

## MEETING #42 – May 29

At a Joint Meeting of the Madison County Board of Supervisors and the Madison County School Board on May 29, 2014 in the School Board Office located at 60 School Board Court:

### PRESENT:

#### School Board Members:

Mr. James L. Nelson, Jr., Chairman  
Mrs. Doreen G. Jenkins, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Barry Penn Hollar, Board Member  
Mr. Joseph Parker, Board Member  
Dr. Matthew J. Eberhardt, Superintendent  
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Patterson, Clerk of the Board

Absent: Mrs. Tonya D. Taylor, Board Member

#### Board of Supervisor Members:

Ms. Doris Lackey, Chairman  
Mr. Clay Jackson, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Bill Campbell, Board Member  
Mr. Kevin McGhee, Board Member  
Mr. Jonathon Weakley, Board Member

The Madison County School Board conducted a special joint meeting of the Madison County School Board and the Madison County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, May 29, 2014, at the Madison County School Board Office.

Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of

***Allegiance and a moment of silence.***

#### Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Nelson called for revisions, corrections or deletions to the agenda for the May 29, 2014 School

Board meeting. Mrs. Jenkins made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Parker seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call Vote on Agenda Approval:

Affirmative: Mr. Penn Hollar, Mrs. Jenkins, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Parker

Negative: None Motion carried with 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

**Information Regarding the Joint Finance System:**

Mr. Hoch, County Administrator, updated the Board on the status of the joint finance system. He stated the County is working towards a “go live” date of October 1. Dr. Eberhardt stated October 1 is not possible for the school division and that November 1 was in danger. After discussion by both Boards, the consensus was to set the target “go live” date as January 1, 2015.

**Liaison (Facilitator):**

The Boards agreed to invite a facilitator to the next joint meeting between the two Boards. This facilitator will work to improve the communications between the Boards and to help with any inter-personal issues.

**FY14 Carryover & Wiring/Cable for MCHS/WMS & Phone System:**

Dr. Eberhardt stated that he was looking for clarification on whether additional unused revenue from FY13 would move forward into the next budget year. He reminded both Boards that the school division does not have a contingency fund in the school budget. He believes that approximately \$90,000 will be available to roll-over if approved.

The Board of Supervisors agreed that any monies over the \$100,000 already projected from FY13 would be rolled-over to the school system’s capital improvement line.

The Boards discussed the upcoming expenses for wiring/cable for MCHS & WMS and the need for a new telephone system for the school division. Dr. Eberhardt discussed the \$70,000 wiring issue. He stated that he has \$28,000 in savings from an unfilled technology position to use to off-set these costs. Of this amount, \$10,000 would go towards de-installation of wiring and the remaining \$18,000 would be used to purchase part of the wiring/cable that will be need for the re-install. The source of the remaining \$42,000 is the issue that needs to be discussed by both Boards.

The cost of the new telephone system is estimated to be \$89,000 and was not included in the CIP process.

It was included in the original “needs based” budget but was cut after it was made clear that funding from the Board of Supervisors was not available.

The consensus of the Board of Supervisors was to try and use any carry-over money to fund the wiring/cable needs and the telephone system and if that fails, to use funds from the contingency.

**Construction Update:**

Dr. Eberhardt stated that the construction was on-schedule and that on July 11th, the high school cafeteria will shut down and the asbestos abatement will begin. He noted that the venting portion of the abatement will be vented through the roof and will last for approximately two days. The cafeteria will be monitored for at least one week. Dr. Eberhardt stated that on Thursday and Friday, June 11 & 12, everything will be moved out of the high school. It is expected to take until Saturday mid-day to complete this task. On Monday, June 16, 2014, Blair Construction will have crews on-site 24/7 for at least three weeks to complete the tear-down phase of the construction project.

**Future CIP Planning:**

Mr. Hoch stated the CIP Committee was tasked with the responsibility of maintaining an active CIP document. He stated that Mr. Hal Hart of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates Architects inquired as to whether or not the County wanted to update the CIP documents. Crabtree personnel would need to access all facilities to assess the buildings for future needs. Mr. Hock will determine if the CIP planning contract with Crabtree is still valid and will continue the discussion at a future date.

Due to a previous commitment, Mr. Nelson departed the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

**Salary Study:**

Mr. Hoch stated that the County has been discussing participating in a salary study and that the School division asked to be included in that study. Out of the study, it was hoped that a scale would be developed and a plan to get employees in their proper place on the scales. Due to the cost of a salary study, the County opted for the County Administrator to do his own research for county positions. He stated that based on the outcome, positions could be re-structured and they would give priority to a cost of living increase and the remainder would be a merit increase. He stated he felt strongly that the Board granting across the board increases was not the way to go.

**Not on the Agenda:**

Chairman Lackey asked each Board member to state one thing that was on their mind that they would like the group to address with the facilitator.

Ms. Lackey stated that she would like to see the school division consider partnering with the child-care center that will be operating in the old Early Learning Center facility on South Main Street beginning in the fall. Ms. Lackey stated that she hoped the school system would be willing to provide bus pick-up and drop-offs at the location.

Dr. Eberhardt stated he had already met with Ms. Frances Lacey and has agreed to provide these services.

Mr. Jackson stated he has observed the maintenance trucks going up and down Main Street on a regular basis and questioned the efficiency.

Mr. Parker stated that he would be personally pushing very hard for a pay increase for staff.

Mr. Campbell stated he takes offense to being classified as a “thorn in people’s sides.” He stated he was trying desperately to keep the CIP project on track and not have another courthouse.

Mr. Penn Hollar stated that people have different perceptions and that he wants to understand what people mean when they say things. He stated when he left the last joint meeting, the School Board thought they went away with a very specific agreement and later discovered that the agreement was broken without explanation.

Mr. McGhee stated that yes there was an agreement, but when the Board of Supervisors got back together and discovered the numbers were not what they thought they were. He stated that communication is key and that his focus will be on the joint financial system. He stated he believes that the system will help to eliminate mis-communications between the two Boards.

Mr. Weakley stated he wants to see how we can improve on the budget process. Mrs. Jenkins stated that it was obvious that there was a need for a facilitator. She stated that the School Board’s job is to educate a child and that it takes money to do it well. She stated that it only costs a little over \$8,000 to educate a child, per year and that it takes approximately \$30,000 per person, per year to finance a person in prison. Mrs. Jenkins stated she would like to see more funds used to educate the child.

Mr. Hoch stated his focus would be on the budget process.

Dr. Eberhardt stated that the facilitator, Mr. Wayne Woodson, will be tasked with finding common ground with success. He stated the same three or four common talking points would be the foundation for both Boards to use to be successful.

Ms. Lackey stated that she believes that the school division should work with other private schools in the County, such as Woodberry, to open up dialog and interface with programs. She stated there was a “great need for more technical and skills education” such as electrical and mechanics – trade schools.

Mr. Weakley stated his appreciation for all the services and the school division for their seamless efforts in the police incident that occurred on Wednesday morning.

Mr. Campbell stated that in the future when both Boards are discussing finances, the Board of Supervisors should not agree to anything before going back and discussing the details amongst themselves.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Parker made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Penn Hollar seconded the motion. The motion carried with 4 Ayes and 0 Nays. The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

On motion of Supervisor Jackson, seconded by Supervisor Weakley, Minutes #42 are approved as submitted by the Madison County School Board, with the following vote recorded:

Doris G. Lackey	Aye
R. Clay Jackson	Aye
Jonathon Weakley	Aye
Robert Campbell	Aye
Kevin McGhee	Aye

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Doris G. Lackey, Chair  
Madison County Board of Supervisors

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Ernest C. Hoch, Clerk of the Board

Adopted on: September 9, 2014

Copies to: Doris G. Lackey, R. Clay Jackson, Jonathon Weakley, Robert Campbell,  
Kevin McGhee, V. R. Shackelford, III & Constitutional Officers