



## JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Minutes of Special Meeting of August 22, 2016

Special meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, 3332 Newburg Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on Tuesday, August 22, 2016, at 6 p.m.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair David A. Jones, Jr.  
Mr. Chris Brady  
Mr. Chuck Haddaway  
Dr. Lisa Willner

Vice-Chair Diane Porter  
Mrs. Linda Duncan  
Mrs. Stephanie Horne

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Donna M. Hargens, Ed.D.  
Francis J. Mellen, Jr., Wyatt Tarrant & Combs LLP  
Angie Gilpin, Assistant Secretary to the Board

#### **TAX RATE HEARING:**

This hearing was open to the public and called to order by Chair Jones at 6:01 p.m. He then read the following statement:

*This hearing is being held pursuant to the provisions of KRS 160.470 for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding a proposed 2017 General Fund tax levy of 70.8 cents on real property and 71.0 cents on personal property.*

*The General Fund tax levied in fiscal year 2016 was 71.0 cents on real property and 71.0 cents on personal property and produced revenue of \$430,827,372.77. The proposed General Fund tax rate of 70.8 cents on real property and 71.0 cents on personal property is expected to produce revenue of \$463,444,611. Of this amount, \$51,697,844 is from new and personal property. The compensating tax rate for 2017 is 67.9 cents on real property and 71.0 cents on personal property and is expected to produce \$446,454,675.31 in revenue.*

*The general areas to which revenue of \$14,619,021 above 2016 revenue is to be allocated are: Cost of Collections \$219,286; Building Fund \$1,570,349; Instruction \$8,863,384; Transportation \$2,507,058; and Maintenance of Plant \$1,458,944.*

Chief Business Officer Tom Hudson and Chief Financial Officer Cordelia Hardin presented a brief overview of how assessments impact the district's revenues. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Ms. Hardin explained that the district must lower the rate or it would exceed the four percent revenue growth allowed by Kentucky law. If the district did not lower the rate, the rate would be subject to a recall by voters.

The district is only allowed the four percent growth, and this year that growth was exceeded by property tax assessment increases.

Ms. Hardin explained that it would require ten percent of the total number of votes cast in the last presidential election to file a petition to recall. It would then go to the public for a vote.

The deadline to submit the question, as to whether the property tax rate should be levied, is the second Tuesday in August. Since we have passed that deadline, the cost of a called school election would fall on the district. She stated that she is unsure of what the cost would be but she will check with the Board of Elections.

Dr. Hargens reminded the Board that the maximum amount allowed is four percent and we are getting that full amount. If we were not getting the maximum amount allowed we would asked for a tax increase.

## **II. Public Comment**

All persons desiring to be heard were given an opportunity to present oral testimony.

Dr. Randolph Wieck, Chris Harmer, and Nicole Coggins came forward and suggested raising the tax rate.

## **III. Adjournment**

**Order #2016-139 - Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. passed with a motion by Mr. Chris Brady and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

|                         |     |                      |     |
|-------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Mr. Chris Brady         | Yes | Mrs. Linda Duncan    | Yes |
| Mr. Chuck Haddaway      | Yes | Mrs. Stephanie Horne | Yes |
| Mr. David A. Jones, Jr. | Yes | Ms. Diane Porter     | Yes |
| Dr. Lisa Willner        | Yes |                      |     |

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Chair David A. Jones, Jr.

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Dr. Donna Hargens, Superintendent/Secretary

**THESE ACTIONS, ALONG WITH THE AGENDA ITEMS, MAKE UP THE OFFICIAL  
MINUTES, WHICH ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**