approve the budget in the aggregate amount of \$481,511,977. Caroline Skidmore seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

- ❖ **City of Bend – Core Area Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Plan**

Brad Henry introduced Matt Stuart, Urban Renewal Manager for the City of Bend to share about the Core Area TIF Plan. Stuart thanked Board members for their time and interest and shared a presentation which reviewed:

- Background & Area: 637.15 acres with opportunity areas in east downtown, KorPine, Inner Highway 20 / Greenwood and Bend Central District
- TIF Plan & Report Components: \$195,000,000 with the total amount to be spent on projects, programs and administration over the estimated 30-year life of the Plan. Project category cost estimates, funding capacity over time, and impact to taxing districts were reviewed. The total impact, over 30 years, to Bend-La Pine Schools would be just over \$87 million
- URAB Recommendation: on April 14, 2020 the URAB recommended the TIF Plan & Report for BURA consideration and future Council adoption with three issues to consider during TIF implementation: “no net loss” housing policy, future advisory committee composition and compensation and prioritize affordable housing projects
- BURA Resolution: on May 20, 2020 BURA approved a resolution to move the TIF Plan & Report through the formal public review process
- Adoption Schedule: Stuart shared upcoming dates in the adoption process

Board members asked questions related to the length of the TIF Plan, earlier involvement in the planning process, affordable housing and safe routes to schools for students living in the TIF Plan area. Stuart helped answer questions and reminded all that July 23 is the deadline for taxing districts to provide written comment to the City. Co-Chair Craig thanked Stuart for his time and providing a thorough report to the Board.

❖ **4th Quarter Financial Report**

Leah Bibeau noted the executive summary and report in the board packet. She offered to answer any questions. There were no questions or discussion.

❖ **EL 7 – Facilities Policy Monitoring Report**

Lora Nordquist reviewed the executive summary in the Board packet and offered to answer any questions.

Caroline Skidmore thanked Nordquist for the report and shared her desire to form a small committee to review and update the district's sustainability plan and goals set in the plan. She would also like to include reference to the Climate Action Resolution passed by the Board as part of the sustainability plan.

Co-Chair Craig asked about surplus property and suggested the district review properties owned. Brad Henry said that is typically part of the Sites & Facilities Review process and the Board is welcome to include a surplus property review when they issue the Sites & Facilities charge. Craig also noted previous discussions about the reviewing the naming of facilities process.

Craig asked Board members how they would like to proceed with PlanB. Board members discussed and agreed that they would like a final report from PlanB which Craig said she will work to schedule as part of a future board meeting.

Board Comments

Amy Tatom noted that this is the last Board meeting of the year and is proud of the growth and learning she and her fellow new Board members have done over the past year. She is especially proud of Resolution 1901, passed this evening, and looks forward to continued work around equity. Tatom thanked Superintendent Mikalson and Jay Mathisen for their years of service and leadership and wished them well.

Caroline Skidmore also thanked Mikalson and Mathisen, adding she has greatly appreciated their time and learning from them over the past year. She is especially grateful for the Excellence and Equity review, noting the historic movements currently taking place against racism. Skidmore said she is also proud of Resolution 1901 and thanked Barnes Dholakia for drafting the document.

Stuart Young shared his enthusiasm to begin to work with Lora Nordquist and the district's leadership team and feels the Board and district are moving in the right direction, adding, that while the road ahead is complex, there are great people leading the work.

Shimiko Montgomery said she is excited to be part of the Board's Communication Committee and is looking forward to connecting with more community members. She thanked Mikalson and Mathisen for their service and leadership, adding, she will miss working with them.

Melissa Barnes Dholakia also thanked Mikalson and Mathisen for their leadership and for being accessible and always having an open door. She is excited to work with Nordquist and Legace this next year and appreciates their willingness to step in and lead during such uncertain times. She is also proud and excited about Resolution 1901 and the lens of equity the district is pursuing and how it will enhance the values and mission of the district.

Carrie Douglass said she too, is proud and excited about Resolution 1901, noting that the Board can impact families and students in powerful ways with this work. She is proud to be a part of the Board and appreciates her fellow Board member's passion and commitment to equity.

Julie Craig thanked Mikalson for his leadership over the past years and wished him the best in his new role at the High Desert ESD. She thanked Mathisen for his leadership and shared her appreciation for his thoughtfulness and ability to listen and wished him well in his new job. Craig said that Resolution 1901 and hiring Mikalson as a Superintendent are highlights of her years of service on the Board. She is excited to work with Nordquist and Legace and hope everyone enjoys their summer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

Approved at 8.25.2020 board meeting