

Bamberg County School District
Board of Trustees Special Called Meeting
Bamberg County School District Office
June 28, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Members present: Board Chair Janeth Walker, Vice Chair John L. Hiers, Secretary Tonie A. Holman, Trustee Gwendolyn D. Bamberg, Trustee Beverly Bonaparte, Trustee Naomi Eckels, Trustee Cynthia “Cindy” F. Hurst, and Trustee Blossom J. Thompson.

Absent: Trustee Harriet Coker.

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Janeth Walker called the meeting to order.

Notice to Media: In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), The Times and Democrat Newspaper, The Bamberg County Leader, WIIZ 97.9 FM, WBSC-LP 102.3 FM, and the Bamberg County School District website have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Trustee Cynthia Hurst moved and Trustee Blossom Thompson seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 8-0.

4. **Discussion: 2023-2024 Budget**

Handout: FY 2023-2024 Budget

During a review and discussion of the 2023-2024 budget prepared by Chief Financial Officer Devon Furr, it was noted that the 2023-2024 budget being presented is based off of last years numbers and the numbers that are known at this time, as the legislators had still not passed a finalized budget.

Ms. Furr reviewed substitute pay rates for neighboring districts in comparison with what Bamberg County’s budget could sustain. After review, the Board decided to increase substitute pay to \$75.00 a day for non-certified substitutes, \$85.00 a day for certified substitutes, and \$125.00 a day for long term substitutes. The long term substitute rate would take effect on the 21st consecutive day and would apply to certified and non-certified substitutes.

Ms. Furr reported the budget was balanced at \$22,980,644.86, but was certainly subject to change based on the final information that will come down from the state legislators. The legislation did reflect a \$2,500.00 per cell increase for teachers, a 3.7% fringe increase and 1% retirement increase for employers for the upcoming year.

Ms. Furr advised the revenues shown in the proposed budget were all that was expected to be received and that some funds were cut due to consolidation.

Ms. Furr concluded by informing the Board a public hearing would be held on July 10, 2023 prior to the monthly board meeting and that since a Continuing Resolution had already been passed, the budget did not have to be approved by July 1, 2023.

5. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Janeth Walker called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Vice Chair John Hiers moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to enter Executive Session. The motion carried 8-0.

Board Chair Janeth Walker noted that the Board would be moving into Executive Session to discuss Personnel – Budget 2023-2024.

Open session: Trustee Cynthia Hurst moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion carried 8-0.

6. **Action on Executive Session Items**

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 5 (a) Personnel – Budget 2023-2024.

7. **Adjourn**

Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tonie A. Holman, Secretary