

Minutes of the Sales Tax Committee- Regular Meeting

Date: June 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Superintendent's Large Conference Room, District Office

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Daniels at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. Darlene Bruner, David

Byrd, Jeremy Clark, Dillon Daniels, Steve Githens, Robert Kincart, Dr. Robert Emilio Moses, Trish Pfeiffer, Lyle Philipson, Karen Tiner, Eddy Twyford, Diretta Wilcox, Brian Yates.

Staff Present: Angela Usher, Richard Alderman, Pam Luce, John Hill, Toby Tiller, Jennifer Farrell and Autumn Ashley.

Board Member Allen – Excused Absence

Members Absent:, Linda Baldick, Mike Carter, Lori Cunningham, Jill Dorsett, Howard Kay, Josephine Miller, Larry Mitchell, Brittany Sandovalsoto, Katie Worthington-Decker.

Approval of Minutes: Motion presented to approve minutes. Motioned by Dr. Robert Moses seconded by Eddie Twyford.

Chairman Daniels: Motion approved unanimously.

Toby Tiller: Announced and read bio of new committee member Karen Tiner.

Toby Tiller: Reviewed sales tax revenue quarterly and in comparison, to the previous year.

Toby Tiller: Reviewed sales tax projects in progress along with projects from 2003 to present.

Chairman Daniels: The floor is open for discussion. Are there any questions?

Eddy Twyford: What funds are being used for the track at Lake Region High School?

Angela Usher: The Funds being used for the track at Lake Region High School are coming out of LCI, also known as Local Capital Improvement Funds.

Dr. Robert Moses: Is there a page on the Polk Promise Website or on the School Board website where the public may view the completed and current projects from the 2003 to present handout?

Angela Usher: Yes, this information will be listed on the Polk Promise website for the public to view.

Chairman Daniels: Angela Usher will review projects not yet started and Capital Plan.

Angela Usher: We are using impact fees to purchase property for new school sites.

Eddy Twyford: Is there going to be a new elementary school in the Chain of Lakes area

Angela Usher: Yes, Property has already been purchased for a new elementary school site in that area

Eddy Twyford: Is a new high school in the north area necessary right now?

Angela Usher: Yes, growth in the area is occurring rapidly and within the next few years we will need to have a new high school in that area to provide for our student's needs.

Robert Kincart: How has the expense of materials affected current projects?

Angela Usher: The contractors are working with us closely. We are staying within our GMP, maintaining schedule, and are limiting the requests for more funding from the School Board. There have been instances where we have allowed a contractor to use a different material to complete a project when a shortage has come up. We are careful to limit this option and mindful of the products we are using to ensure quality and safety. On June 8th, 2021 I will be requesting more funding from the School Board for two current projects. (1) Kathleen middle school for mold mitigation and (2) Lake Wales fueling station I will be requesting an additional \$250,000.00 to replace tanks so that fueling station will be up to code to receive continued insurance. In both cases the additional costs were unforeseeable and unavoidable.

Steve Githens: Are we receiving any federal funds for projects?

Angela Usher: No, federal funds are available for projects.

Chairman Daniels: In the previous meeting Dr. William Allen requested that you update the school board on sales tax and update the sales tax signs.

Angela Usher: The board will be updated on sales tax, the Polk Promise website is currently being updated, and the signs have already been completed.

Angela Usher: Introduces Jennifer Farrell to make the presentation on the updates done to the Polk Promise website.

Jennifer Farrell: Reviews the updates done to the Polk Promise website and speaks about the home page that features the new Mulberry high school.

Chairman Daniels: How often can we update this website?

Angela Usher: We can make updates quarterly.

Eddy Twyford: Makes suggestion that a resources page be added to the Polk Promise website so that viewers can see the minutes of the quarterly meetings of the sales tax committee.

Robert Kincart: Makes suggestion that "key elements" be added to the home page so that viewers don't miss out on important information if they don't view each page on the website.

Chairman Daniels: What is being done within the schools to promote the Polk Promise website? He suggests flyers to go home with students about any upcoming projects.

Darlene Bruner: We need to make it easy for the principal to get involved. We could ask them to put the Polk Promise website link on their own school page to help increase views of the Polk Promise website.

Steve Githens: Do the plaques mounted at the schools say the school was paid for using sales tax?

Angela Usher: No, that information is not listed.

Robert Kincart: Makes suggestion that a special half cent sales tax plaque be commissioned to mount on the schools built using sales tax.

Steve Githens: Will volunteers be allowed into schools in the upcoming school year?

John Hill: Yes, with mitigation there is a strong possibility that volunteers will be allowed in schools next year.

Angela Usher: Agrees that Committee should be able to tour several new schools in August.

Toby Tiller: Makes suggestion that the next meeting be held at Willow Oak on September 7th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Daniels: Motion presented to approve next meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman Daniels: Motion presented to adjourn. Motioned by Darlene Bruner seconded by Eddy Twyford. Meeting adjourned at 5:40.