

**WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 9, 2005 – 5:30 p.m. – Work Session  
Administration Building – Board Room  
27200 Hilliard Blvd.**

Call to Order: Time: 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call:

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Mrs. D'Ettorre Wargo | <u>Present</u> |
| Ms. Rocco            | <u>Present</u> |
| Mr. Beal             | <u>Present</u> |
| Mr. Mays             | <u>Present</u> |
| Mr. O'Malley         | <u>Absent</u>  |

Pledge of Allegiance: President D'Ettorre Wargo led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. She congratulated Mr. Beal and Ms. Rocco on their election victories.

Acknowledgment of Visitors: President D'Ettorre Wargo thanked all in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Mays

Seconded by Ms. Rocco

Roll Call Vote:

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Mrs. D'Ettorre Wargo | <u>AYE</u> |
| Ms. Rocco            | <u>AYE</u> |
| Mr. Beal             | <u>AYE</u> |
| Mr. Mays             | <u>AYE</u> |

Hearing of Public (Agenda Items – 15 Minutes) – None.

A. Discussion Items - None

B. Treasurer's Items

1. Financial Update

- a. First Quarter Financial Report
- b. Impact of House Bill 66
- c. Five-Year Forecast
- d. Financing Options

- Treasurer Pepera presented the first quarter financial report and provided an overview of House Bill 66, the current District financial outlook and potential financing options including the placement of an operating levy on the May 2006 ballot.

Discussion:

Beal: Stated he previously voted against increasing the inside millage request but might consider this concept with a financing package that included some reductions. He also indicated this concept would need to be carefully communicated to the public and therefore eliminating 2006 as a possible time frame to implement a change.

Costanza: The Board should not wait to announce its intention to place a levy on the May 2006 ballot. The earlier an announcement is made, the better.

Wargo: The Board should study the financial information carefully and come back at a future meeting to discuss and make a final decision.

Rocco: The Board has talked about this topic long enough and needs to make a decision soon. We should decide on the inside millage concept and whether or not to use it for permanent improvement needs. Permanent improvement expenses have already been deferred to the tune of \$1.7 million.

Wargo: Indicated she agreed with Ms. Rocco's statement about making a decision. She is concerned that the timeframe to implement any change on inside millage in 2006 is too short.

Beal: He agrees the timeframe of January 2006 for petitioning any inside millage is too short, and the District needs to first focus on its operating need.

Rocco: She doesn't want to push off another financing decision and indicated the Board needs to quickly communicate any financing decisions to the public.

Costanza: We clearly need a levy in 2006. We can't afford to cut programs.

Wargo: Do we all agree we need a levy?

Board: Yes.

Mays: Do we have enough time to communicate our operating need and the inside millage request?

Beal: With the holidays, there might not be enough time. We need to choose a millage number and proceed with an operating levy. It might be better off to pursue the inside millage issue next year.

Wargo: She feels the Board should pursue an operating levy, and then consider the inside millage issue next year.

Beal: He would like to discuss in the future the ability of the District to swap inside millage for operating millage and feels it is important to continue the discussion.

Mays: The Board should concentrate on an operating levy prior to dealing with the inside millage issue.

Beal: To Costanza: Have you ever seen a district place more than one levy on the ballot?

Costanza: He would caution the Board against it because it causes too much confusion. It is not an easy tax to pass, and we need to get a levy committee organized.

Mays: Potential cuts will also need to be discussed in conjunction with the levy discussion.

Wargo: At the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, potential cuts, approximate millage amounts, and comments on any changes in fiscal assumptions and levy chairs will be discussed.

\*Hearing of Public (15 Minutes)

Mike Killeen, Council President: The County has allocated inside millage. It's a very complicated matter and may not be available from the City as discussed here tonight. He also indicated the City is still interested in the Bradley Road property.

Mays: Did City Hall get an appraisal on the property yet?

Killeen: The process is underway, but he's not sure where it's at.

Susan Dodge: Mayor Clough indicated to her an appraisal wouldn't be done. Also, when will the Board discuss potential cuts?

Jim Connoles: The Board should concentrate on the operating levy. The Board should discuss potential millage amounts in public and obtain feedback.

C. Executive Session

Adjourn to Executive Session

Time: 7:14 p.m.

Purpose: Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Beal

Seconded by Mr. Mays

Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. D'Ettorre Wargo AYE

Ms. Rocco AYE

Mr. Beal AYE

Mr. Mays AYE

Others in attendance: Costanza, Pepera, Slocum.

End Executive Session and Return to Regular Session

Time: 8:22 p.m.

D. Adjournment

President D'Ettorre Wargo adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

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President

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Treasurer

\*The public may address the Board during the periods of the meeting designated for public participation. Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time allotted is used. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board present and voting.

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