

RIO HONDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

215 West Colorado Street
Rio Hondo, Texas 78583

**Official Minutes
Of the Regular Board Meeting
Of Monday, January 15, 2018**

The Board of Trustees of the Rio Hondo Independent School District met in a Regular Session on Monday, January 15, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 215 W. Colorado Street, Rio Hondo, Texas, with Mr. Flores, President, presiding.

TRUSTEES:	PRESENT -	President	Manuel Flores, Jr.
		Vice-President	Claudia Villalobos
		Secretary	Jessica Gonzales
			Noe Alaniz, Jr. (Arrived during consideration of Item #9)
			Alonzo Garza
			Arnold Martinez, Jr.
	ABSENT -		Ernestina Rodriguez
SUPERINTENDENT:			Ismael Garcia
RECORDER:			Ron de la Garza
ADMINISTRATION:			Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson
			Dr. Virginia G. Miller
			Jesus Alfaro, Jr.
			Veronica Puente
			Deyanira Martinez-Garcia,
			Liz Valdez, Asael Rubalcava
			Lisa Leal, Adriana Q. Lippa
SCHOOL DISTRICT ATTORNEY:			Leandra C. Ortiz
VISITORS:			None.

Items 1 & 2 Mr. Flores called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm., after noting a quorum was present and that the meeting notice had been posted as required by law.

Item 3 Roll Call

<u>✓</u> Mr. Manuel Flores, Jr., President	<u>✓</u> Mr. Alonzo Garza, Member
<u>✓</u> Miss Claudia Villalobos, Vice-President	<u>✓</u> Mr. Arnold Martinez, Jr., Member
<u>✓</u> Mrs. Jessica A. Gonzales, Secretary	<u>x</u> Mrs. Ernestina Rodriguez, Member
<u>✓</u> Mr. Noe Alaniz, Jr., Member	<u>✓</u> Mr. Ismael Garcia, Superintendent

Item 4 Mr. Flores led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 5 Invocation.

Item 6 Student/Staff/Community Recognition.

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Mr. Garcia stated that administration and the Board would like to recognize Patricia Uresti for her donated time volunteering for United Launch Alliance through the Volunteer Matching Time Program. A check for \$500.00 was awarded to Ms. Uresti and was issued back to the district as part of a matching time grant. Mr. Garcia thanked Ms. Uresti for her contributions and continuous support of the district.

Mr. Garcia stated he would like to recognize the winners who competed in the annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest. Mr. Garcia thanked Officer Rios who serves as coordinator for the event. Mr. Garcia introduced the students for each grade level and they presented their posters.

Item 7 Open Forum:

a. Welcome of Visitors

Mr. Flores welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting.

b. Hear from Patrons

Mr. Flores asked if anyone had signed up to speak under the Open Forum.

There were no patrons signed up to speak. Frances Richardson requested to speak without signing up. The Board allowed her request. Mrs. Richardson introduced the issue of bullying. She listed the mental health issues her daughter faced as a result of bullying. Mrs. Richardson spoke about suicide due to bullying and most recent incidents. She then read a passage written by her daughter. Her daughter wrote that she had been bullied from intermediate to high school. Her daughter had been bullied by students and her coach. Examples of bullying listed were: being called “fat”, rumors of being pregnant, and taunting of clothing and physical appearance. Her daughter reached out to teachers, but no action was taken. Her daughter wrote that she developed severe anxiety that caused seizures, which resulted in her being homebound by doctor’s orders. Her daughter wrote that she was being blamed. The school board de-enrolled her daughter from school due to attendance. The school police and school board want to press charges for attendance record. Mrs. Richardson and her daughter are asking for the issue of bullying to be taken more seriously and for a solution to be found. Mrs. Gonzales asked if Mr. Garcia could look into the matter. Mr. Garcia agreed.

Item 8 Recognition of the School Board Members and Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation. (Exhibit 8)

Mr. Garcia stated that the administration would like to thank and recognize the Board members for their leadership in public education and continuing service to the children of the community. Mr. Garcia called on Dr. Atkinson to lead presentation. Dr. Atkinson introduced student representatives. Student representatives presented certificates of appreciation to each Board member.

Recommendation by Mr. Garcia to move **Item #15** before **Item #9**. Motion was made by **Claudia Villalobos** to move **Item #15** before **Item #9**. The Motion was seconded by **Alonzo Garza**. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15 Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rio Hondo Independent School District The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Upward Bound Program. (Exhibit 15)

A Motion to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rio Hondo Independent School District The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Upward Bound Program was made by **Claudia Villalobos**. The Motion was seconded by **Jessica A. Gonzales**. The Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 Presentation by PBK Architects on the Middle School Project – Update. (Exhibit 9)

Mr. Juan Cantu and Ms. Erica Salinas reported on the status of the Middle School Construction Project. Mr. Cantu stated that the project is about 55% complete. Ms. Salinas provided a powerpoint presentation. Mr. Cantu and Ms. Salinas answered question from the Board. Mr. Garcia asked if the project was still estimated to be completed by August. Ms. Solivas confirmed that the projected date remains as August.

Item 10 Closed Session or Meeting as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq of the Texas Government Code (The Open Meetings Act), under the following provisions:

- Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code - Consultation with Attorney regarding legal issues pertaining to the discussion and consideration of the Non-Standard Utility Service Agreement with East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation providing for installation of wastewater infrastructure and provision of wastewater service for the new Junior High School.
- Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act – For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee.

Personnel:

- a. Report on Employee Resignation(s). **(Exhibit 10a)**
- b. Deliberate the Superintendent’s Self-Evaluation.

At the close of the Executive Session the Board will reconvene and take such action as deliberated in Executive Session.

1. Discussion, Consideration and Possible action to approve and authorize execution of a Non-Standard Utility Service Agreement with East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation providing for installation of wastewater infrastructure and provision of wastewater service for the new Junior High School.

Mr. Flores closed the regular session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The regular session resumed at 8:15 p.m. Personnel items were as follows:

At the close of the Executive Session the Board reconvened and took the following action as deliberated in Executive Session:

1. Discussion, Consideration and Possible action to approve and authorize execution of a Non-Standard Utility Service Agreement with East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation providing for installation of wastewater infrastructure and provision of wastewater service for the new Junior High School.

Mr. Garcia recommended that the Board approve and authorize execution of a Non-Standard Utility Service Agreement with East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation providing for installation of wastewater infrastructure and provision of wastewater service for the new Junior High School.

A Motion to approve and authorize execution of a Non-Standard Utility Service Agreement with East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation providing for installation of wastewater infrastructure and provision of wastewater service for the new Junior High School was made by **Jessica A. Gonzales**. The Motion was seconded by **Arnold Martinez, Jr.** The Motion carried unanimously.

Item 11 Presentation of the Budget Development Calendar for the 2018-2019 Fiscal School Year. (Exhibit 11)

Mr. Garcia, Superintendent presented to the Board, the Budget Development Calendar to be followed in planning and preparing the budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal school year.

Item 12 Presentation by Southwest Food Excellence (SFE) Services Company. (Exhibit 12)

Southwest Food Excellence representatives, Lou Castro, Javier Romero, Dan Matello, and Valerie Olavarria presented to and discussed with the Board their services as are being provided to the Rio Hondo Independent School District.

Item 13 Presentation of the Monthly Financial Report, Cafeteria Report, and Tax Collection Report. (Exhibit 13)

The monthly financial reports for the period ending on December 31, 2017 were presented.

Item 14 Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve Property Tax Refund. (Exhibit 14)

A Motion to Approve Property Tax Refund was made by **Arnold Martinez, Jr.** The Motion was seconded by **Alonzo Garza**. The Motion carried unanimously.

Item 15 Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rio Hondo Independent School District The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Upward Bound Program. (Exhibit 15)

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A Motion to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Rio Hondo Independent School District The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Upward Bound Program was made by **Claudia Villalobos**. The Motion was seconded by **Jessica Gonzales**. The Motion carried unanimously.

Item 16 Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action to Budget and Hire a Food Services Director (Pay Grade 5, 226 Days) and a Food Services Coordinator (Pay Grade 4, 226 Days) for the 2017 – 2018 School Year. (Exhibit 16)

A Motion was made by **Noe Alaniz, Jr.** to table **Item #16**. The Motion was seconded by **Arnold Martinez, Jr.** The Motion carried unanimously.

Item 17 There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made by **Arnold Martinez, Jr.** to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by **Noe Alaniz, Jr.** The motion carried unanimously and **Mr. Flores** adjourned the meeting at **8:59 p.m.**


Manuel Flores, Jr., President


Jessica A. Gonzales, Secretary

June 11, 2018
Date Approved