

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING FOR GENERAL PURPOSES JANUARY 9, 2006**

**J. T. Lambert Intermediate - Auditorium
5:30 p.m.**

Minutes

I. President Horace Cole called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The secretary, Patricia Rosado called the roll.

II. Members present were: Christopher Baj, Horace Cole, Robert Gress, Bet Hays, Keith Karkut, Donald Motts, Michal Peterson and William Searfoss. William Zacharias was absent.

School Personnel Present: Douglas Arnold, Patricia Baughman, Larry Dymond, Marie S. Guidry, Dr. Rachael R. Heath, Sharon Laverdure, Patricia Mulroy, Greg Naudascher, Patricia Rosado, Jim Shearouse, Mike Silvoy, and Brian Snapp. Also present was Thomas Dirvonas and Rebecca Craggs, Solicitors.

III. Media Guests present: Dan Berrett – Pocono Record

Community members present: Joann Amador, Juan Amador, Raquel Bodillo, Roger DeLarco, Al Ihlenfeldt, Joseph Manda, Tim McManus, Bud Newton, Chuck Niclaus, Jim Phillips, Bill Reese, Donald Repsher, Robert G. Williamson and Sonia Wolbert.

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION -- An executive session was held this evening at 5:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing land acquisition.**

V. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -- Federal Programs, Title I, Title VI, Other Concerns**

None

VI. **FISCAL ITEMS**

(The following item(s) are to be deleted from the consensus motion at Board Member(s) request.)

A. Subdivision Plan and Stormwater Drainage System

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by William Searfoss to approve that the Proposed Subdivision Plan and the proposed stormwater drainage system for the Terra Greens project be revised in accordance with the proposed Subdivision Area Revision submitted by Niclaus Engineering. This will result in an increase of the total land area purchased by the District by approximately 2.5 acres. Motion was seconded by Christopher Baj. A roll call vote was taken. Those in favor were William Searfoss, Christopher Baj, Horace Cole, Bet Hays, Donald Motts, and Michal Peterson. Opposed were Robert Gress and Keith Karkut. Motion was carried, 6-2.

(See pages 2-4)

B. Formal Agreement with the Borough of East Stroudsburg

ACTION BY THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Donald Motts to approve that the Business Manager, Superintendent and Solicitor be authorized to enter into a formal agreement with the Borough of East Stroudsburg confirming the acreage to be acquired by the District and Borough, respectively, and to set forth and confirm the arrangements with regard to appropriate access, easements, etc. Motion was seconded by Christopher Baj. A roll call vote was taken. Those in favor were Donald Motts, Christopher Baj, Horace Cole, Bet Hays, Michal Peterson, and William Searfoss. Opposed were Robert Gress and Keith Karkut. Motion was carried, 6-2.

(See pages 2-4)

VII. ADJOURNMENT 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia L. Rosado
Board Secretary

Executive Session

Patricia Baughman informed the Board that she spoke to Mr. Sweet, Attorney, regarding who is part of the negotiations team. When asked about each member, Ms. Baughman was given clearance for William Searfoss and Donald Motts. Mr. Gress was not due to having his wife as part of PSEA. Act 93 is not part of a union because they meet and discuss but teachers are part of the union. Although teachers and support staff members are not on the same contract, the union representative heads both unions.

Bet Hays feels that is not correct and suggested that Ms. Baughman call them back to inform Mr. Sweet that the teachers' contract was already negotiated. Bet Hays also suggested calling the Ethics Commission.

Robert Gress said he will step down if anyone else wants to do it.

Sharon Laverdure said that Mr. Sweets was more concerned with Mr. Gress than anything.

Horace Cole asked if anyone else from the Board was willing to step up and be part of the Negotiations Committee.

Christopher Baj volunteered. Michal Peterson and Bet Hays said they can be alternates.

Keith Karkut asked if he'll be able to vote on the contract because his wife works in the cafeteria. Or can he just vote on certain sections. Will he be able to be part of executive sessions when discussing the contract?

Tom Dirvonas said he's not sure but will get back to the Board.

Patricia Baughman said she would look into all of the Board's questions and get back to them.