

Minutes
Wednesday, June 25, 2025
Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.
Location of Meeting: GISD Administrative Board Room, 1615 St Lawrence St.
Gonzales, Texas 78629

Board Members Present: Justin Schwausch- President
Ross Hendershot, III, Vice President
D'Anna Robinson
Ashley Molina-Secretary
Gloria Torres
Naomi Brown
Josie Smith-Wright

Board Member Absent:

Item #1. Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of the Gonzales Independent School District met Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at the Administrative Office Board Room, Gonzales, Texas. President, Justin Schwausch called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

A quorum was declared with 7 members present.

Invocation, Pledge, Mission Statement

Gloria Torres lead the invocation, Ross Hendershot lead the Pledge, and Ashley Molina lead the Mission Statement

Item #2: Public Comments:

Item #3: New Business/Action Items:

A. **Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Change Order #1 for the CTE & Ag Barn project as part of the 2023 Bond Program**

Casey Sledge, Bond Program Manager, Region XIII/Sledge Engineering presented to the board.

The Board awarded the GMP to Weaver & Jacobs on 3/25/25 in the amount of \$19,523,596. The GMP Award included \$400,000 in Owner Contingency funds. Change Order #1 includes realigning the proposed City wastewater main to the southern border of the 35 acre tract, in lieu of the alignment running through the low area of the tract. The easement required by the City for either alignment is a 20' wide permanent easement giving the City maintenance access. Note that flatwork, parking, drives, sidewalk, ballfields, fencing, etc is allowed over all portions of the easement, but no vertical (building) construction is allowed.

To accomplish the realignment to the southern border, the following items are expected:

1. Board approval of this Change Order = \$289,885
2. Additional design cost to VLK estimated = \$15,000
3. Cost to surveyor for revised easement exhibit estimated = \$3,000
4. City approval of new alignment; no cost

The items above total an estimated \$307,885 to be added to the project. This Change Order to Weaver & Jacobs is in the amount of \$289,885.31. The other items above would be paid from Bond funds but not be part of the Change Order to Weaver & Jacobs.

Either wastewater alignment will be functional for the CTE/Ag Barn project. This consideration is to select the optimal path for long term growth and future development of the 35 acre tract. The following exhibits are attached to assist with decision process:

- CO#001 Sewer Relocation.pdf
 - From Weaver & Jacobs showing pricing
- CTE Ag WW Example Dev Plan.pdf
 - From R13/Sledge showing speculative future concept development
- Topo WW Alignment.pdf
 - From Dunaway edited by R13/Sledge showing topography
- Southern Border WW alignment depth.pdf
 - From Dunaway design sketch edited by R13/Sledge showing depth of southern main

Low Area Alignment PROs:

- Aligns wastewater main with natural drainage low area; same area would likely be utilized for drainage regardless of development
- Provides for ease of future wastewater service connections on either side of main
- Already designed and included in awarded GMP

Low Area Alignment CONS:

- Crosses undeveloped property at an odd angle; could alter or prohibit placement of future buildings

Southern Border Alignment PROs:

- Maximizes area left available for future buildings and development
- Supports concept of re-routing drainage if desired

Southern Border Alignment CONS:

- Additional \$307K cost
- Future waster services from the north will likely need to be routed to the southwest corner of property, resulting on longer service laterals.
- Requires City approval to proceed

No action was taken on this action item

B. Discuss and Consider Action to Approve Wastewater Easement to City of Gonzales at new CTE & Ag Barn project

Casey Sledge, Bond Program Manager, Region XIII/Sledge Engineering went before the board seeking approval for Wastewater Easement to City of Gonzales at new CTE & Ag Barn.

This action item was brought before the board at the June 9, 2025 regular board meeting and was tabled.

Ross Hendershot made a motion, with a second from Naomi Brown to approve the Wastewater Easement as presented

The motion carried 7/0

Item #4 Adjourn to Closed Session:

Under Texas Government Section [551.071](#) (Consultation with Attorney), Code Section [551.072](#) (Deliberation Regarding Real Property), [551.73](#) Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift, Texas Government Code Section [551.074](#), (Personnel, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee), Texas Government Code Section [551.076](#) (Deliberation regarding implementation of Security, personnel or devices) and Section [551.082](#): School Children; School District Employees; Disciplinary Matter or Complaint, Section [551.083](#): Certain School Boards; Meeting Regarding Consultation with Representative of Employee Group, Section [551.084](#): Investigation; Exclusion of witnesses from a hearing.

The board went into a closed session at 6:07 P.M.

Item #5 Reconvene to Open Meeting:

The Board will take appropriate action on items, if necessary, as discussed in the Closed Session. The board returned to an open session at 7:05 P.M.

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from D'Anna Robinson to approve the hire of Dr. Valerie Ibeji for Deputy Superintendent

The motion carried 7-0

Ashley Molina made a motion, with a second from Gloria Torres to approve the hire of Joy Philpott for Chief Academic Officer.

The motion carried 7-0

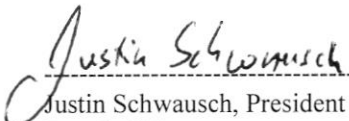
Josie Smith-Wright made a motion, with a second from Ross Hendershot to approve the hire of Elizabeth Mikesch Gonzales Primary Academy Principal.

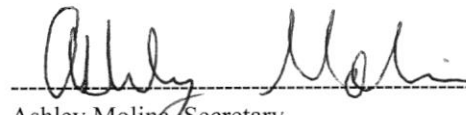
The motion carried 7-0

Josie Smith-Wright made a motion with a second from Ross Hendershot to approve the 24-25 Compensation Plan to include the Chief Academic Officer and the Deputy Superintendent.

Item #5 Adjourn

There being no further business, President Schwausch adjourned the meeting at 7:08 P.M.


Justin Schwausch, President
Board of Trustees


Ashley Molina, Secretary
Board of Trustees