

**Minutes of the Board of Education
Unified School District No. 435
Dickinson County**

Abilene, Kansas

February 27, 2013

The Board of Education of Abilene Unified School District No. 435 met for a **special meeting** at the District Office at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 27, 2013. Dinner was provided.

The meeting was **Called to Order** at 6:02 p.m. by President Dr. Kari Porter-Murray with the following members in attendance:

Dale Koop	Barb Brittan	Mark Wilson
Randy Gassman	Gregg Noel	

Board member Debby Barbur was ill and could not attend. Others attending all or part of the meeting were Dr. Denise Guy, Keith Blackburn, Dave Canfield, Angie Schneider and Jeff Bathurst. Administrators were not in attendance as they were at Parent/Teacher Conferences which were rescheduled due to last week's snow storm.

It was moved by Mark Wilson to approve the **Agenda**. Gregg Noel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Keith Blackburn of HTK Architects was in attendance to present revised plans and prices to board members regarding our current **Facility Study**. The plans and prices that Keith handed out, reflected board member wishes which Dr. Guy had passed on to him after our last facility study meeting. Keith did say that his estimates are slightly padded to cover the unforeseen. Topping the list was added security measures to each building. Renovating administrative area of all buildings was included. The renovations would require all foot traffic to pass through the office before access to the rest of the building is gained. Keith also talked about added security measures that included a key card system. Our high school and middle school already have these. A security camera on the main door with a computer system to monitor it, was also discussed.

The items cut from Kennedy were additional classrooms, new cafeteria, new kitchen and new kitchen equipment.

McKinley's cuts were the same but also included no new kitchen receiving drive.

Garfield is still up in the air until the decision of whether to renovate/add on or new construction is made.

Plans at the middle school were not amended from the last meeting.

The high school had the most changes. Keith rearranged things to try and meet the desires of the board, while spending the least amount of money. One of the big changes was adding a new auditorium to the

west side of the building rather than having it separate. A new gym and administrative area would also be added to the west side. If these plans are approved, more parking would be needed. A plan for this would be to move the transportation department, to district owned property on 11th street, turning that area into parking.

Much discussion followed about the changes at the high school.

Also among the handouts were plans for a new 4-5 building, plans for a new K-5 building and additions at the football field of more locker space and a storage building.

Next, board members began attempting to cut items from the lists that would lower the total to an amount that they think would be passable if a general obligation bond is pursued.

One item cut was the updates to MEP/HVAC systems at each building. This number does not include the portions of each building that would be renovated, just the sections not being renovated. They feel that we could possibly address this issue on a capital outlay plan.

Plans at the high school included several new locker rooms. Board members felt that we may be able to get by with just one new locker room each for boys and girls. This cut was made along with reducing the proposed administrative area a little bit.

They also cut the new storage building at the football field. Our team would move into the new locker area, moving the visiting team into the current locker area. This would allow the space under the grandstand to be used for storage.

The topic then changed to the middle school. Current plans include additions to the east and south sides of the building. Keith said that having an addition to just one side of building would save quite a bit of money. Revisions will be made to the middle school plans and included at our next facility study meeting.

General consensus of the board is that construction of a new 4-5 building is warranted. The discussion then focused on what would happen to the current Garfield building. Board members feel that this will be an important consideration for the public if a general obligation bond is pursued. Options discussed to date are to sell the building or keep it and move support services there. If kept, we would have the cost of upkeep. If sold, Keith said that the purchase price would probably be in the \$30,000.00 range.

As these discussions ensued, Keith took notes regarding the board's wishes. Security at all buildings and a new 4-5 building are still the priorities. They would like to try and cut the cost of the middle school and the football field by 1/2. Keith will take these considerations into account and present his findings at the next facility study meeting which is to be determined.

Board members thanked Keith for putting their random thoughts from the last meeting into discernible information. Keith then thanked Dr. Guy for presenting the information in such a way that he could.

Dr. Guy presented the board with 2011 bond and interest information for our district and surrounding districts for comparison. Also included were three scenarios of what our mill levy would look like if the total amount of a general obligation bond was 23.5, 18.5 and 15 million. In talking with Steve Shogren of George K. Baum and Company, he does not believe that Abilene could support the 23.5 million option. [referencing property tax]

There was no **Executive Session**.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Barb Brittan to **Adjourn** the meeting. Randy Gassman seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

CLERK

PRESIDENT