**Calhoun County Public Schools**

**Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**District Office**

**October 16, 2017**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Members Present**: Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson; Mr. Kevin Jenkins, Vice Chairperson; Mrs. Debra Fredrick, Secretary; Mrs. Sandra Tucker, Mr. Ned Nelson.

1. **Call to Order/Moment of Silence**: Mr. Gary Porth, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, welcomed visitors and staff and asked everyone present to stand for a moment of silence and the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag".

2. **Notice to the Media**: In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1985, Section 30-4-80-(e), as amended, the following have been notified of this meeting: The Calhoun Times; The Times and Democrat; notices placed on the bulletin boards in all schools and the District Office.

3. **Approval of Agenda**: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Fredrick, to approve the Agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

4. **Approval of Minutes**: Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the minutes of September 18, 2017 and October 3, 2017, as submitted. Passed unanimously. (Copy attached.)

5. **Public Participation**: Ms. Jacquelyn Carson and Ms. Tiffiney Jones spoke to the Board with concerns regarding a student with a weapon recently on the campus at St. Matthews K-8 School. Mr. Porth thanked the parents for their concerns and informed them that the Superintendent would respond to their concerns in writing.

6. **Executive Session**: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mr. Nelson, to go into executive session to consider a Contractual Facility Proposal and to return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

7. **Back to Open Session**: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to return to open Session. Passed unanimously.

8. **Action on Executive Session Item:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Fredrick, to approve the contract with Dangerfield Engineering and Surveying for improvements to the parking area at Calhoun County High School as presented by the Superintendent. Passed unanimously.

9. **Chairperson's Report**: No Report

10. **Superintendent's Report**: Dr. Jenna Hallman, from CERRA, (Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement), did an in depth presentation on the shortage of teachers in the state of South Carolina. She stated that Calhoun County Public Schools may not see a decrease

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in teacher employment at this time; however, it is imminent. One of the data paths she stated in reference to teacher shortage is this year alone, colleges graduated 2000 certified teachers, but the current teacher shortage is 6000. Currently, strides are being made to increase teacher retention and employment.

Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Murdaugh presented an overview of the new accountability system titled Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA will concentrate on four domains – Achievement, Graduation Rate, College and Career Readiness and English Language Proficiency. In addition, the new system will not be based on passage rates and schools will only receive a report card. Districts will not receive a report card. The achievement will now be based upon points given in each domain. The ESSA system will follow the bell curve.

Mrs. Murdaugh and Ms. Johnson also reported the reading data for 2016-2017 third graders. Mrs. Murdaugh stated that out of 134 students who tested the SC Ready reading assessment on last year, only five students were listed as below average (Not Met 1). However, during the current school year, any student who makes a Not Met 1 and does not meet one of the good cause exemptions will be retained. Mrs. Murdaugh and Ms. Johnson stated that CCPS is in compliance with the order of sequence for parent notifications and conferences set forth by the South Carolina State Department of Education.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, informed the Board that the County approved the school operating millage of 132.5 on October 9 (effective January 2018). The prior year, the district was at 131.5 and School Debt remained the same. Mrs. Strickland said county Assessment increased by $1.4 million and the increase was in Business Personal Property which came from Department of Revenue. With the new reassessment base, the district’s rollback millage went to 130.5. The County gave the district 2 mills on the roll back. Increase in tax revenue was approximately $235K. Mrs. Strickland said the increase in assessment means increase in Index of Taxpaying Ability resulting in a change in state support. FY 16/17, our Index of Taxpaying Ability was .0037 and state support was 53%. In FY 17/18, our Index of Taxpaying Ability was .00376 and state support was 52%; which is what our budget is based on. She added, the easiest way to explain this is the district gets 52% of the base student cost. In the last 5 years the County's millage has increase a net of 4 mills. In the last 5 years our mills have increased a net of 3.5 mills.

Dr. Steve Wilson shared with the Board handouts of research regarding District Fiscal Autonomy.

Dr. Wilson said he has talked to Representative Russell Ott and will share more information with them as it becomes available.

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that he has been in contact with SCSBA to set up Board Training for establishing Core Values as a District in the future. Dr. Wilson said he would like to have Core Values established before the District’s AdvancED visit in February.

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Mr. George Kiernan, Human Resources Director/Compliance Officer, updated the Board on the K-8 schools renovations. Mr. Kiernan said that both schools should be completed in approximately 2 months. He said that the sprinkler system at St. Matthews K-8 is complete and the new roof work will begin by the end of the week. Mr. Kiernan said the new roof will be added at Sandy Run K-8 after the installation of the roof at St. Matthews K-8 and the plumbing and electrical work will then be completed. He added, furniture has been ordered for both schools and should arrive in mid-December and the new HVAC units have been installed at the District Office and other units will be installed by the end of the week.

11. **Finance**: Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the August 2017 Monthly Financial Report for Board consideration.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in August 2017, we received 7% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and have expended 11% of General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 68% of the remaining General Fund Budgeted Expenditures for a total of 79% of Budgeted Expenditures. She added we have collected $183,000.00 in current taxes and $34,000.00 in delinquent taxes.

Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the Monthly Financial Report for August 2017. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the August 2017 Budget Adjustments for Board consideration.

 Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Budget Adjustments for August 2017. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the September 2017 Monthly Financial Report for Board consideration.

Mrs. Strickland informed the Board that in September 2017, we received 11% of General Fund Budgeted Revenue and have expended 19% of General Fund Budgeted Expenditures and encumbered 62% of the remaining General Fund Budgeted Expenditures for a total of 81% of Budgeted Expenditures. She added we have collected $269,000.00 in current taxes and $73,000.00 in delinquent taxes.

Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Monthly Financial Report for September 2017. Passed unanimously.

Mrs. Sky Strickland, Chief Financial Officer, presented the September 2017 Budget Adjustments for Board consideration.

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Mr. Nelson moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the Budget Adjustments for September 2017. Passed unanimously.

12. **Executive Session**: Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Fredrick, to go into executive session to consider a Property Settlement Negotiation and Board Policies for review and to return to open session at the completion of discussions. Passed unanimously.

**Back to Open Session**: Mrs. Fredrick moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to return to open session. Passed unanimously.

13. **Action on Executive Session Item:** No action was taken.

14. **Adjournment:** Mr. Jenkins moved, with a second by Mrs. Tucker, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Passed unanimously.

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 Board Secretary

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 Date of Approval