

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of June 20, 2023

Special Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education held at VanHoose Education Center, on Tuesday, June 20, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwoman Diane Porter Vice-Chair Corrie Shull
Mr. James Craig Mrs. Linda Duncan
Dr. Chris Kolb Mr. Joseph Marshall

Ms. Sarah McIntosh

Ms. McIntosh attended via videoconference.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Superintendent Martin A. Pollio, Ed.D. Kevin Brown, General Counsel Cordelia Hardin, Chief Financial Officer

This meeting was conducted via videoconference pursuant to KRS 61.823 and KRS 61.826. The primary location for this meeting and where all members could be seen and heard by the public was the VanHoose Education Center. Members of the Board were permitted to attend in-person or via video-teleconference pursuant to KRS 61.826. Members of the public were permitted to attend in person or watch the live-stream of the meeting.

5:30 p.m. Tax Rate Hearing for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

This hearing was held pursuant to the provisions of KRS 160.470 for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding a proposed 2023-2024 General Fund tax levy of at most 80.0 cents on real property and at most 80.0 cents on personal property.

In compliance with KRS 160.470 and the administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education, the Jefferson County Board of Education is required to approve tax rates. A proposed rate increase of 3.7 cents on real property and 3.2 cents on personal property would be for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Of this 80.0 cents rate, 3.7 cents would be subject to recall as it exceeds the current 4 percent rate of 76.3 cents per \$100 assessment on real property and 3.2 cents on personal property. Required advertisements were placed in the Courier-Journal on June 9, 2023, and June 11, 2023.

All persons who requested to speak on the proposed rates were allowed three minutes to present testimony.

Chris Harmer spoke in support of a property tax increase.

The following speakers did not support a tax rate increase.

Ken Wallace, Catherine Bryant, Shirley Green, Sean Holley, Ted Malone, Frank Simon, Rebecca Fuller, Camron Roberts, Nicole Reparel, Stephanie Singleton, and Sally Dunn.

6:00 p.m. Special Meeting

I. Call to Order

Chair Porter called the special meeting to order at approximately 6:15 p.m.

II. Approval of Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2023-24

Dr. Pollio stated that this meeting and the prior tax rate hearing were being held in response to the Board's vote at the May 23 meeting where they decided to schedule a tax rate hearing no later than a date that would allow the statutorily required 50 days to gather petitions for a potential recall vote. This gives the Board the option to levy a recall rate. Chief Financial Officer Cordelia Hardin briefly discussed the current rate/revenue and the estimated gross revenue generated should the Board vote to levy a recall rate. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Mr. Craig mentioned the recent Kentucky Supreme Court ruling regarding the 2020 property tax increase and said, "We still owe it to the community to show results based on that increase, so I'm hesitant to go above the four percent." He then put forward a motion to cap a tax rate increase at four percent.

Dr. Shull seconded the motion. Each Board member had an opportunity to comment.

Dr. Kolb asked the Board to vote against Mr. Craig's motion. He then provided several reasons as to why he feels like the motion is completely pointless.

Ms. McIntosh agreed with Mr. Craig's comments and said that she doesn't feel like an increase is necessary at this time.

Mrs. Duncan stated that she does not support going above four percent and acknowledged the rapidly increasing property values in Jefferson County which generates more tax revenue.

Dr. Shull asked several questions which seemed to be in response to public comments from the prior Hearing: "How much of the JCPS budget pays for lunch and breakfast food?"

Chair Porter asked Mr. Craig to repeat his motion and then called for the vote.

[&]quot;When was the last time that [air] filters were changed in school buildings?"

[&]quot;What happens to kids when they are put out of public schools [expelled] – where do they go?"

[&]quot;Who is responsible for ensuring that all children have a haircut?"

Order #2023-96 - Motion Passed: A motion to approve a General Fund tax rate for fiscal year 2023-24 based on certified assessments to be received in August 2023, which will provide 4 percent additional income over the revenue received this current fiscal year on real property and personal property excluding new property. The current 2022-23 fiscal year rate is 76.3 cents on real property and 76.8 cents on personal property. The motion passed with a motion by Mr. James Craig and a second by Dr. Corrie Shull.

Mr. James Craig

Mrs. Linda Duncan

Dr. Christopher Kolb

Mr. Joseph Marshall

Ms. Sarah McIntosh

Ms. Diane Porter

Dr. Corrie Shull

Yes

Yes

III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Order #2023-97 - Motion Passed: A motion to adjourn the June 20, 2023, Special Meeting at 6:44 p.m. passed with a motion by Dr. Corrie Shull and a second by Mrs. Linda Duncan.

Mr. James Craig	Yes
Mrs. Linda Duncan	Yes
Dr. Christopher Kolb	Yes
Mr. Joseph Marshall	Yes
Ms. Sarah McIntosh	Yes
Ms. Diane Porter	Yes
Dr. Corrie Shull	Yes

Diane Porter Chairwoman Dr. Martin A. Pollio Superintendent/Secretary

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