

**LEARN                  BUILD                  LEAD**

Fremont Joint School District No. 215  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2020  
Held at Fremont School District Office  
Via Zoom/Livestream District Facebook  
Meeting Time 6:00 P.M.

Attending:        Bonnie Moon-Board Chair  
                      Jon Bailey-Vice Chair  
                      Tia Cherry-Trustee  
                      Julianne Hill-Trustee  
                      Byron Stutzman-Superintendent  
                      Hali Mackert-Clerk/Treasurer

Chairman Bonnie Moon called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to add to action to item #8 Parents Are Essential. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved to add one more item to discussion items about drinking fountains. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Jon Bailey move to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Work Session: Presentation from Christian Anderson from Zions Public Finance and Eric Heringer from Piper Sandler gave a presentation on Fremont School Districts current bonds and levies and proposed levies and bonds.

Work meeting ended at 6:48 p.m.

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to recess until 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Jon Bailey offered a prayer.

Resumed Regular Session at 7:03 p.m.

Trustee Moon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Learn Build Lead: Trustee Tia Cherry getting ready for a levy and bond under Idaho Statue Title 33, Chapter 8 goes over levies and Chapter 11 is about school bonds. When I was in high school government my amazing teacher did a visual for us on levies and bonds. He explained uses of levies and bonds. I encourage each of us to go to Title 33 and learn about bonds and levies and what our fiscal responsibility is.

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to accept the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Action Items:

RBDC Study:

Superintendent Stutzman said we were approached by Research Business and Development Center wondering if we wanted another study. I think we would be well deserved to have another study. The cost is \$4000 for that study and its money well spent. I'm working on a paper with them to outline what that study should look like, and what we need to look for is what a building facility will look like if we continue looking towards a career technical building. I recommend we approve the next study.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved to approve the RBDC study for winter semester 2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Trustee Jon Bailey said he thinks there's real benefit in making sure we understand the district's facility needs based on the three prior studies we've already done, and this is a good opportunity to see where the needs of the community lie and that we can fulfill. We can get a better sense of what we would need in order to provide those technical programs.

Trustee Julianne Hill said I was able to catch on when I first became a board member one year ago and attend those meetings. I think that would be pennies well spent. \$4,000 for the work those young people do is very good. The thing that is most impressive is that they've got an advisor behind them that is there to direct them, so time is not wasted.

Trustee Jon Bailey said typical studies could run about \$30,000 to \$50,000 and may not be the same caliber potentially as some of the professional consulting firms, but we are getting great data at a phenomenal rate.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said we are looking at north and south and the need for both parts of the district. Anything we can do to benefit students in the north and south, let's look into that.

Accept Trustee Resignation Zone 4:

Chair Bonnie Moon said we have an action item to accept the trustee resignation of Shawn Dye in Zone 4.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved to accept the trustee resignation of Zone 4. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

Chair Bonnie Moon said now that we have accepted the resignation, we can declare a trustee vacancy and go forth. We are now asking for anyone who lives in Zone 4 that is interested in becoming a trustee, to email Hali Mackert at her district email, which is [halim@sd215.net](mailto:halim@sd215.net), or deliver a letter of interest. This will be considered your application, so please express why you want to be a trustee of the school district. We will accept applications until January 7, 2021. All applications will be shared with the current four board members. We will hold a special board meeting the following week to review the applications and interview the applicants. We will then select a replacement for Zone 4, and they will be sworn in at the regular January School Board meeting.

It was determined to have the Special School Board meeting on January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Bonnie Moon read Code of Ethics for School Board members Policy 1600.

Building Process Request for Qualification:

Superintendent Stutzman said since the interest rates are as low as they are, I think it's very important that we explore our options. My recommendation to the board is to put out a Request for Qualifications for Project Manager. I think we need to have someone who has done this before, a professional in this process to assist us all as we move forward.

Trustee Julianne Hill said I called Madison School District this week and I'm sure everyone has seen the improvements they have made over the last eight years. One of the things they have all agreed on was the project manager, that that was a key player in getting them where they needed to be. I'm glad to hear Mr. Stutzman say that is a direction he would like to go as well.

Trustee Jon Bailey said, in conversations with those that have done this, a Construction Manager General Contractor is the first position that Byron is inviting us to act on and get in place before we get down this path too far. Once we know what our needs are, then we can go to an RFQ for an architect. Having a manager on board before the architect helps make sure our costs stay in check.

Trustee Tia Cherry said I actually deal with project managers and I've worked with good ones and not so good ones. I do think it's important as a board that we know what we're doing and we put out clear guidelines for a project manager, because they make a lot of money and sometimes, they get away with not doing a lot for that.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said we don't actually have a project yet, correct? Does this cost any money or are we just looking to go out and see what's available, and present that to the board?

Superintendent Stutzman said correct, it won't cost us anything until we hire a project manager. What I would like to do is put together a document and put it out for an RFQ. The board would then interview whoever puts in a bid and make that choice, and that's when the cost will begin. Or you can decide that's not the direction you want to go, and we can change direction then. But I think it's important to have someone on board to help guide us through this whole process and make sure we are doing what we should and getting what we are paying for.

Superintendent Stutzman explained what an RFQ (Request for Qualifications). They submit what qualifications they have, and you can interview them, and it's not something that you have to choose the lowest price.

Trustee Jon Bailey said we want to see whose most qualified and once that person is selected the district would negotiate with legal help with that firm, and that price we're willing to settle on, if the company that is going to do the work, isn't willing to settle on that price, then they don't get selected. We can pick someone on qualifications and negotiate what we will pay them.

Trustee Bonnie Moon said for clarification, it almost looks like we have three things going on. Probably a lot in parallel as we move forward with a vision for this district. So, we have the RBDC study that we just approved that will happen early next year, and they'll be looking at facilities, the goals and a getting a vision for the kids and helping us understand what we can provide for the students in our district when it comes to vocation and education and so forth. Then we also have our finances our levy and plant facility that have been in place that will go away, so we're going to be asking for money for the plant facility to

basically renew that, and they will also see the renewal of the supplemental levy. Now we're starting at looking at a project manager, which will help us oversee the facility needs.

Trustee Jon Bailey said first we would first negotiate what they are willing to be paid as a consultant to help get the bond passed and the project ready for actual work. This is the general contractor over the construction manager is going to help us manage this and are on our side, and they represent us in this process. They make their money when we actually go to do a project. They have a negotiated fee, which is the cost to build, plus a percentage of whatever that is.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved to accept the initiation of the building process. The motion was seconded by Trustee Julianne Hill. All "ayes", motion carried.

#### Patron Input:

Crissy Kerbs presented The Fremont School District Extra-Curricular Safety Plan. There was discussion on the plan and questions asked by the board.

#### Resolution-Supplemental Levy:

Superintendent Stutzman recommended to pass the resolution for the Supplemental Levy Resolution, which needs to be to the County Clerk no later than January 19. The resolution is for 1.5 million per year and is a replacement of our current supplemental levy which expires July 1, 2021. The levy funds are used for salaries, curriculum, technology, musical instruments and building security needs.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Supplemental Levy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All "ayes", motion carried.

#### Resolution-Plant Facility:

Superintendent Byron Stutzman said our current Plant Facility Levy expires July 1, 2021 was for \$828,253, but we have only levied \$300,000. I would like to ask the board to pass this resolution to ask for the \$700,000 levy knowing full well we will keep the rate low, knowing the amount we ask will be around the \$300,000 mark. Then should we not be able to pass a bond, and the bonds go away, then we could raise it the \$700,000. The monies can only be spent on capital projects and must be more than \$5,000 according to Idaho Code.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved to pass the Resolution for the Plant Facility Levy for 2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All "ayes", motion carried.

#### New Pipeline North Fremont Canal System:

Superintendent Byron Stutzman said the North Fremont Canal System put in a new pipeline up north in Ashton, and to tie into that pipeline at Ashton Elementary the bill in front of you is our cost. The major part was paid for with a federal grant and this was our hookup cost. They had to come under the highway and trenching, where we needed it to go. I recommend we pay this bill form North Fremont Canal Company.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the North Fremont Canal Systems bill. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All "ayes", motion carried.

#### Alternative Authorization for Nicole Tracy:

Superintendent Stutzman said we have a teacher who has an early childhood special ed endorsement, and we need her to have a regular endorsement so she can serve the students in the elementary. The

alternative authorization will give her that until she takes the few classes to get her full endorsement. I recommend that you pass the Alternative Authorization for Nicole Tracy.

Trustee Jon Bailey moved that we allow Alternative Authorization for Nicole Tracy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. All “ayes”, motion carried.

Chair Bonnie Moon said we discussed action item #3 Declare Trustee Vacancy Zone 4, but we didn't make a motion.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to declare the trustee vacancy for Zone 4, with an end date to accept applications until January 7, 2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All “ayes”, motion carried.

Parents are Essential:

Trustee Tia Cherry make a motion to accept the parent plan presented by Crissy Kerbs as outlined. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bonnie Moon. Three “nays”, one “abstain”, motion failed.

Trustee Tia Cherry made a motion to approve the plan presented to us by Crissy Kerbs with excluding Jason Donnelly parent plan to delegate and assist school representatives. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jon Bailey. All “ayes”, motion carried.

Discussion Items:

Livestream Board Meetings: Trustee Tia Cherry received a lot of feedback and I always go back to the livestreams to see how many people view. I understand that can be very scary having livestream because there's just so many people watching. I don't think there's anything wrong with accountability, it makes us better prepared. Maybe we can talk about continuing our livestreams even after COVID restrictions loosen up. However, I do not want to do it via zoom, I'd rather do it with a camera that can stream through YouTube.

Chairman Bonnie Moon said more people have participated than ever before. It's a little bit hard, because some things cut out. Maybe we could all be in the same board room, but still livestream it out.

Trustee Jon Bailey said there is wisdom there, and we do want to make sure the general public is more involved.

Posting Agenda's:

Chairman Bonnie Moon said anyone who has an email address can receive an agenda if they go to FCSD website (sd215.net), click on School Board, on the dropdown, select and click on School Board Agenda, put the email address where you wish to receive board agendas in the text box where it asks for your email address, click on “I'm not a robot check box,” and click on the submit button. You are now on the listserv which will automatically send you an agenda when they are posted.

Drinking Fountains: Trustee Jon Bailey said I know it's a long time coming at some point we need to take a stand and let our kids get a drink of water during the school day. The current plan is we have the kids bring a water bottle to school and they have to go fill it up in a sink, or the office, or whatever, and they ask to be able to fill it up. I don't understand why we don't install something that they can fill up their water bottles at a fountain or something like a fountain. Kids need more than one water bottle per day for

hydration in my opinion. There's got to be a way to do that that's sensitive to the COVID issue while our kids get a drink of water. Remind me why we locked that down so tightly?

Superintendent Stutzman said we did install some water bottle filling stations at some of the schools. We did have to shut off some of the water fountains at some of the elementary schools. We did make an announcement when we did that, letting parents know to send water bottles for their kids. It was my understanding that everything was going well. I would ask that if parents are complaining to you, that we direct that back to the building administrators. You are right, one bottle of water isn't enough in a day.

Superintendent's Report:

Kudos for the donation of hand sanitizer from Ameri Clean. They delivered a trailer load to Rexburg, and we received 40 cases of small dispensers and 10 cases of gallon size sanitizer. So, Kudos to Ameri Clean for the free hand sanitizer.

Thank you to all of you who realize the stress we all are dealing with. I appreciate the great communities we have in this district, and many of you have reached out to help the district work through these difficult times. I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Executive Session:

Superintendent's Evaluation

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to go into executive session per Employee Evaluation & Complaints I.C. 74-206(1) (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public-school student. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tia Cherry. Roll call vote Bonnie Moon "yes", Julianne Hill "yes", Jon Bailey "yes", Tia Cherry "yes".

Entered Executive Session at 8:59 p.m.

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Chairman Bonnie Moon. All "ayes", motion carried.

Came out of Executive Session at 9:37 p.m.

Trustee Jon Bailey made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 p.m.