

**MINUTES OF THE WINDHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

235th MEETING

The Windham School District Board of Trustees met in session on Thursday, April 13, 2006, at the Omni Austin Hotel in Austin, Texas.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Christina Melton Crain, Chairman
Pierce Miller, Vice Chairman
Adrian Arriaga
Greg Coleman
Tom Mechler
Leopoldo (Leo) Vasquez, III

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Patsy Day, Secretary
Oliver Bell
Pastor C. L. Jackson

WINDHAM STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Debbie Roberts, Interim Superintendent
David McNutt

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL
JUSTICE STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brad Livingston, TDCJ Executive Director
Ed Owens
Melinda Bozarth

CONVENED

Christina Melton Crain, Chairman, called the meeting of the Windham School District (WSD) Board of Trustees (Board) to order on Thursday, April 13, 2006, at 3:10 p.m. in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the Open Meetings Act.

Chairman Crain stated that during the meeting, the Board would be conducting business from the agenda posted in the Texas Register. A quorum of the Board was present and the 235th meeting of the Board was declared open.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Crain called the Board's attention to the Consent Items on the agenda (Attachment A), which consisted of the minutes of the January 19, 2006, and February 27, 2006, meetings, multiple employment requests and approval of excused absences.

Chairman Crain asked if there were any corrections or additions to the Consent Items. Noting there were none, she stated the Consent Items were approved as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

(Recorder's Note: The Board deviated from the order of items as posted on the agenda.)

1. Rescind Finalist for the Position of Superintendent

Melinda Bozarth, TDCJ General Counsel, stated that on February 27, 2006, the Board convened in regular session and immediately adjourned into executive session to interview three candidates for the position of Superintendent. The Board reconvened and named Dr. Judi Benestante as the finalist for that position and that final action would be taken on April 13th, after the 21-day posting period. Pursuant to state law, notice was posted of Dr. Benestante's selection as finalist for the superintendent position and ran for 21 days in order to receive public comment.

On March 29, 2006, the Board convened in regular session and again immediately adjourned into executive session to consider the public comments that were received.

Chairman Crain asked if there was a motion on this agenda item.

Adrian Arriaga moved that the Board rescind the selection of Dr. Judi Benestante as finalist for the position of Superintendent of the Windham School District.

Greg Coleman seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

Chairman Crain stated that it would be appropriate at this time for the Board to take up the item of reposting the Superintendent's position.

4. Approval to Repost the Position of Superintendent

Chairman Crain asked if there was a motion.

Tom Mechler moved that the Board repost the position for the Windham School District Superintendent.

Mr. Arriaga seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

2. Approval of Interim Superintendent

Ms. Bozarth explained, that pursuant to Board Policy 03.01, Section I.A., Chairman Crain appointed Debbie Roberts to serve as Interim Superintendent effective March 31, 2006. Under this Board Policy, the person shall serve on an interim basis until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, at which time the Board shall approve the interim appointment or appoint another person to serve on an interim basis or appoint a person to fill the position on a permanent

~~basis. the Board has three options to choose from: to either approve the appointment of Debbie Roberts to serve as the Interim Superintendent; to choose another person to serve in an interim capacity as Superintendent; or to appoint a person to fill the position on a permanent basis.~~

Chairman Crain asked if there was a motion.

Mr. Coleman moved that the Board approve the selection of Debbie Roberts as Interim Superintendent of the Windham School District.

Pierce Miller seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

3. Approval of Contract for Interim Superintendent

Ms. Bozarth stated that it was necessary for a contract to be executed for Ms. Roberts to serve as Interim Superintendent since she is not currently a WSD or TDCJ employee. She presented the contract to the Board for approval.

Chairman Crain asked if there was a motion.

Leopoldo Vasquez moved that the Board approve the contract for Debbie Roberts as Interim Superintendent of the Windham School District.

Mr. Mechler seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

5. Resolution Regarding Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Sponsored Media Honor Roll

Debbie Roberts, WSD Interim Superintendent, stated that KBTX-TV Channel 3 in Bryan-College Station, produced a two-part series: "Life Behind Bars." This series featured the WSD pre-release program CHANGES (Changing Habits and Achieving New Goals to Empower Success) and aired in May of 2005. Overall the reporters gave viewers a better understanding of WSD and correctional education.

The District would like to nominate Anchors Joe Brown and Michelle Peltier, Reporter Jennifer Cavasos and Photographer Craig Weaver of KBTX-TV Channel 3 in Bryan-College Station, to the TASB-Sponsored Media Honor Roll.

Chairman Crain asked if there was a motion.

Mr. Miller moved that the Board approve the resolution regarding the Texas Association of School Boards Media Honor Roll as presented.

Mr. Coleman seconded the motion, which prevailed unanimously when called to a vote.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Chairman Crain welcomed Ms. Roberts and thanked her for serving as the Interim Superintendent.

Ms. Roberts stated that it was a pleasure to be back at WSD. She added that she would do everything possible to support the WSD staff, move the programs forward and meet the goals and challenges that the WSD will face during the coming months.

She thanked the Board for their confidence in her ability to serve as Interim Superintendent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Chairman Crain called the Board's attention to the Information Items and noted that copies of the following reports were included in the Board packet:

- 1. Bi-Monthly Investment Report**
- 2. Miscellaneous Reports**
 - a. Division Report, January – February 2006
 - b. Budget Activity Update
 - c. Windham School District Programs by Unit

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Crain asked for questions or comments. There being none, the 235th meeting of the WSD Board of Trustees adjourned into Executive Session in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, and 551.074, at 3:19 p.m. Upon conclusion of Executive Session, Chairman Crain adjourned the 235th meeting of the Board at 5:05 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary